

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Woman dies after mudslide hit kotha in Kokernag

SRINAGAR, Apr 19 (Agencies): A woman died after a mudslide damaged a temporary kotha in Kokernag area of Anantnag district on Friday.

An official told News Agency Kashmir Scroll that a mudslide due to incessant rains at Takiya Magam, Kokernag damaged one kotha belonging to Ab Hamid son of Ab Rehman Ahanger. He said that in the incident his wife Saleema Begum came under the debris and received injuries who was shifted to GMC Anantnag for treatment where she succumbed.

Meanwhile authorities have taken cognizance of the incident.

07 Drug peddlers arrested within 24 hrs in Anantnag: Police

SRINAGAR, Apr 19 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police on Friday said to have arrested seven drug peddlers from different areas of South Kashmir's Anantnag district within 24 hours.

A Police spokesperson said, "Massive crack down against Drug Mafia in Anantnag Continues. Seven Drug peddlers arrested from different areas of the District. The arrests were made by five different Police Stations, reflecting the coordinated effort to eradicate the Drug menace from the District."

"Police Post Sangam apprehended two persons namely Feroz Ahmad Rather S/O Gh Rasool Rather and Aijaz Ahmad Mantoo S/O Ghulam Mohammad Mantoo both residents of Waghama Bijbehara and recovered about 09 Kgs of Poppy Straw from their possession. Police Station Kokernag recovered about 16.450 kgs of Cannabis powder from the possession of Suhail Ahmad Dar S/O Mohd Ashraf Dar R/O Nagam Kokernag and Reyaz Ahmad Mir S/O Ab Razaq Mir R/O Watnurd Kokernag", he said.

He said, Moreover Police Station Ultrasoo arrested Shakeel Ahmad Wani S/O Khazir Wani R/O Shiekhpora Uttresoo and recovered about 21 grams of Charas, 350 grams of Poppy Straw and Rs 10000 in cash from his possession. Aishmuqam Police apprehended one person namely Gh Nabi Bhat S/O Jabbar Bhat R/O Yenner Pahalgam along with about 04 Kgs of Poppy straw and 1.25

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Women throng 'Pink Booths' in Doda to cast their votes

JAMMU, Apr 19 (Agencies): Amid multi-tier security arrangements, 'Nari Shakti' (women power) was on display at the all-women staffed booths known as 'pink booths', in the Doda district of the Udhampur Lok Sabha constituency.

These 'pink booths' attracted more women voters, especially from the Muslim community.

More than 22 per cent of voters exercised their franchise in the first four hours of polling in the first phase of the Lok Sabha elections in



Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur parliamentary constituency despite torrential rains, election officials said.

As polling began this morning, a large

number of women electors thronged the 'pink booth' set up at the Government Girls' Higher Secondary School in the Doda town to exercise their right to franchise

despite heavy rains. Queued up in long lines, they were happy to vote at the 'pink booth'.

"We are very happy to vote for the first time at these all-women polling booths. There are very good facilities. We are enjoying voting," said Arifa Begum, who cast her vote at the 'pink booth' in Doda.

She said this initiative has increased the number of women thronging this polling station. "We praise this initiative of the

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Amit Shah files nomination from Gandhinagar Lok Sabha Seat



GANDHINAGAR, Apr 19 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday submitted his nomination papers for the Gandhinagar Lok Sabha seat from where he is the Bharatiya Janata Party

(BJP) candidate.

Shah was accompanied by Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel when he submitted the nomination papers to Gandhinagar collector and district election

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Traffic on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway suspended due to landslide

JAMMU, Apr 19 (Agencies): Authorities on Friday stopped traffic movement after landslide hit Gangroo area on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway.

The officials of Traffic Department stated that movement of vehicles was stopped after landslide hit Gangroo area on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH-44).

They said men and machinery have been pressed into service for road clearance and urged upon commuters to keep in touch with Traffic Control Room for further updates.

They however added that traffic movement on Kargil-Srinagar highway is plying smoothly.

Rains continue as temperature drops in J&K

SRINAGAR, Apr 19 (Agencies): Rains continued in Jammu and Kashmir with Gulmarg receiving highest precipitation during the last 24 hours, officials said on Friday.

A meteorological department official here told GNS till 0830 hours this morning, Srinagar received 6.6mm of rain, Qazigund 2.7mm, Pahalgam 19.3mm, Kupwara 18.7mm, Kokernag 44.8mm, Gulmarg 28.2mm, Jammu 7.2mm, Banihal 18.2mm, Batote 8.4mm, Katra 9.0mm and Baderwah 5.2mm.

The weather department here has predicted "widespread light to moderate rain and thunders" during next 24 hours.

He said on April 20, light rain is likely 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 9.2°C against 12.5°C on the previous night and it was 1.34°C above

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Overstaying in Govt Accommodations: JK Admn Seeks HC Intervention

RINAGAR, Apr 19 (Agencies): Citing the Model Code of Conduct, the Jammu and Kashmir estates department on Thursday sought permission from the high court to defer action till June 4 against politicians overstaying in government accommodations.

Senior Additional Advocate General S S Nanda filed the application in the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, days after the estates department served showcase notices to former chief minister Ghulam Nabi Azad, and ex-deputy chief ministers Kavinder Gupta and Muzaf-

far Hussain Beigh for overstaying in government accommodations in Jammu and Srinagar.

The show-cause notices were served to the overstaying occupants, who also included J&K BJP chief Ravinder Raina and several former ministers and legislators, in response to the recent directions of the division bench of the high court in a Public Interest Litigation (PIL), seeking eviction of overstaying politicians from government bungalows.

According to the show-cause notices issued on April 8, the concerned politicians were asked to appear before the director (estates) in the twin

capital cities of Srinagar and Jammu in person or through virtual mode for giving the written response along with the documentary evidence, if any, in support of continuation of accommodations of allotment within 10 days.

On April 3, the division bench headed by Chief Justice N Kotiswar Singh had directed both the directors (estates), Jammu as well as Kashmir to deal with each and every person and to pass specific individual orders either for cancellation of accommodation and eviction from there or allotment thereof by giving specific reasons

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Father-Daughter arrested for drug peddling in JK: Police

SRINAGAR, Apr 19 (Agencies): Police in Samba apprehended two drug smugglers and seized approximately 5.20 grams of heroin and recovered Rs 1,77,260 in cash from their possession.

"A police team from Vijaypur, led by the Station House Officer (SHO), encountered two individuals, including a woman, acting suspiciously during a patrol in the Rakh Barotain area. Upon noticing the police presence, both attempted to flee, but officers acted swiftly and apprehended them," a police

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Senior IPS Officer Nalin Prabhat to head India's counter-terrorism force NSG



NEW DELHI, Apr 19 (Agencies): Senior IPS officer Nalin Prabhat has been appointed as the chief of National Security Guard (NSG), the country's counter-terrorism force, according to a Personnel Ministry order.

Prabhat, a 1992 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Andhra Pradesh cadre, is presently working as Additional Director General

in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved his appointment as the Director General, NSG for a period up to August 31, 2028 i.e. the date of his superannuation, the order said.

Popularly known as the "black cats", the federal contingency force NSG was raised in 1984.

Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) chief Daljit Singh Chawdhary was holding the additional charge of the NSG.

The ACC has also approved appointment of Sapna Tewari as the Special Director in the Intelligence Bureau (IB).

Tewari, a 1992 batch

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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

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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.



Smt Shakuntla Sharma

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**
Jahnvi Sharma - **Grand Daughter**
Mob. 7006969134, 9107207294, 7006905089, 9149444294

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.



LT. SMT. VIDYA DEVI

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

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Ajay K. Sadhota Ji (Titu)** S/o Lt. Sh. Vishwa Mitra R/o W.No. 5, Near Raghunath Temple Katra, who left for his heavenly abode on 10th April 2024.



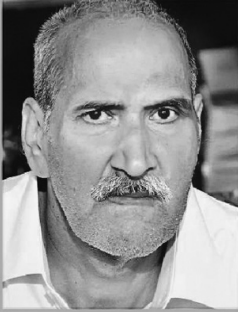
SH. AJAY K. SADHOTA JI (TITU)

10TH DAY shall be performed on 19th April 2024 (Friday) at Raghunath Temple 11.00 am.

RASAM KRIYA KARAM shall be performed on 20th April (Saturday) 2024 at Raghunath Temple Katra from 12.00 Noon onwards.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Kamini Sadhota (9796028103) - **Wife**
Brother and Sister in law
Sh. Sunil Sadhota and Smt. Rama Sadhota
Sisters & Brothers-in-law
Smt. Rita and Sh. Bharat Bushan Sharma
Smt. Kanchan and Sh. R. L. Sharma
Smt. Renu and Sh. Brij Mohan Padha
Ojesh Sadhota (Daughter)
Vivanshu Sadhota (Son)

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.



SH. SHASHI KIRAN GUPTA

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 (Rtd. Dir. Litigation) & Smt. Anita Gupta
Son & Daughter-in-law
Mr. Sohraw 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, Ojasvi, Ridhwan, Avighan, Yatharth, Sandhya, Advitiya, Chaitanya, Aditya
Contact Nos. 94191-90729, 94692-19020 94191-07693, 88030-31516, 99061-93100

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Krishna Devi** W/o Lt. Sh. Dwanika Nath Bhat, originally from Wachi, Shopian Presently residing at TRT CAMP BLOCK 'D' NAGROTA Jammu on 15.04.2024.



SMT. KRISHNA DEVI

10th DAY KRIYA will be performed on 24.04.2024 at 11.00 AM at Nagrota Ghat near TRT CAMP NAGROTA.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Samast Bhat Parivar (7889510740)
Daughter in law & Son
Sh. Sushil Bhat & Lt. Shama Bhat (9330080005)
Sh. Vinod Kumar & Rashmi Dutt
Sh. Davinder Kumar & Jyoti
Sh. Kaval Krishan Bhat & Geeta Bhat (9906193189)
Daughter and Son in law
Manju Pandita & Avtar Krishan Pandita (7780859289)

10TH DAY/KRIYA

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



Sh. Maharaj Krishan Dhar (Gasha Ji)

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

BANGALORE ADDRESS:
#6093, SOHA SILICON OASIS,
HOSEA ROAD, BANGALORE-560100
MO. NO. 977481418
GRIEF STRICKEN:
SMT. VIJAY DHAR (WIFE)
ANUSH AND PREETI DHAR (SON AND DAUGHTER IN LAW)
PATRI KALL AND LT. A. K. KALL (SISTER AND BROTHER IN LAW)
LT. G. RAJ KALL AND OPINDER KALL (SISTER AND BROTHER IN LAW)
BROTHER'S AND FAMILY:
TK DHAR AND SANTOSH DHAR
LT. B. K. DHAR AND USHA DHAR
A. K. DHAR AND VEENA DHAR
P. K. DHAR AND ANJALI DHAR
IN-LAWS:
RANA S
GRAND CHILDREN: AADYA AND AHAAN DHAR

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and 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 Bohri Jammu on 16-04-2024.



Smt. Jai Kishori Pandita (Rani)

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. Phoola 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. Sunila Ganjoo W/o Vijay Ganjoo
Smt. & Sh. Nilu Ganjoo W/o Rinku Ji Ganjoo
Smt. & Sh. Priya Darshani W/o Dileep Kumar Bhat
Grand Children - Sunaina, Komal, Aditya, Archi, Arpit, Akriti, Rahul, Rohit
Cell No.: 7006736035, 9149785323, 7051128482

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Anil Kumar Maini** S/o Joginder Nath Maini R/o Mohalla Kalika Temple Poonch who left for heavenly abode on 11- April- 2024.



Sh. Anil Kumar Maini

Uthala will be performed on 22 April 2024 from 3 to 4 pm at Shree Geeta Bhawan Poonch.

Grief Stricken
Smt. Sanita Maini (Wife)
Sons and Daughter in laws
Mr. Akhil Maini and Mrs. Deviakshi Sharma
Mr. Kashish Maini and Mrs. Shivani Jamwal
Grand Daughter
Adishita Maini
All Family Members and friends
Mob: 9419158004; 7298683501

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Nancy Shali** W/o Late Roshan Lal Shali originally from Karan Nagar, Srinagar, Kashmir on 15th April 2024 at 502/ KM 10 Jaypee Kosmos, Noida sector -134.



Smt. Nancy Shali

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 24th April 2024 at Chota Haridwar, Muradnagar from 8:30 am onwards.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Shali's
Munshi's
Jalali's
Trisal's
Om Shanti
Contact No: 9953120369, 9999298245

DISCLAIMER

"Top News of J&K" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."

In Loving Memory Of

Ravi Kumar Soni (Bittu JE)



Sh. Ravi Kumar Soni (Bittu JE)

01-09-1962 - 06-04-2020

Choubars of Sh. Ravi Kumar Soni (Bittu JE) S/o Lt. Sh. Ambi Parkash Soni, R/o Soni Niwas, Ward No. 5, Basohli will be performed on 21st of April 2024, at 1:00 pm at our residence.

IN REVERENCE & REMEMBRANCE :-

Sh. I D Soni & Smt. Prem Lata (Taya G & Tayi G) (**Father & Mother**)
Late Sh. Ambi Parkash Soni & Late Smt. Raj Rani Anjali Soni (**Wife**)
Sunil Soni & Sunita Soni (**Bhaiya & Bhabhi**)
Anil Soni & Arti Soni (**Bhaiya & Bhabhi**)
Sumeet Kohli & Sunita Soni (**Sister & Brother in law**)
Arjun Soni & Ranjana Ghai (**Son & Daughter-in-Law**)
Akhshita (**Daughter**)
Nephew & Niece:- Anshika, Anshak, Aishwarya
Grand Children:- Aadhya Soni (Cherry)
Contact:- 9419321666, 9419812711, 9103411111

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Ex Sub Sh Girdhari Lal Chib (Satriyan)** S/o Lt Sh Milap Singh Chib on 11 April, 2024 R/o Toph Sher Khania Mehra Mohalla Ward No 39, Jammu.



Ex Sub Sh Girdhari Lal Chib (Satriyan)

10th Day will be performed on 20 April 2024 (Saturday) at our residence 10: 00 am

Kriya will be performed on 23 April 2024 (Tuesday) at our residence 12: 30 onwards.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
(Sons & Daughters-in-law)
Sh Rajesh Singh Chib & Smt Neelam Chib
Sh Nanak Singh Chib & Smt Anjali Chib
Sh Gulshan Singh Chib & Smt Anita Chib
Daughter & Son-in-Law
Smt Neelam Manhas & Lt. Sh. Ajay Singh Manhas (Paloura)
Grand Children: Bhanu Chib, Shaluu Chib, Meenakshi, Bhavo, Yuvraj Chib & Jeevika Chib
Mb : 9797373698, 7051200679, 9999073193

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.



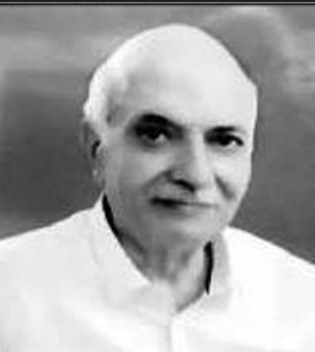
Sh Pran Nath Sumbly (Jiga Ji)

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

10th Day Kriya shall be performed at Muthi Ghat near Director Schod. 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
Ph No. 9622307652, 9315223911, 9419701617, 9797483898

CODOLENCE MAULIN SIDE

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



Shree Maharaj Krishen Dhar (Bhayaa Ji)

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.

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...



Professor Dr. Mohan Lal Sharma

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

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.



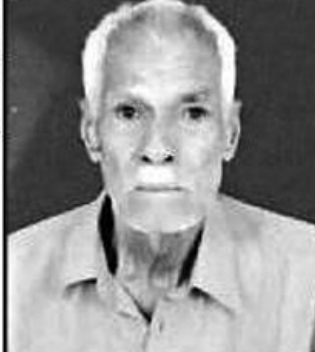
Smt Kishni Dhar (Asha ji)

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.

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 Mangotrian on 9-4-2024.



MASTER RADHA KRISHAN SHARMA

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

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**
Satya Devi & Suram Chand - **Sister & Brother-in-law**
Mehul, Rayveer - **Grand Children**
Magotra Family **Mobile: 7889532185**

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that our beloved **Sh. Rajinder Tickoo** S/o Late Sh. Shambhu Nath Tickoo original resident of Bijbehara, Anantnag present address: H.No. 22 Sidhivinayak Vihar Pouni Chak Police Force Jammu passed away on 17-04-2024.



Sh. Rajinder Tickoo

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat, Jammu on Friday April 26 at 9.00 am.

In Grief:
Smt. Kiran Tickoo- **Wife**
Paras Tickoo- **Son**
Upasna Tickoo- **Daughter**
Brothers & Sisters-in-Law
Mr. Parey Lal Tickoo & Mrs. Renu Tickoo
Mr. Ravinder Tickoo & Mrs. Sweetey Tickoo
Mr. Deepak Tickoo & Mrs. Archana Tickoo
Sisters & Brothers-in-Law
Smt. Soni Pandita & Sh. Chuni Lal Pandita
Smt. Shama Dhar & Sh. Manmohan Dhar
Smt. Sunita Mahajan & Mr. Naresh Mahajan
All Kids of Tickoo, Dhar, Pandita & Mahajan Families
Contact No.: 7889333638, 6006577176

Sajad Lone ridicules former CM Omar Abdullah for 'good', 'bad' political remarks

SRINAGAR, Apr 19 (Agencies): J&K Peoples Conference Chairman Sajad Lone on Friday ridiculed former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah over his 'good' and 'bad' political remarks.

Lone highlighted the hypocrisy within the NC and their shifting alliances and differing perspectives depending on their position of power.

Lone addressed the notion of "Good BJP" and "Bad BJP," drawing attention to the dynamics of NC's relationship with the BJP.

"When the NC is in alliance with the BJP and the 'touristy prince' makes a saffron debut by being the first Kashmiri to join the union cabinet led by the BJP—that is what we call the GOOD BJP. And it is so good to be the poster boy of the GOOD BJP. When NC is rebuffed, and not entertained by the BJP—that is the BAD BJP."

Referring to recent statements from the Shiv Sena Unit indicat-



ing support for NC in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections, Lone coined the terms "Good Shiv Sena" and "Bad Shiv Sena."

"When NC is in alliance with the SHIV SENA- in the NDA from 1999-2002. OR in the current INDIA alliance—That is the GOOD SHIV SENA. And the GOOD SHIV SENA will support NC in the ongoing Parliament elections. However, when the NC is not in alliance with the SHIV SENA — it is the BAD SHIV SENA. Which in

that case is rabidly communal, original Hindutva and of course the planner and executor in chief of the bloody Mumbai riots where hundreds of Muslims were killed", he added.

Lone further dissected the dichotomy between "Good Kashmiris" and "Bad Kashmiris" stating that "all those Kashmiris who vote for the NC are the GOOD KASHMIRIS. They are angels who have descended from the skies. As per voting data that is 25% of Kashmiris. And those Kash-

miri's who vote against the NC are sellouts, traitors, agents of central agencies and they are stooges of BJP. As per voting data that is 75% of Kashmiris."

Lone while highlighting the changing perspectives of the NC on PSA further said that "When the NC is in power and thousands of people in Kashmir are booked under PSA and packed to jails — it is the GOOD PSA and a GOOD LAW. And it is the need of the hour and so essential to save Kashmir. And

so thankful the NC is to Sheikh Sahib for having the vision to invent a law as draconian as the PSA. And make no mistakes while in power, no question of repealing the PSA."

He added, "When the NC is not in power, people booked under PSA and packed to jails— it is the BAD PSA. And while the NC is out of power the PSA should be repealed".

Lone further added that "When NC was in power and people used to be arrested and subjected to third degree torture—that was GOOD TORTURE. And need of the hour. When the female members meaning sisters or daughters or mothers of the allegedly absconding persons were picked up by the NC regime, as a bargain tactic to make them surrender, that was a part of GOOD TORTURE. That was good strategy. And when NC is not in power, all hell breaks loose and standard policing becomes BAD TORTURE", he concluded.

BJP didn't leave ground, commanding situation from the back: Omar Abdullah

SRINAGAR, Apr 19 (Agencies): National Conference Vice-President Omar Abdullah Friday took a jibe at Home Minister Amit Shah's statement that they will not field candidates from Kashmir region in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls, saying "Had BJP left ground it would have some meaning, but this is not the case, rather they are commanding the situation from the back".

Omar who is former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir said the declaration of Home Minister is ample evidence that BJP has failed to win hearts of people of J&K after decision taken on August 05, 2019.

"It is beyond understanding when BJP fielded its candidate in 2019 elections in J&K, why the party is shying away from fielding its men today. Does it a clear admission of BJP that it has failed to win hearts of people of Jammu and Kashmir after August 05, 2019," Omar



Abdullah said.

While hitting at BJP led central government, the former chief minister said that it is evident that decisions taken on August 05, 2019 led further anger and alienation in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Had BJP left ground it would have some meaning, but this is not the case ... They are commanding the situation from the back", Omar asserted.

On BJP leader's repeated visit and meetings in Kashmir with other political parties, the former CM Omar Abdullah said

"Tarun Chugh is continuously visiting Kashmir and meeting political leaders here. During his recent visit he drove straight to the residence of a local political leader and another one later on followed his cavalcade there. What was discussed there? Everyone knows their bonding with BJP".

He said our doors are shut for Tarun Chugh. "Neither he will visit to us, nor will we give him entry. This is the difference between Altaf Bukhari and National Conference," Omar added.

YAIKS hails abolishment of filing of M-Forms



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: The scrapping and completely abolishment of the filing of mandatory M-Forms by displaced Kashmiri voters ahead of the parliamentary and assembly elections in the UT of JK and the reservation of two Assembly seats for displaced Kashmiri by MODI-led Bharat Sarkar were welcomed by the 72 Assembly segment coordinators of Youth All India Kashmiri Samaj (YAIKS) led by its Chief Pt. RK Bhat (RamAvatar), who disclosed it in a press meet here on Friday.

He was accompanied by Sanjay Ganjoo, D. N. Sadhu, B. L. Dhar, Sanjay Raina, Kamal Tak, Suresh Bhat and others. "The M-Form process was the biggest hurdle for a low turnout in the polls," said R. K Bhat, while appealing to dis-

placed persons to ensure 100 percent polling in the upcoming Parliament and Assembly elections.

He said it's the right time for the community to prove our existence as our vote is always decisive and will decide the fate of the fraying candidates.

"Our participation in the election process and casting our vote is the victory of democracy and the defeat of the separatist's forces," he added.

He strongly advocated that the Gol should come up with a mechanism that the election in the community be held for the nomination of two Assembly seats reserved for Kashmir migrants so that grass-roots leadership will emerge with a democratic process among the community, who have always become the took at self-styled leadership and vested

interests. YAIKS called on all the political parties to make a commitment in their manifesto on the return and rehabilitation of Pandits in Valley.

"It is high time for the Indian Nation led by the strong leadership of Narendra Modi to come forward for the rescue of community of Kashmiri Pandits and rehabilitate them back to their land of origin, Kashmir Valley.

He also sought the protection, preservation, restoration, and renovation of the temples and shrines in Kashmir Valley and the economic package for unemployed and overaged youth will be first CBM a way forward in this direction.

He also appealed to the LG Administration for the issuance of yearly ration coupons instead of monthly ones for Kashmiri migrants

Yogi has also whole heartedly expressed his gratitude to all such community leaders belonging to various socio political fabrics for raising this important issue vigorously with the Chief Secretary J&K and Relief Commissioner Migrants J&K and succeeded in getting big a solace and relief for the community by a new order yesterday.

Yogi has also appealed to all social and Political leaders of the community to come forward voluntarily under one umbrella for serving the community by rising above their party affiliations for the cause of this hapless community in order to mitigate its sufferings.

Yogi expresses gratitude to UT Administration J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Kashmiri migrants living in forceful exile for last more than thirty two years have been facing a lot problems on day to day basis and have pinned great hopes in present regime in addressing their all woes and worries in times to come for their over all honourable living. One such issue which worried this displaced community the most for last few days was issuance of ration coupon slips on monthly basis instead of yearly basis which was being previously adopted by the concerned department for last more than two decades.

In a statement issued today by senior KP leader M.K.Yogi has expressed his heartiest gratitude to the Chief Secretary J&K Sh.Atul Dulloo, Secretary Revenue and Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner Migrants J&K who have over all acceded the genuine demands of migrants to issue one time ration slip coupon book for one year as per past practice.

This issue was raised by almost all the social and Political organisations of the community at all levels and sought immediate restoration of old system that is in place for more than two decades for over all convenience and comfort of the community.

Notice served to DDC Member in Handwara over 'violation of MCC'

SRINAGAR, Apr 19 (Agencies): Additional District Magistrate Kupwara on Friday served a notice to DDC member in Mawer Handwara over accusation of violation of Model Code of Conduct.

Additional District Magistrate Rouf ur Rehman has asked DDC member Mawer Khurshid Ahmad Dar to explain the reasons for violation of MCC norms and submit the expenditure incurred on the function within two days.

"You are hereby put on notice to respond to the violation of Model Code of Conduct made by you while inaugurating a Public Park at Maratgam Handwara, District Kupwara without proper legal permission from District Election Officer, Kupwara as required under rules," reads the notice, a copy of which lies with GNS.

"You are as such called on to explain the reasons of violating the MCC norms and submit the expenditure statement incurred on such function within two days positively, failing which the matter shall be forwarded to Chief Electoral Officer, J&K," reads the notice further.

CS J&K convenes meeting to address pending issues between Ladakh UT and J&K UT

Top News Report

LEH/JAMMU, Apr 18: The Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory presided over a meeting at the Secretariat, Jammu, to address pending issues concerning the apportionment of assets, liabilities, and manpower between the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the Union Territory of Ladakh.

The Advisor to UT Ladakh, Dr Pawan Kotwal, joined the meeting to review and deliberate on these significant matters. Comprehensive discussions were held during the meeting, focusing on various critical aspects including the apportionment of employees, deployment of officers to fill essential vacancies, transfer of posts from corporations, and the completion of ongoing projects managed by J&K agencies in Ladakh.

Additionally, the meeting focused on the transfer of valuable cultural assets such as art, artifacts, and archival records, along with the transfer of assets belonging to the J&K Sports Council that have been apportioned to UT Ladakh.

One of the key agenda items addressed during the meeting was the inclusion of employees apportioned to UT Ladakh in the seniority lists of the respective departments of UT Jammu and Kashmir, effective until 15th

November 2021. This step is crucial in ensuring equitable treatment and representation for all employees across UT Ladakh & UT J&K.

Furthermore, discussions also revolved around the allocation of land for the construction of Kargil Saria at Sonamarg, highlighting the commitment to infrastructure development and regional growth.

The meeting highlighted the importance of cooperation and collaboration between the two Union Territories to effectively resolve pending issues and streamline administrative processes.

The Chief Secretary of J&K UT and Advisor to UT Ladakh expressed confidence regarding the outcomes of the meeting and pledged continued efforts towards the smooth transition and effective functioning of both UTs.

Dr Pawan Kotwal stated that the rigorous effort signifies a significant step forward in the ongoing administrative consolidation and integration process. Administrative Secretaries, UT Ladakh; Deputy Commissioner, Leh; Chief Engineers; Directors; Deputy Secretaries; Under Secretaries; officials, UT of Ladakh Administration attended the meeting virtually from the Civil Secretariat, Ladakh, while Deputy Commissioner, Kargil, and officials joined the meeting from DC Office, Kargil.


5 injured as vehicle skids off road on Zojila Pass in Ganderbal

Top News Report

GANDERBAL, Apr 19 (Agencies): At least five persons were injured in a road accident at Zojila pass in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district

on Friday, officials said. An official said that the accident took place near Pani Nallah when a vehicle skidded off the road and fell down into a deep gorge. He said that 5 individuals from

Jammu were injured in the accident. "They were rushed to PHC Sonamarg where from 3 were referred to SKIMS Soura," he said. Police have taken cognisance of the incident.



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION GANDHI NAGAR JAMMU
e-mail : xenpwwddivgandhinagar@gmail.com

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short e-NIT No. DGN/02 of 2024-25 Dated 15-04-2024

For and on behalf of the **Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir** e-tenders are invited on **Item Rate** from the Agencies/Suppliers to supply the various items required to conduct the activities related to **Lok Sabha Election 2024** "as and when basis" at Govt. Polytechnic College and Govt. MAM College Jammu.

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (in Lacs)	Cost of document (in)	Earnest Money (in)	Time Allowed for complete-on	Time and date of opening of tender
1	Providing and fixing of Water proof Shamina's and other allied items on the eve of Sh. Amarnath Yatra for the Year 2024 at Saraswati Dham Railway Road Jammu	PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar	16.32	600	32640 (2% of the Advertised Cost)	60 Days	(1300 Hrs) on or after 27-04-2024
2	Providing and fixing of Water proof Shamina's and other allied items on the eve of Sh. Amarnath Yatra for the Year 2024 at Vaishnavi Dham and Panchayat Bhawan Railway Road Jammu	PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar	15.64	600	31280 (2% of the Advertised Cost)	60 Days	(1300 Hrs) on or after 27-04-2024

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per below schedule :

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	16-04-2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 16-04-2024 to 26-04-2024, 1800 Hrs
3	Bid submission Start Date	16-04-2024
4	Bid Submission End Date	26-04-2024 upto 1800 Hrs
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	27-04-2024 on or after 1300 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

Terms & Conditions

- Rates offered should be inclusive of all Taxes etc.
- The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason including the lowest one.
- The Firms are requested to quote their lowest rate per unit for mentioned items in BOQ. Rates for tents should be quoted for area in Sft/Chair and Fans per piece per day.
- The items supplied will be inspected by the Inspection Committee and in case the supply is not found in conformity with the approved specifications, the same will be liable to be rejected and will be required to be replaced with the supply exactly commensurate with the approved specifications.
- The payment will be made only after successful conduct of events as per approved specifications without payment of any advance amount.
- The quantities mentioned in the BOQ are indicative only and can vary. The indicated quantities are cumulative total for 60 Days period of Yatra and not for one day.**
- Photocopy of PAN Card.
- Photocopy of GSTIN Registration/on and latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B i.e. latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B of the preceding Month/quarter to the issued of NIT i.e. if the bidder have opted for QRMP scheme under GST then GSTR-3B for quarter ended March 2024 is to be uploaded and if the bidder have not opted for QRMP scheme under GST, then GSTR-3B for the month of March 2024 is to be uploaded.
- Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Office of **Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu**. The CDR/FDR shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period.
- Tender cost (Treasury Challan/Receipt mentioned the name of the work for which tender fee was deposited).
- The bids shall be opened on **27th April, 2024 at 1.00 P.M**

No :-
Dated :-
DIP/J-159/24
(Er. Rahat Gupta)
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division
Gandhi Nagar

EDITORIAL

J&K's cultural richness

Let's dive deeper into each aspect of Jammu and Kashmir's cultural richness:

Jammu and Kashmir's festivals are a reflection of its diverse cultural fabric. Lohri, Eid, Navroz, and Baisakhi are celebrated with great enthusiasm, bringing people of different religions together in a spirit of joy and communal harmony. These festivals are not just occasions for merriment but also symbolize deeper values of togetherness and renewal.

The traditional cuisine of Jammu and Kashmir is a treat for the senses. Wazwan, with its elaborate preparation and presentation, is a feast fit for royalty. Dishes like Rogan Josh, Yakhni, and Dum Aloo tantalize taste buds with their rich flavors, while sweet treats like Shufta add a touch of warmth to festivities.

Arts, Music, and Crafts: The artistic creativity of Jammu and Kashmir shines through its handicrafts, including the renowned Pashmina shawls, intricate wood carvings, and vibrant papier-mâché artworks. Traditional music forms like Chakri and Sufiana Kalam, along with folk dances like Ruf and Hafiza, add rhythm and vibrancy to the cultural landscape.

Jammu and Kashmir's natural beauty is unparalleled, with attractions like the serene Dal Lake, ancient temples in Jammu, picturesque valleys in Pahalgam, majestic mountains in Ladakh, and snow-clad landscapes in Gulmarg leaving visitors awe-inspired.

Dance Forms: Dance in Jammu and Kashmir is not just a performance but a storytelling medium that embodies unity, harmony, and festive spirit. Dance forms like Ruf and Hafiza, accompanied by soulful music, showcase the cultural richness and diversity of the region. The traditional attire of Jammu and Kashmir, including pherans, pashmina shawls, and embroidered kurtas, reflects the region's vibrant costume heritage. Each garment is a testament to the aesthetic sensibilities and deep cultural connection of the people.

The tribes of Jammu and Kashmir, such as Gujjar, Bakarwal, Gaddi, and Bota, contribute significantly to the region's cultural heritage with their unique customs, traditions, and languages. Their folk songs, dances, and crafts offer insights into their indigenous heritage and way of life.

Together, these elements form a rich mosaic of culture and tradition that makes Jammu and Kashmir a captivating destination and a testament to unity amidst diversity.

The mosaic of diverse cultures and traditions that shapes Jammu and Kashmir is a compelling story of unity amidst diversity. From the beat of its vibrant festivals to the strains of its traditional music, from the richness of its cuisine to the beauty of its traditional attire, every aspect weaves a fascinating story of its cultural heritage. The echoes of the stories of the local tribes and the allure of its captivating tourist attractions further cement the region as a captivating panorama of cultural diversity. Jammu and Kashmir is not just a destination; it is a cultural journey, a living, breathing tapestry of traditions and togetherness.

Elections 2024: Modi up a steep & slippery slope?

By: Mohan Guruswamy

Be it a democracy or a dictatorship, governments are almost always changed by throwing out the incumbent. The former is called a democratic transition and the latter is inevitably a revolution. Even if it is, as usually is the case, more of the same.

India's electoral process that begins on April 19 will be concluded on June 4 when the results are announced. Most psephologists, commentators, astrologers and bazar gossips are sanguine that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be easily re-elected to a third successive term. I do not agree with that sanguinity.

I think Mr Modi has a hard hill to climb and the slope may be too steep and slippery for him. Look at the objective reality. In 2019, the BJP won 303 seats or almost 56 per cent of the Lok Sabha with 37.4 per cent of the popular vote. This skew is how it usually is in a first-past-the-post system. Even a minority mandate translates into an overwhelming outcome. But the problem with the BJP mandate is that it is concentrated in a minority of states. The saffron mandate is restricted almost entirely to the large Hindi-speaking states (202/235), as well as Maharashtra (41/48) and Karnataka (25/28). It got 268 out of its 303 in just this concentration. Winning these states is not the issue for the BJP. Repeating this performance is.

The BJP governments in these states have not exactly covered themselves with glory. The party got resoundingly thrashed in the recent state elections in Karnataka, where Mr Modi fully deployed his mind spread and

headgears, turning it into a Modi versus Congress contest. In the years after 2014, the BJP has turned every election, including for municipal councils, into a Modi versus the rest contest. It has lost many of these. For Prime Minister Modi to repeat 2019, we have to assume that the electorate is able to selectively choose Mr Modi for Parliament and not for the Assemblies.

But a lot of murky waters have flowed down the Ganga, the Narmada and Godavari since 2019. The effects of demonetisation (2016), the Covid-19 lockdowns and general mismanagement have set India on a much lower growth trajectory than the one it was between 2004 and 2014. In that decade India's GDP grew from \$721 billion to \$2.03 trillion, or an increase of 182 per cent; while in 2024 it grew to \$3.75 trillion from \$2.03 trillion, or by 86.6 per cent. But lower growth has not slowed down the accumulation of wealth with the upper class. Income inequality is among the highest in the world now. At the end of 2022, the wealth Gini coefficient of India stood at 82.3, a significant increase compared to 74.7 in 2000.

Joblessness and job dissatisfaction have grown to dominate our economic and social landscape. The ILO's "India Employment Report 2024" paints a bleak outlook for the 7-8 million youth being added to the labour force each year, with youth accounting for almost 83 per cent of India's unemployed workforce. Even more distressing is that among the unemployed, the proportion of educated young people, those who have had a secondary-level education or higher, has doubled to 65.7 per cent now from 35.2

per cent in 2000. Unemployed graduates (29.1%) outnumber illiterates (3.4%) by nine times. This underscores the shortage of jobs requiring skills and education.

The peasantry is disaffected and has taken to the highways again. While the Jat peasantry of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh fattened on assured MSP and near 100 per cent procurement wants more, the peasantry in the rest of the country chafes at state regulations to control prices and hence restrict their incomes. The fragmentation of land holdings has only added to farmer discontent. Ironically, it is widespread even among those who get all and those who get little.

That this general mood will not affect Mr Modi's standing in the saffron belt even somewhat, despite a half-constructed temple in Ayodhya, is to be excessively hopeful. People are natural repositories of discontent. Even after Lord Ram returned to Ayodhya it didn't take people too long to raise uncomfortable questions and Queen Sita had to seek refuge in Valmiki's ashram.

Mr Modi has to deal with discontent and in all likelihood there will be attrition. In each of the saffron states, the BJP won in 2019 with well over 50 per cent of the popular vote. In Gujarat, it polled as much as 62 per cent, in UP it currently holds 64 seats with 49.56 per cent, and in MP and Rajasthan it had over 58 per cent each. Only in Assam did the BJP do well (9/12) with only 36 per cent of the vote. Even in West Bengal, where Mr Modi waged a vicious and personalised campaign against Mamata Banerjee to win 18 seats, it won 40 per

cent. The picture is clear, there is too little room to climb higher, while a drop could be very precipitous in terms of seats.

Presuming Mr Modi will lose support in the BJP's existing strongholds, where can it hope to make up for the losses? Let's start from the South. It is very unlikely to gain any seats in Tamil Nadu and Kerala -- meaning zero will remain zero. It has 25 out of 28 in Karnataka, which is unlikely to be repeated. The Congress is expected to make strong gains here. The BJP has a recently cobbled up an alliance with the TDP, which could mean a couple of seats in Andhra Pradesh. It has four in Telangana and is unlikely to add to it. Thus, even a 10 per cent loss in seats in the saffron heartland and a further loss of, say 10-15 in Karnataka, will leave it well below the halfway mark. Along with its on and off ally, the JD(U), the BJP won 39/40 in Bihar. With the RJD resurgent and a settled alliance with the Congress, that record is unlikely to be maintained. The INDIA alliance is tipped to easily do double digits or even 50 per cent of the seats in Bihar. The AAP/Congress alliance might sweep Delhi's seven seats. The saffron alliance won 41/48 in Maharashtra. With every party split in the state and with an uninspiring state leadership, Mr Modi alone may not be able to pull all the chestnuts out of the fire.

Spread it on a spreadsheet and see how the cookie crumbles. It doesn't look like the BJP is anywhere near 400. Even the halfway mark of 272 looks like a hard climb.

How to save the living world



By: Vijay GarG

The relentless rise in global temperatures paints a stark portrait of humanity's disregard for the environment, echoing a dire warning for the planet's future

The temperature in the world is increasing day by day, due to the ignorance and carelessness of the people. The problem of rising temperatures is seen all over the world. The world's Climate changes day by day. The rising temperature is a bell of danger for the living world. If we are not aware, then we will not be able to deal with the problems of the future. All living beings need water, air and heat to survive. The changes in the quality and quantity of water and air will give birth to uncountable problems. When the atmosphere or the climate

changes the changes are also seen in the living world, as we see now.

The desert's biome is different from Iceland's biome. In Australia we can see its national animal kangaroo, In Iceland we can see polar bears and penguins. Fruits, vegetables, flowers and forests also differ due to climate change. When the temperature of the earth is increasing, it poses a big threat to everyone. We don't know whether we will get the same fruits and vegetables tomorrow that we get now. Today the animals, birds or insects that we see all around us will they extinct or survive we don't know. We don't have any information about living beings, how many species of them have already extinct every year is not known doubt they enrich our lives. We don't account for how much our lives have been affected since they disappeared. If our outer is affected then our inner is also affected. It is worth considering. We are destroying our environment because of our greed. Inhumanity is seen in humans today. There are two reasons behind the increase in global temperature, one is man-made and the other one is natural. Man-made causes are

deforestation, cutting of trees, use of vehicles and excessive use of fossil fuels. Natural causes where earthquakes, Storms, forest fires, gas accidents coal burning etc. The main cause of global warming is the greenhouse effect. A greenhouse is a glass house for keeping trees, which does not allow the heat to go away from the glass house.

It is used to save the trees. The greenhouse effect is seen in the increase of carbon dioxide and methane gas. When the temperature increases by one degree, it greatly affects our environment. The ice accumulated in the South Pole and the North Pole of the Earth is starting to melt. The glaciers in the Himalayas of India are also starting to melt and the water from these glaciers is causing floods in the rivers coming out of the glaciers. Nowadays days Shivaling in Amarnath is melting within in few days. In the future, as the heat increases, the rivers will cause flood and they will join the sea with the flood water. Many intellectuals of the world are concerned about the increase in global temperature. The solution to these problems is only by planting trees The only way we can save our planet is by

plantation and forest protection. Trees give us oxygen and reduce the amount of carbon in the atmosphere. So planting trees is only one solution to the problem.

The tree planting program should be carried out regularly. When the Seawater rises it enters nearby cities and villages. In the fourth chapter of the twelfth skanda of the Bhagavatam, there is a description of the flood or the pralaya where the matter of Prithibi becomes hot and causes a flood or pralaya. It is also said that the rays of the sun will destroy the living world. How to save the living world should be the main subject of our course of studies in educational institutions. As long as the world is standing at the door of destruction we should not count the numbers of profit and loss but the message of collective development and collective happiness and peace should be spread. The intellectual people of India always sent messages of peace and goodwill to the world. Today let India be the guide of the world to protect the planet.

(Vijay GarG Retired
Principal Educational
columnist Malout)

NSS UNIT OF GDC R S Pura's voters awareness campaign gathers momentum as Election day approaches

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Amidst the approaching election day, an effort to foster civic engagement and empower youth, a voter awareness initiative was launched by NSS Unit in Collaboration with Department of Zoology, Electoral Literacy Club and Viksit Bharat club in pre established democracy room of GDC R. S. Pura on Friday under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Rajni Bhagat and guidance of Dr. Chanchal Angral, NSS PO. Dr. Rakesh Choudhary, HOD Political Science and resource person of the event emphasized



that higher education provides students with the knowledge, skills, values, and experiences to live productive and fulfilling professional, personal, and

civic lives. He stressed that students should embrace their role as active citizens, committed to shaping the future trajectory of our society through their

votes.

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

education institutions powerfully shape the learning, values, and aspirations of students from kindergarten through graduate school. Dr. Chanchal Angral, event coordinator while motivating the students said that, as election day is near and it is one of the essential pillars of democracy, and it is through this democratic system that people can choose the representatives of their choice who they feel have the capability to become leaders.

The faculty who were present on the occasion were Dr. Rajinder Sharma, Prof. Vijeeta Anand and Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch.

Sunil Sharma casts vote in GLSE- 2024



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Apr 19: In the first phase of General Lok Sabha Elections (GLSE), 2024 wherein elections in respect of 4- Udampur Parliamentary Elections are going today, Sunil Sharma a prominent leader of Jammu and Kashmir from BJP party today casted his vote along with his wife in his native village at Hatta Pochhal. Speaking at the occasion Sunil Sharma enjoins all voters of

District Kishtwar to exercise their voting rights with full freedom to make the country's democratic, republic, sovereign, secular fabric more strong and leading the nation to reach at top among the comity of nations.

He remarked that our country is now leading in all fronts under all spheres of development under the dynamic vision of our Prime Minister. All the burning socio economic issues relating

to women empowerment, rights of women, poor people, farmers, etc. have been vigorously looked into by our Hon'ble Prime Minister and hundreds of welfare schemes are being implemented in the country for socio economic upliftment of downtrodden sections of society. He further added that our country is marching towards the path of development with rapid speed under the enlightened leadership of our respected Prime Minister and expressed his emphatic hope that the dream of Naya Bharat Sashakt Bharat Viksit Bharat and Vishwa Guru Bharat is only and only possible under the leadership of visionary world wide acclaimed and popular leader Hon'ble Prime Minister who will again win and form government third time with thumping majority.

Students of SMVDU present paper in National Conference AEMTA-2024



Top News Report

KATRA, Apr 19: Third year B Tech students of the School of Civil Engineering (SoCE), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University presented a technical paper in a National Conference on "Advanced and Emerging Materials for Technological Applications (AEMTA-2024)".

Arush Kattal presented a paper titled "A Comprehensive Review on the Integration of Waste Materials for Sustainable Technological Advancement in Civil Engineering".

Another group of students Kevin Somra and Pooja Kharra presented a paper titled "Sustainable Materials as a Column Filler: A Review".

Both the groups were guided by Srijan (Assistant Professor, SoCE). The conference was organized by Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal in collaboration with IIT Jammu, NIT Delhi and IAHT Ludhiana. Both the papers will be published in the Springer Proceedings.

GDC Darhal celebrates World Heritage Day with enthusiasm

Top News Report

DARHAL, Apr 19: To mark World Heritage Day, Government Degree College (GDC) Darhal organized a seminar in the college auditorium.

The event was chaired by Principal Prof Zamir Ahmed Mirza, who emphasized the importance of preserving and protecting our cultural and natural heritage for future generations. He highlighted the significance of World Heritage Day in raising awareness about the need to conserve our valuable assets.

He also urged the college community to be active ambassadors for heritage preservation. He emphasized that by understanding and appreciating our heritage, we can contribute to building a rich and sustainable future for our society and the world.

Dr M Saleem Wani, Coordinator IQAC, spoke

about the diverse forms of heritage that require our attention, including tangible heritage (such as monuments, artifacts, and natural wonders) and intangible heritage (such as traditions, customs, and oral histories).

He urged students to value and contribute to the preservation of their local and global heritage.

Dr Ghulam Abbas, HoD Persian, emphasized the role of literature, art, and architecture in preserving cultural heritage.

He highlighted that heritage helps us understand our past, appreciate our present, and plan for our future.

Dr Taseem Ahmed Malik, HoD Geography, discussed the natural heritage that needs to be protected, including biodiversity, forests, mountains, and rivers.

He stressed the need for sustainable development practices to ensure the preservation of our natural environment for posterity.

Dr Mohd Akhlaq Malik, NSS Coordinator, emphasized the active role that students can play in promoting heritage awareness and conservation.

He encouraged them to volunteer in heritage-related projects and raise public awareness about the importance of preserving our rich heritage.

Prof. Anzaar Ahmed Malik, HoD Arabic, shed light on the interconnectedness of different cultures and heritages.

He highlighted that preserving our own heritage also helps in appreciating and respecting the heritage of other cultures.

Students from various semesters actively participated in the seminar, presenting their perspectives on the significance of World Heritage Day.

They shared their experiences, ideas, and commitments to promoting heritage conservation.

Rich Harvest School hosts Pegasus MUN 3.0



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Pegasus MUN, in collaboration with Rich Harvest School Bari Brahmana, was inaugurated in a captivating Ceremony on Friday by the Chief Guest Justice Adnan Syed, Presiding officer Th.Gulchain Singh Charak-former minister R&B and Higher Education along with Guest of Honour Advocate General D.C. Raina.

The distinguished guests including Vice-Chairperson Uma Katal, Dr Samar Dev Singh Charak-Secretary Dogra Educational Trust, Dr Bela Thakur, Managing Director Gambhir Dev Singh Charak, Director Ruchi Charak and the Head of the Insti-

tute Anita Bhatia lit the ceremonial lamp to seek blessings of Ma Saraswati for the successful culmination of the 3 days mega event from 19th to 21st April. The dignitaries were accorded a warm welcome by the Head of the Institute.

RHS scholars moved the audience with a scintillating dance performance and a melodious song.

The Managing Director congratulated the Head Boy Akhileshwar Singh Charak and his team for uniting the delegates and offering them a platform to debate, deliberate and form consensus on issues of global concern.

The Chief Guest gave best wishes to the youngsters for the 3 day event.

He opined that today's debaters would be the architects of our future.

The Guest of Honour advised the delegates to do justice to their allotted portfolios while wishing them the very best of luck.

The Presiding Officer expressed amazement at the Pegasus MUN team for organizing the mega event.

In a glittering ceremony gavels were presented by the honoured guests to the Committee Chairpersons and Co-Chairpersons.

The Deputy Secretary General of Pegasus MUN Akhileshwar Singh Charak declared the conference open bringing cheers and joy from the delegates.

Interactive seminar on 'Stress Management' for youth of Govt Polytechnic for Women held

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: In order to create awareness regarding mental health, Youth for Global Peace & Transformation (YGPT), organized an interactive seminar on Stress Management for the youth of Government Polytechnic for Women, Jammu. Maitreyi Sonee, an author, designer and a very active volunteer at Maitri Both Parivaar conducted the seminar and it was very well received by the students who could relate to it.



The seminar covered different triggers & causes for stress espe-

cially in today's fast paced world and how it has a debilitating effect

on one's daily life. It also highlighted the root cause of stress and various techniques to deal with it. YGPT was founded by Transformation Pioneer - Maitreyi Dadashreeji.

During the seminar Er. Suket Gupta Principal of the Institute while interacting highlighted the need of stress management and time management and exhorted the students to take maximum benefit of the initiative of the organization. The seminar was coordinated by Bhawna Arora Lecturer Textile.

Shoolini University holds 2-days Principal's Conclave-2024

Reinventing Education through Research & Innovation forte of University: Chancellor

Top News Report

SOLAN/JAMMU, Apr 19: Shoolini University, India's No. 1 Private University based in Kasauli Hills, Himachal Pradesh organized two-day school Principal's Conclave inside the University campus on 13th & 14th April, 2024 where in around 33 Principals of the leading institutions of J&K and Pathankot participated.

The Principals attended the conclave were Ritesh Kapoor, Director A.S.N.Hr.Sec.School, Channi Himmat; Manmet Kour, Vice Principal APS Jammu Cantt; Girish Kumar, Principal Jodhamal Public School Jammu; Akash Pradhan, Principal Heritage School, Jammu; Amarendra Mishra, Principal K C Public School; Rajesh Rathore, Principal JK Public School, Kunjwani Jammu; Maria Swati, Principal Carmel Convent

School, Jammu; Vivek Arora, Principal DPS Kathua; Vikram Handa, Director Tiny Tots Hr Sec School, Sainik Colony, Jammu; Rajesh Sharma, Principal Sun Shine Public School, R S Pura; K D Khajuria, Principal NP Brilliant School, Bishnah; Raj Kumar Verma, Principal DPS Nagbani; Naresh Kumar, Principal Learning Temple School Kathua; G R Mehta, Principal Kailash Shiksha Academy; Ankur Arora, Principal Vir Savarkar Hr Sec School; Vikrant Sharma, Principal Shastri Public School; Riti Prakash Singh, Principal Nav Adarsh Hr Sec School, Kathua; Madan Mohan Sharma, Principal Nav Jagriti Niketan Hr Sec School, Kathua; Pooja Rajput, Vice Principal Blooming Dale Public School, Jammu; G N Var, President Private Schools Association Kashmir; Anju Jain, Principal JK Public Hr Sec School,



Udhampur; Seema Sambyal, Vice Principal Holy Presentation Convent School, Kathua; Meenakshi Jamwal, Principal DAC Collegiate Sr Sec School, Kathua; Arun Sharma, Principal Shivallik Heights Public School; Mahi Paul Sharma, Principal Minerva Public School; Sheetal Sharma, Minerva Public School; Rajesh Sharma, Principal JK Police Public School; Neeraj Mohan Puri, Principal Modern Sandeepani

School; Romila Chand, St Thomas Sr Sec School; Vinita Mahajan, JK International School; Preety, Air Force School; Adamyia, JK Kids; Anugrahika, JK Public Hr Sec School.

The two-day Certification programme for Director/School Principals was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Atul Khosla highlighting the research based education introduced in the University. Khosla appre-

ciated the active participation of the Principals of the reputed institutions in coming forward to understand the conceptual based research programmes introduced for various courses available in the university.

He drives new initiatives at Shoolini - initiating partnerships with industry and top global universities, starting new innovative academic programmes, transforming a traditional system

to new methodologies of pedagogy, initiating a skills-based curriculum and building one of India's most dynamic and cutting-edge education technology platforms.

Prof. PK Khosla, Chancellor Shoolini University showcases their journey and briefed the principals that he has worked on plant biodiversity and chromosomal polymorphism of Himalayan trees, which earned him his Ph.D. degree in 1968 from Punjab University and post doctoral program at Oxford University.

Dr. Khosla boasts of a stellar work experience. Prior to Shoolini, he was senior scientific advisor biotechnology to HP Govt. of Biotechnology, Shimla. He was also the Vice Chancellor of HP Agricultural University.

Saroj Khosla's leadership in education is intricately woven into her

familial heritage and an unwavering commitment to the field. She congratulated the Principals for making the 2-day certification programme a great success and purposeful.

Setting the context by Avnee Khosla, Vice President Shoolini University welcomed the Principals for the conclave. She made the context for the 2-day certification programme for making the learning of various session interactive. She added that Shoolini University is a young university set up in 2009. Since then, we have become a well-recognized name in research, student output and innovation. The university has UGC recognition with NAAC accreditation. Several courses are recognised by the National Board of Accreditation. Such accreditations are recognition of our high-acumen faculty, innovative pedagogy and sprawling campus. With

250+ crore investments in research and innovation and high patent output, the university outperforms India's leading technical and science universities for its quality of research.

Various session conducted for the two-day certification programme are: Innovative teaching and learning by Prof Munish Sehrawat; Summit Research program on biotechnology by Dr Saurabh Kulshrestha.

The programme included a visit of the campus, RC Oswal Nano lab, Food testing lab, Patent wall, Patent wall, Library made on European concept, Temple, Tree plantation inside the campus by the Principals followed by Gala dinner. The two day certification programme ended with presentation of Certificates to all the Principals followed by Vote of thanks presented by Shikha Sood, Head of outreach.

'Lord Curzon Ki Haveli' to be screened at UK-Asian Film Festival

Anshuman Jha's directorial Lord Curzon Ki Haveli, which stars Rasika Dugal and Arjun Mathur, will witness its British premiere at the prestigious UK-Asian Film Festival 2024, at the historical Regent Cinema, on May 11.

Excited about the screening, Anshuman, in a statement, said, "Feels like a full circle. Lord Curzon Ki Haveli is a film about Asians in the UK. We shot it in Yorkshire — four hours from London. And I feel the festival journey of the film over the past nine months through IFFM Australia, CSAFF North America, ISAFF Canada, Razor Reel Europe, Wench & Red Lorry



in India — is now rightfully culminating at the UK-Asian Film

Festival 2024. We are excited to screen our film as the closing

night film for audiences in the UK before its worldwide release later this year."

Arjun also expressed his happiness. "I found the script of this film to be wacky and weird from the outset. I think that's what initially attracted me, the fact that I did not get to categorise into any one particular genre. We are excited for the British premiere in London," he said.

The film, starring Rasika Dugal, Arjun Mathur, Zoha Rahman, Paresh Pahuja and Tanmay Dhanania, is a black comedy thriller. It is produced by Golden Ratio Films and First Ray Films.

Actress Sydney Sweeney lashes out at producer who called her 'unwatchable' in 'Anyone But You'



Actress Sydney Sweeney, who garnered significant acclaim for her role in Euphoria, has slammed Hollywood producer Carol Baum after she claimed in a scathing review that Sydney 'can't act' and is 'not pretty'.

Baum harshly attacked the 26-year-old star during an interview with New York Times film critic Janet Maslin in front of a live audience this week. The 81-year-old producer ripped apart Sydney's latest performance in the rom-com 'Anyone But You' alongside Glen Powell, claiming that the film was 'unwatchable' while critiquing her acting abilities.

After Sydney caught wind of the harsh public criticism, she furiously slammed the producer for tearing down another hardworking woman in the industry. "How sad that a woman in a position to share her expertise and experience chooses instead to attack another woman. If that's what she's learnt in her decades in the industry and feels is appropriate to teach to her students, that's shameful. To unjustly disparage a fellow female producer speaks volumes about Baum's character."

Orlando Bloom pokes fun at fiancée Katy Perry's malfunctioning attire, calls it 'frying pan'

British actor Orlando Bloom made fun of his fiancée Katy Perry's outfit before it 'broke' live on 'American Idol'.

The actor took to his partner's Instagram post to mock her look, comparing it to a cooking utensil, reports Mirror.co.uk.

Singer Katy, 39, had posted snaps of her attire to the social media platform and while most were extremely complimentary of the metallic top, Orlando was less

so.

He jibed, 'Glad I could bend that frying pan with my bare hands for you baby.' Katy couldn't help but respond with a witty comment of her own, jokingly hitting back, '@orlandobloom wow good one and I didn't even write it this time.'

Actor Alexander James Rodriguez couldn't help but get in on the couple's banter. He commented, '@orlandobloom hehe let's hope it's not bent around your ear later.'



Her next upload showed the moment the outfit in question failed to keep covered and 'broke'.

She shared a clip of the dress malfunction, which happened during Roman Collins' powerful rendition of James Brown's 'It's a Man's Man's Man's World' on 'American Idol'.

Katy laughed off the situation at the time stating, "That song... um... broke my top off... I guess it is a woman's world."

Zendaya says she doesn't know if Euphoria will return for Season 3

Looks like nobody is really sure about when Euphoria will return with its Season 3. Forget ardent fans, even Hollywood star Zendaya claims that she, too, is unaware of when the third season will begin production. Although the Euphoria star is an executive producer of the hit HBO series, she said she's "not in charge" of whether the third season will really happen.

But of course, Zendaya wants to play Rue again. "If it's right for the characters and everything turns out the way it should, of course," Zendaya said at the Challengers premiere in Los Angeles. "But it's beyond me."



Director Martin Scorsese eyes Leonardo DiCaprio as Frank Sinatra in new biopic

Director Martin Scorsese is reportedly gearing up for a new project, aiming to capture the essence of Frank Sinatra's life in a biopic following his film about Jesus.

And Scorsese has set his sights on casting Leonardo DiCaprio, as the legendary singer-actor, with Jennifer Lawrence, potentially portraying Sinatra's second wife, Ava Gardner.

The duo previously shared the screen in the 2021 film Don't Look Up.

Tina Sinatra, who holds control over Frank's estate, has yet to greenlight the project. Frank Sinatra, who



passed away in 1998 at the age of 82, left an indelible mark on the 20th century with his multifaceted career. From starring in films

like 1962's The Manchurian Candidate to crooning timeless classics such as My Way and New York, New York, Sinatra's legacy

remains iconic.

The singer's personal life was equally noteworthy, with four marriages marking his romantic journey.

After divorcing his first wife, Nancy Barbato, in 1951, Sinatra married actress Ava Gardner later that same year.

However, their union ended in divorce in 1957.

Sinatra went on to marry Mia Farrow and later Barbara Marx, remaining with the latter until his passing.

Should the Sinatra biopic materialise, it would signify the seventh collaboration between DiCaprio and Scorsese, who most recently worked together on 2023's Killers of the Flower Moon.

Taylor Swift fans in frenzy over alleged 'Tortured Poets Department' album leak

Taylor Swift fans are in a frenzy over alleged leaks from her upcoming album, 'The Tortured Poets Department', set to be released this Friday.

According to Page Six, snippets of the album's tracks surfaced online, purportedly originating from a Google Drive link containing 17 songs. Swift previously confirmed that her 11th studio album would indeed feature 11 tracks.

The leaked snippets have sparked a divide among fans, with some questioning their authenticity, speculating whether they were generated by artificial intelligence. While some urged fellow fans to refrain from listening to the leaks and report them, others expressed frustration, labelling the leak spreaders as "fake Swifties". "In the midst

or Device's Volume COMPLETELY OFF on Twitter for the NEXT 24 HRS and REPORT EVERY POST spamming about album leaks! We got this!" posted one devoted fan on X.

Meanwhile, ahead of the album's highly anticipated release, Swift collaborated with Spotify for a special "library installation" at The Grove in Los Angeles.

As per Page Six, Swift's dedicated fans took to social media platforms to discourage the dissemination of leaked content.

Tip: Turn Youx, the exhibit teased fans with easter eggs related to the upcoming album, including intriguing lyrics such as 'One less temptress. One less dagger to sharpen,' and 'Even statues crumble if they're made to wait.' The album's title, 'The Tortured Poets Depart-



ment', was first revealed by Swift herself during the 2024 Grammy Awards ceremony.

Swifties speculate that the title could be a subtle reference to a group chat involving Swift's ex, Joe Alwyn, and his friends, Paul Mescal and Andrew Scott, dubbed 'The Tortured Man Club'. As anticipation mounts

for the album's release, fans are dissecting every detail, particularly the lyrics, which some believe to be veiled references to Swift's past relationship with Alwyn.

With the album's release just around the corner, Swifties eagerly await the full musical experience, despite the pre-release commotion.

Guillaume Canet stars in new Netflix thriller 'Ad Vitam'

French actor Guillaume Canet is taking on multiple roles in the new Netflix thriller Ad Vitam. Directed by Rodolphe Lauga, known for It's Complicated, the shooting of the action film has commenced in Paris. Netflix plans to release the movie globally next year.

Canet portrays Franck Lazareff, who, after surviving an assassination attempt, discovers that his wife has been abducted by an enigmatic group of armed individuals. As he attempts to rescue her, Franck finds himself confronting his past. Stephane Caillard, Nassim Lyes, Zita Hanrot, and Alexis Manenti also star in the movie.

Canet and Lauga collaborated on the screen-



play for Ad Vitam alongside David Corona, with Canet producing. Guillaume Canet, known for directing himself as Asterix in Asterix & Obelix: The Middle Kingdom, has also appeared in the French thriller Breaking Point, directed by Yvan Attal. Canet has directed several films, including the 2006 crime thriller Tell No One and the 2010 dramedy Little White Lies.

Netflix is expanding its original content in France, focusing on action and thriller genres.

Alongside Ad Vitam, the streaming platform is remaking the 1953 French action classic The Wages of Fear with writer-director Julien Leclercq.

PM Modi urges people to vote in large numbers: 'Every voice matters'

NEW DELHI, Apr 19 (Agencies): As voting in the first phase of Lok Sabha polls began on Friday morning, Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged the people, especially young and first-time voters, to exercise their franchise in large numbers.

The Prime Minister wrote the post on X in six languages - English, Hindi, Tamil, Marathi, Bengali and Assamese. He said that every vote and every voice mattered in elections.

"The 2024 Lok Sabha elections commence today! As 102 seats across 21 states and UTs go to the polls, I urge all those voting in these seats to exercise their franchise in record numbers. I particularly call upon the young and first-time voters to vote in large numbers. After all, every vote counts and every



voice matters!" he tweeted.

Voting for the first phase of Lok Sabha elections began in 102 seats spread across 21 states and Union Territories began at 7 am today. Polling is being held on all seats in Tamil Nadu (39), Uttarakhand (5), Arunachal

Pradesh (2), Meghalaya (2), Andaman and Nicobar Islands (1), Mizoram (1), Nagaland (1), Puducherry (1), Sikkim (1) and Lakshadweep (1).

Besides, there is voting in 12 seats in Rajasthan, eight in Uttar Pradesh, six in Madhya

Pradesh, five seats each in Assam and Maharashtra, four in Bihar, three in West Bengal, two in Manipur, and one seat each in Tripura, Jammu and Kashmir, and Chhattisgarh.

Simultaneously, assembly elections are being held in Arunachal Pradesh (60 seats) and Sikkim (32 seats).

In the first phase of Lok Sabha polls, over 16.63 crore people are eligible to cast their vote. This includes 35.67 lakh first-time voters, 3.51 crore young voters in the age group of 20-29, and 11,371 from the third gender.

While the BJP-led NDA is seeking a third successive term under PM Modi, the Opposition is hoping for a change in fortune as they are contesting the polls forming an umbrella alliance, INDIA.

Remarks on Allopathy: SC asks Baba Ramdev to implead complainants in plea for stay of criminal probes



NEW DELHI, Apr 19 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday asked yoga guru Ramdev to implead the complainants, who have lodged cases against him over his alleged remarks against the use of allopathic medicines during the Covid pandemic, as party in his plea seeking stay of criminal proceedings.

The Patna and Raipur chapters of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) have lodged complaints in 2021 alleging Ramdev's remarks were likely to cause prejudice to Covid control mechanism and may dissuade people from availing proper treatment.

A bench of Justices MM Sundresh and PB Varale, which was hearing Ramdev's plea seeking stay on criminal proceedings, said he needs to implead the complainants for securing relief in the matter.

The bench granted liberty to Ramdev to implead the complainants and posted the matter for hearing after the summer vacations of the apex court, which are starting from May 20.

The counsel appearing for the Bihar government said he needed time to file reply in the matter.

In his plea, Ramdev has impleaded the Centre, Bihar, Chhattisgarh and IMA as parties.

The top court had issued notice to them on October 9, last year.

Earlier, senior advocate Siddharth Dave, appearing for Ramdev, had said the yoga guru had made a statement in 2021 that he does not believe in allopathic medicines to which some doctors took offence and lodged multiple cases against him.

As an interim relief,

Ramdev has sought a stay on investigation on the criminal complaints.

The IMA has lodged complaints in Bihar and Chhattisgarh over Ramdev's remarks against the use of allopathic medicines during the pandemic.

The yoga guru has been booked under various provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

Ramdev, whose statements stirred a nationwide debate on Allopathy versus Ayurveda had, however, withdrawn them after receiving a letter from then Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan, who had called his remarks "inappropriate".

The Delhi Medical Association (DMA), meanwhile, has sought permission to become a party to the case, alleging that Ramdev insulted Allopathy and "instigated" people to disregard vaccines and treatment protocols.

The DMA, having 15,000 doctors as members, has claimed that Ramdev's Patanjali earned over Rs 1,000 crore by selling Coronil kits which were not approved by the competent authority.

Silent undercurrent brewing across west UP against Modi govt's 'failures': Congress

NEW DELHI, Apr 19 (Agencies): The Congress on Friday claimed that a "silent undercurrent" is brewing across western Uttar Pradesh against the "failures" of the Modi government, as it flagged issues such as "neglect" of sugarcane farmers and examination paper leaks.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh attacked the BJP-led central government ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's poll rally in Amroha.

"Today's questions for the PM as he heads to UP: Why has the BJP neglected UP's sugarcane farmers? Rs 20,000 crores later, why is the Ganga still India's most polluted river? Is the Modi Sarkar doing anything to prevent paper leaks? Elaborating on what he said were "jumla details", Ramesh said Uttar Pradesh is India's largest sugarcane producer and yet, the BJP government has "neglected" farmers' calls to increase the price of sugarcane."

"Prices stand at just Rs.360/quintal in UP, much lower than Rs.386/quintal in Punjab and Rs.391/quintal in Haryana. Price hikes have also failed to keep pace with inflation and farmers are now struggling

due to the rising cost of fertiliser and pesticides," he said. Area under cultivation has come down by almost 4000 hectares in the last three years, he said.

Amidst sugarcane shortages, mills are struggling to pay sugarcane farmers on time, and there are fears that some may shut down permanently, Ramesh said.

"This vicious cycle is threatening the livelihoods of sugarcane farmers and mill workers but the BJP government is nowhere to be seen. What is the double Anyay BJP government doing to support sugarcane farmers and mill workers in UP?" he said in a post on X.

Noting that in 2014, PM Modi had promised a cleaner Ganga through his government's flagship Namami Gange programme, Ramesh said the project sanctioned an outlay of Rs 20,000 crore between 2014 and 2019, and 815 new sewage treatment plants (STPs) had been built or proposed by 2021.

The Ministry of Jal Shakti claims that there has been a marked improvement in the state of the river but, as is often the case with this government, that claim

turned out to be a "bold-faced lie", Ramesh said.

"The Sankat Mochan Foundation found that rather than improving, water quality in the Ganga has actually been degrading - faecal coliform bacteria levels are a staggering one million times higher than the permissible limit of 500 per 100 millilitres," he said.

Ramesh said the Central Pollution Control Board also found that water quality does not comply with their standards.

"While the Ministry of Jal Shakti claims that new STPs are working fine, a professor at IIT Varanasi said they were 'utterly useless' and that the government's plans were completely 'bogus'. Furthermore, as early as 2017, a CAG audit report of the project noted 'deficiencies in financial management, planning, implementation and monitoring'," the Congress leader said.

"To make matters worse, contracts for STPs have been awarded to companies with well-established links to the BJP. In 2017, a 150+ crore STP contract was given to a company chaired by former BJP MP Subhash Chandra that had no record of



working in sewage treatment," he alleged.

"Another plant is operated by the Adani group, and 'scientific' studies worth 5 crores have been awarded to the Patanjali Organic Research Institute," he said.

Noting that last year, the Central Pollution Control Board declared the Ganga the most polluted river in India, Ramesh asked what have the Indian taxpayer's Rs 20,000 crores achieved.

"Under the Modi Sarkar's reign, more than 43 papers for government recruitment exams have been leaked, hurting at least 2 crore candidates. Most recently, 60 lakh applicants for the UP Police Exams had their futures clouded when exams were cancelled due to paper leaks," he said.

These are not just numbers - it is the hopes and dreams of India's youth that are hanging in the balance, Ramesh

asserted.

"Under its Yuva Nyay Guarantee, the Congress has committed to bringing robust legislation that will design institutions and best practices to prevent paper leaks from occurring in the first place. What is Mr.Modi's vision to address the harm done to our youth?" he said.

As the PM visits West Uttar Pradesh, it is important to remember that while he may have engineered the flight of the RLD from the INDIA bloc to the NDA, the real Lok Dal is still with INDIA and that the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra in West Uttar Pradesh was welcomed with hoardings and banners of Choudhary Charan Singh and Indira Gandhi, Ramesh said.

"A silent undercurrent is brewing across this region, against the failures of this Government," he said and asked the PM to break his "silence" on these issues.

Two leopards of Dudhwa Tiger Reserve found dead in UP's Lakhimpur Kheri

LAKHIMPUR KHERI (UP), Apr 19 (Agencies): Two leopards have been found dead in a sugarcane field in the Dhaurahra range area of Dudhwa buffer zone near Tandpurwa village of Dhaurahra tehsil, officials said on Friday.

Field director, Dudhwa Tiger Reserve (DTR), Lalit Verma said the two male leopards, estimated to be two years old, were reported to have died in a territorial fighting on Thursday.

The officials said puncture wounds made by the large canine of the big cats were found on



the bodies of the animals.

The post-mortem of the leopards was conducted at the Dhaurahra range headquarters as per the NTCA (National Tiger Conservation

Authority) guidelines, Verma said.

He added that the post-mortem reports have concluded that the death of the two leopards was caused from infighting.

Congress, CPI-M not part of INDIA bloc in Bengal: Mamata Banerjee

KOLKATA, Apr 19 (Agencies): The Trinamool Congress (TMC) supremo and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee claimed on Friday that the Congress and CPI-M are not constituents of the opposition INDIA bloc in Bengal.

"In Bengal, the Congress and CPI-M are clandestine partners of BJP. They are not the constituents of the INDIA bloc in the state. So do not vote for them in West Bengal, as that will mean helping BJP indirectly," she said while addressing an election rally in Murshidabad.

She also launched a scathing attack against the Election Commission of India (ECI) for the latter's emphasis on the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) over the state police.

"How can you conduct the polls by totally discarding the state police?"



Is this a ploy to ensure that people don't vote freely," the CM questioned.

She also explained why she is against the implementation of the Centre's Ayushman Bharat scheme.

"There are lots of restrictions on availing the benefits of this Central scheme. Even the owner of a two-wheeler cannot avail of its benefits. We want the scheme to be for all," she said.

Banerjee also appealed to the migrant workers from the minority community who came home for Eid not to leave the state before casting their votes.

"The migrant workers who came home for the Ramzan month should not leave the state without casting their votes. If you do not cast your votes, your names will be deleted from the Aadhaar list and enrolled in the lists for NRC and CAA," the CM claimed.

White tigress Sneha dies at Nandankanan Zoo in Odisha

BHUBANESWAR, Apr 19 (Agencies): A 14-year-old white tigress Sneha died at her enclosure in Nandankanan Zoological Park on the outskirts of Bhubaneswar city on Friday, officials said.

The white tigress fell ill on Thursday and was under medication. She was administered saline and medicines but died this morning.

According to the official, apart from her old-age ailments, she could have been afflicted with the prevailing intense heat wave.

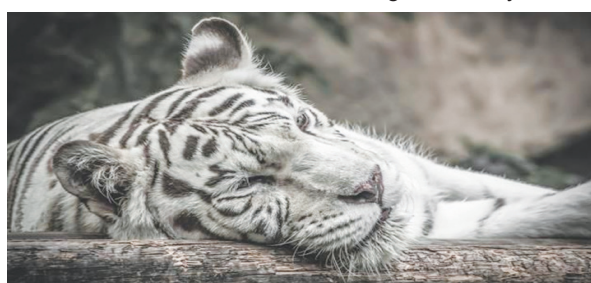
Born to Royal Bengal tiger Nishan and white tigress Kusum on March 1, 2010, Sneha delivered three cubs, Mousumi (female), Chinu (male) and rare melanistic Vicky (male), on August 5, 2016, and Luv and Kush during her second pregnancy.

On March 28, 2021, she gave birth to three normal male tiger cubs, Rakesh, Rocky and Banshi.

Earlier in October 2022, the zoo had lost 11-year-old white tigress Bijaya, who succumbed to a cancerous growth in her lungs.

A five-year-old white male tiger named Subhranshu also died due to liver-related ailments in October 2019.

Official sources said the zoo had 27 tigers, including seven white and three melanistic tigers, till July 2023.



Karnataka BJP leader and former minister Malikayya Guttedar joins Congress



BENGALURU, Apr 19 (Agencies): Karnataka BJP leader and former minister Malikayya Guttedar joined the Congress party in the presence of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and state minister Priyank Kharge on Friday.

The six-time MLA Malikayya Guttedar represented the Afzalpur constituency in Kalaburagi district.

Guttedar has been reportedly upset with the induction of his brother Nithin Guttedar into BJP. He had finished at

third place in the 2023 assembly elections, behind Nithin Guttedar who had contested as an independent candidate.

Welcoming Malikayya Guttedar into the party fold, CM Siddaramaiah said that his entry will not only strengthen the Congress party in Kalaburagi but in the entire Karnataka.

"Malikayya Guttedar is close to me. Due to some issues, he joined the BJP, but I knew he couldn't be there because he is an ardent advocate of social justice. His entry will make

the Congress stronger not only in Kalaburagi but in the entire Karnataka," Siddaramaiah said.

The 67-year-old Malikayya Guttedar had been criticising BJP veteran and former Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa and his son BY Vijayendra who is BJP state president, after his brother's induction.

Kalaburagi is the home district of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, who won the seat in the 2009 and 2014 Lok Sabha elections but lost in the 2019 polls.

Karnataka's 28 seats will be contested in the second and third phases on April 26 and May 7.

In the 2019 elections, the Congress and JD-S alliance suffered a significant defeat, with BJP securing a record 25 seats.

Israel attacks Iran's air base, sources say, drones reported over Isfahan

Iran fires air defence batteries at Isfahan air base and nuclear site after drones spotted

WASHINGTON/DUBAI, Apr 19 (Agencies): Israel launched an attack on Iranian soil on Friday, sources said, in the latest tit-for-tat exchange between the two arch foes, whose decades of shadow war has broken out into the open and threatened to drag the region deeper into conflict.

Iranian media reported explosions, but an Iranian official told Reuters those were caused by air defense systems. State media said three drones over the central city of Isfahan had been shot down.

Israel's leadership and the military were silent early on Friday.

The United States received notification before Israel's attack, a source familiar with the situation told Reuters, which came days after Iran launched an unprecedented strike on Israel with a barrage of drones and missiles. Most of those were shot down.

Washington and other global powers had pressed to Israel not to respond, or to ensure any further retaliation was limited to prevent a broader conflagration after the latest surge in violence was sparked by the air strike on the Iranian embassy compound in Damascus on April 1 that was



blamed on Israel.

That strike came against the backdrop of Iran's support for the Palestinian Hamas militant group, whose assault into Israel on October 7 triggered Israel's invasion of Gaza.

Iranian state TV said on Friday that shortly after midnight "three drones were observed in the sky over Isfahan. The air defense system became active and destroyed these drones in the sky."

Senior army commander Siavosh Mihanlou was quoted by state TV as saying air defense systems had targeted a "suspicious object".

Iranian President Ebrahim

Raisi had warned Israel before Friday's strike that Tehran would deliver a "severe response" to any attack on its territory.

Iran told the United Nations Security Council on Thursday that Israel "must be compelled to stop any further military adventurism against our interests" as the U.N. secretary-general warned that the Middle East was in a "moment of maximum peril." Shares and bond yields sank in Asia trade while safe-haven currencies, gold and crude oil jumped. Brent futures surged as much as 4.2% on concerns Middle East supply could be disrupted before shedding some gains. MSCI's broadest index

of Asia-Pacific shares dropped 2%, after earlier diving as much as 2.6%, and U.S. stock futures pointed 1% lower.

Iran's state television said nuclear facilities where Iran has been conducting work - which Tehran says is peaceful but which the West believes is aimed at building a weapon - were unharmed.

The Natanz nuclear site, the centerpiece of Iran's uranium enrichment program, is in Isfahan province.

Iran closed its airports in Tehran, Shiraz and Isfahan after the attack and also cleared flights from the western portion of its airspace for a few hours after the attack, according to FlightRadar24. By 0445 GMT the airports and airspace had reopened.

Israel's assault on Gaza began after Palestinian Islamist group Hamas attacked Israel on Oct. 7, killing 1,200, according to Israeli tallies. Israel's military offensive has killed over 33,000 Palestinians in Gaza, according to the local health ministry.

Iran-backed groups have declared support for Palestinians, launching attacks from Lebanon, Yemen and Iraq.

Elon Musk calls for peace in cryptic post amid Iran-Israel war

"We should send rockets not at each other, but rather to the stars"



SAN FRANCISCO, Apr 19 (Agencies): Rockets should be used to reach the stars not to harm fellow humans, said billionaire Elon Musk on Friday, in light of the ongoing wars between Iran and Israel, and Russia and Ukraine.

"We should send rockets not at each other, but rather to the stars," the Tesla and SpaceX CEO said in a post on X, sharing a photo of a rocket.

His comments came amid recent attacks on Israel by Iran, reportedly in retaliation to the attack on their embassy.

Last year, after the deadly attack on Israel by Hamas on October

7, and the conflict that ensued, Musk made a two-day trip to Israel during which, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu took him on a tour of an Israeli kibbutz destroyed during the attack.

After his Israel visit, Hamas had also invited Musk to Gaza to see the extent of destruction caused by Israeli bombardment.

Later Musk also commented about the potential for a third World War, as Russia had been at war with Ukraine since February 2022.

"We need to figure out peace in Ukraine, and I think we need to restore normal relations with Russia," Musk said in October.

"World War III is a civilisational risk that we may not recover from," he posted on X. "Could this lead to WW3? We need to prioritise avoiding World War III."

Russia admits losing supersonic bomber, Ukraine says it was shot down

MOSCOW, Apr 19 (Agencies): The Russian Air Force lost one of its Tupolev Tu-22M supersonic heavy bombers on Friday.

The Ministry of Defence in Moscow announced the crash was presumably due to technical causes but Ukraine said the plane had been shot down.

According to Moscow, the aircraft crashed in the Stavropol region of southern Russia while returning from a combat mission. The four crew members had ejected and three have so far been rescued. The aircraft had no ammunition on board, the ministry added.

The reported crash site is around 600 kilometres behind the front line in Ukraine.

Russian and Ukrainian



military bloggers shared spectacular but unverified videos on social media which allegedly show the long-range bomber spinning in the air with its engine on fire.

The commander of the Ukrainian Air Force, Mykola Oleshchuk, announced that this was the first time such an aircraft had been suc-

cessfully shot down with a missile. The claims of both sides regarding the incident could not be independently verified.

According to the Ukrainian Air Force, Russia used several Tu-22Ms in air attacks early on Friday. They fired six cruise missiles at Ukraine but two were intercepted, the statement added.

Pakistan suicide blast hits vehicle carrying foreigners, 5 Japanese escape unhurt; 2 dead

KARACHI, Apr 19 (Agencies): Five Japanese nationals had a lucky escape when their vehicle was targeted by militants in a suicide attack here in Pakistan's Sindh province on Friday, police said, in the latest attack on foreign nationals in the country.

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) East Azfar Mahesar said the terrorists on a motorbike attempted to hit the van of the Japanese nationals, reportedly working with Pakistan Suzuki Motors, near Murtaza Chorangi in Landhi.

"All five Japanese remained safe. However, the private security guard with them was injured," he said.

"The Japanese nationals were on the way to the Export Processing

Zone from their residence in Zamzama, Clifton," he said.

Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) DIG Asif Aijaz Shaikh said the Japanese nationals were travelling in a van along with two security guards when the terrorists tried to hit the van.

The security guards killed one terrorist while another blew himself up in an attempt to get close to the van, the official said.

"All five Japanese nationals are safe," DIG Shaikh said.

"No one has claimed responsibility so far," the DIG said, adding that the vehicle carrying the Japanese nationals was bullet-proof.

Jinnah Hospital officials said three injured, two security guards

and a passerby, were brought to the medical facility out of which two were in critical condition.

The hospital confirmed no foreigner was brought for treatment.

The Japanese nationals worked at Pakistan Suzuki Motors, the official said.

Karachi is the largest city in Pakistan and the capital of southern Sindh province.

Sindh Transport Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon strongly condemned the attack.

"The timely action of the police has foiled the ambitions of the terrorists," Memon said.

"The nefarious actions of the terrorists will not be allowed to succeed," he added.

Sindh Governor Kamran Tessori con-

demned the suicide attack and demanded a report on the incident.

"Terrorism will not be tolerated in the city under any circumstances," the governor said.

He asked the law enforcement officials to trace the motives behind the incident and apprehend the masterminds.

Small separatist groups and Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan have in recent years stepped up attacks on Chinese nationals working on projects related to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which includes a multitude of megaprojects such as road construction, power plants and agriculture.

Last month, five Chinese and their Pakistani driver were killed when a

suicide bomber in north-west Pakistan rammed his explosive-laden car into a vehicle when they were heading to the Dasu Dam, the biggest hydropower project in Pakistan, where they worked.

However, the Japanese working in Pakistan have not been the target of any such attacks.

Between March 16 and March 26, insurgents in the restive Balochistan province claimed to have carried out three terror attacks, mostly targeting Chinese nationals and interests.

The Baloch Liberation Army, an outlawed outfit in Balochistan, claimed the attack on Gwadar port, an integral part of the CPEC project, built with Chinese help.

Ready to support Pakistan to improve its economic situation: IMF

WASHINGTON, Apr 19 (Agencies): The International Monetary Fund is ready to support cash-strapped Pakistan in key reform to help the country improve and stabilise its economic situation.

Currently, Pakistan has expressed interest in a new programme in order to help the country address some of the key challenges, Jihad Azour, Director of the Middle East and Central Asia Department at the IMF told reporters here on the sidelines of the annual Spring Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank.

The current programme that was initiated 10 months ago allowed Pakistan to achieve a certain number of important milestones in terms of economic stability, he said.

The last review was successful and will be put forward to the board, which will end a programme that helped Pakistan address acute economic imbalances and maintain its economic stabilities, the IMF official hoped.

"Those measures also allowed Pakistan to increase its buffers. Currently, the authorities have expressed interest in a new programme in order to help Pakistan address some of the key challenges," Azour said.

One is to preserve macroeco-

nom stability and this would require continuing the work on the fiscal side in order to reduce the level of budget deficits and strengthen the fiscal situation by improving the revenue situation, which was one of the main challenges in the past, the IMF official said.

Increasing revenues will allow the government not only to address the debt situation but also to have the room to provide additional social support. The second pillar is the reform of the energy sector.

"This is a priority that has been there for some time, but it's still an important reform dimension for Pakistan," he said.

"Three is to increase the potential of this economy to grow. Pakistan is a large economy with a large potential. Levelling the playing field, improving the business environment, and allowing the private sector to have more space internally and also on the export side will help Pakistan. Those are the key pillars that Pakistan would need in order to improve its situation and the Fund is ready to support," Azour said.

According to Azour, the package of reform is now more important than the size of the programme.

"Markets reaction was posi-

tive. We saw additional inflows; reserves have been rebuilt at the level of the central bank and even growth prospects have improved. Therefore, I think what is important at this stage is to accelerate the reforms, and double down on the structural reforms in order to provide Pakistan with its full potential of growth," he said.

"Yes, we have had several programmes, but the priorities are still there and therefore the Fund is ready to assist when the government asks for that. And I think also bilateral partners of Pakistan are looking forward to the programme to extend their additional financial support to Pakistan," Azour said.

Pakistan's Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb is currently in the American Capital to attend the IMF meetings and hold talks with them.

Pakistan has been facing staggering economic and security challenges.

Washington-based IMF's global team reached a staff-level agreement with the Pakistani authorities last week on the second and final review of Pakistan's stabilisation programme supported by the global lender's USD 3 billion standby arrangement approved in July last year.

Dubai airport limits arriving flights amid storm backlog



DUBAI, Apr 19 (Agencies): Dubai's main airport said on Friday it is limiting the number of flights arriving for two days, as it continues to struggle to clear a backlog three days after a record storm swept the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Dubai International Airport, one of the world's busiest, will limit arriving flights for 48 hours from noon local time (0800 GMT) on Friday, it said on X.

Dubai flagship carrier Emirates, one of the world's biggest international airlines, earlier said check-in

was suspended for all customers with onward connections through the city until 2359 GMT on Friday. Those travelling to Dubai as their final destination may check-in and travel as usual.

The moves highlight how the Middle East hub is still struggling to clear a backlog of flights after the UAE saw its heaviest rains in the 75 years' records have been kept, bringing much of the country to a standstill for two days and causing significant damage.

In neighbouring Abu Dhabi, which was also hit by the downpour on Tuesday, state carrier

Etihad said flight operations are back to normal.

Thousands of passengers have been affected by flight cancellations this week, Dubai Airports Chief Executive Paul Griffiths said on Friday, after the storm flooded taxiways.

Dubai Airports chief operating officer Majed Al Joker said on Thursday that Dubai International Airport would resume normal operations within 24 hours and signalled a return to full capacity and a regular schedule, a state news agency reported.

The storm, which hit neighbouring Oman on Sunday, pounded the UAE on Tuesday, with 20 reported dead in Oman and one in the UAE.

The main road that connects the UAE's most populous emirate Dubai with Abu Dhabi remains partially closed, while an alternative route into Dubai requires

vehicles to use a road that is entirely covered in floodwater where cars and buses have been abandoned.

In the UAE's north, including in the emirate of Sharjah, people were reportedly still trapped in their homes, while others there said there had been extensive damage to businesses.

Rains are rare in the UAE and elsewhere on the Arabian Peninsula, which is typically known for its dry desert climate where summer air temperatures can soar above 50 degrees Celsius.

The UAE's National Centre of Meteorology said on X that Monday may see light rainfall by late night and forecast "a chance of light to moderate rainfall, might be heavy at times over some areas" for Tuesday, with a fall in temperatures over some coastal areas.

GDC Marh organizes farewell bonanza

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Under the aegis of IQAC and farewell committee, GDC Marh organised farewell bonanza by bidding a fond farewell to the outgoing 6th semester students batch 2023-2024 with great enthusiasm. The day was a fiesta devoted to the rejoice three years spent together with peer groups, juniors and teachers to reminisce joyful moments. The chief guest of the occasion was principal of the college Prof. Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul. The programme commenced with lighting of

tradition lamp of learning by the Principal of the college and faculty members along with the student Presidium and Alumni. Colourful performances were showcased by the students of 4th and 2nd semester (Shruti Sharma, Palak Saini and Suhani Choudhary) in honor of their seniors. The programme was organized under the guidance of cultural committee of the college headed by Dr. Ashu Jolly, Dr. Ruchika Bavoria, Dr. Tanu Sharma and students Sushain Sharma (4th Sem), Kashish Sharma (4th Sem), Rahul Kaith (4th Sem),

Nandveer Choudhary (4th Sem), Sandeep Mottan (2nd Sem), Rohit Kumar (2nd Sem) including non-teaching staff Rachhpal Lal and Mohit Kalotra. On this occasion mementos as token of respect and souvenir were given by college to all the 69 students of outgoing 6th semesters including student Bobby Baiitha (First Student who participated in NSS NIC national Camp, Eshan Saini (First student who participated in Khelo India at Guwahati) since the establishment of college. A competition among seniors was conducted including

personality test by faculty judges (Prof Anita Salgotra, Prof Madhvi Parasher, Dr.Ram Dayal, Prof Sachim Bhagat), musical chair, live performance, dance performances, cat walk etc. Jatin Dogra and Archana Devi (married female student) of 6th semesters were judged as Mr. Farewell and Mrs. Farewell on the occasion after their wonderful performances in different colorful activities. The Principal of the college in his key note address guided the outgoing batch for their forth coming future in the best way they can, giving

importance to their vision of life, time management and confidence. He also advised to join hands so that college will be linked with nearby industries for better opportunities and employability enhancement. He also advised the Alumni to work towards the development of college including student centric activities. The whole programme was anchored by Aayush Shan of 4th Semester and Riya Shrama of 2nd Semester. The programme came to an end with a healthy lunch for the students of the college.

Vote Modi to support progress, vote to INDI Alliance means pushing nation to bloodshed, scams: Khatana

Top News Report

R.S PURA, Apr 19: Senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Gulam Ali Khatana has said that vote for Modi will truly mean support to progress, peace, security, employment while vote for INDI Alliance may surely push the nation towards bloodshed, destruction, loot, corruption, scams, uncertainty, cross border terrorism and migration. In his hard-hitting style the firebrand BJP leader was addressing different public meetings at Agre Chak, Kadyal, dablehar, Chak Bala and other small hamlets in border town of R.S Pura during a programme organised by Mansa Choudhary. Khatana asked the people to have a look at the development works and progress made in the

country and in J&K in the last ten years of PM Modi led government before casting votes. Campaigning for BJP candidate Jugal Kishore Sharma who is contesting from Jammu-Reasi Lok Sabha seat, Khatana said that country has witnessed corruption with large scale scams and scandals in the country during the long tenure of Congress rule. "In J&K the rule of Congress, National Conference (NC) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) only delivered bloodshed, loot, corruption, unemployment, militancy, cross border terrorism," he maintained adding: "The things changed only in the last 10 years when PM Modi took the helm of affairs of the country and set accountability. See where is stone pelting today and where are

the protest calendars of separatists?" The BJP leader also said that now army and other security forces have been given a free hand all the terrorist are dispatched to hell. "Life of a terrorist has been limited to few months now while the corrupts are facing hard time with Enforcement Directorate and other agencies like CBI etc," Khatana continued. He asked the public that the present golden period of Modi rule should be extended furthermore and for that all should vote for BJP candidates overwhelmingly so that hands of PM Modi are strengthened for a strong and stable regime in the country once more. Influenced by the speech of Khatana the gathering raised slogan- eering like: "Ab Ki Baar, 400 Paar."

Dimple dares BJP to field its 3 MP candidates in Kashmir

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Sunil Dimple, the president of the mission statehood, held a press conference to address several key issues regarding the political landscape of Jammu and Kashmir. He highlighted the absence of BJP candidates in Kashmir's MP elections, alleging their fear of confronting the contentious issues surrounding the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35-A, as well as the demolition of the J&K Dogra state. Dimple dared the BJP to field its candidates, suggesting that their absence indicated an admission of defeat in Kashmir even before the elections began.

Dimple expressed confidence in his alliance partners, asserting that they would secure all MP seats in Kashmir, Jammu, and Ladakh. He specifically mentioned the strong voter turnout in the Udhampur constituency despite adverse weather conditions, expressing optimism about the success of their alliance candidate, Ch Lal Singh. He also noted favorable conditions for their consensus candidate, Raman Bhalla, in the Jammu constituency. Further, Dimple emphasized their commitment to continue the struggle for the restoration of Articles 370 and 35-A, both politically and through the judiciary. He criticized BJP

leaders for politicizing these issues and vowed to protect the interests of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, including their lands and jobs. Dimple outlined their plans for the future, including passing ordinances after the assembly elections to implement the conditions of the Instrument of Accession signed by J&K's Dogra Maharaja Hari Singh with India. He advocated for the unification of J&K, Ladakh, POK, Gilgit, and Baltistan in the state assembly ordinance. Dimple demanded the immediate restoration of J&K's statehood before the assembly elections, alongside the parliament elections, under the J&K statehood.

Unscheduled Power cuts, Waltangoo Kund villagers up in arms against PDD Kulgam

Top News Report

KULGAM, Apr 19: The residents of Kund Waltangoo area of south Kashmir's Kulgam district are up in arms against Power Development Department for failing to provide electricity on scheduled time. According to reports, locals alleged that the PDD Kulgam has failed to provide adequate electricity to the area. The residents of said areas that the PDD is subjecting them to unscheduled power cuts. Locals told that due to the unscheduled power cuts people are forced to take streets.

"The authorities assured us to redress their grievance but the promises done by the authorities proved hoax", they said. "We facing immense hardships due to Hide And Seek of electricity in their area." They added. Threatened to block roads, the locals said if the unnecessary power cuts won't end, we will take on road. Residents of the area appealed LG J&K, DC kulgam and Chief Engineer PDD Kashmir to look into this matter and redress their problem as soon as possible so that people can feel some sort of relief.

BOMIS Jammu congratulates alumni Seerat Baji on Remarkable Achievement in UPSC Exam

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Birla Open Minds International School (BOMIS) Jammu announced the outstanding achievement of one of its alumni, Seerat Baji, who has successfully cleared the prestigious Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) examination. "We are immensely proud of Seerat Baji's exceptional achievement in the UPSC examination," said Aparana Kohli, the School's Principal. "Her success is

a testament to her hard work, perseverance, and intellectual prowess. Seerat Baji has not only made her alma mater proud but also serves as an inspiration to current and future students." Seerat Baji's success is a reflection of the holistic education and nurturing environment provided by Birla Open Minds International School, Jammu. As she embarks on this new journey in public service, the whole team of BOMIS extended their heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for her future endeavours.

Awareness Lecture on Drug Abuse held at Samote



Top News Report

RAJOURI, Apr 19: Mental health issues, performance pressure, growing loneliness, social networking and changing socio-economic condition are effecting the youth of

the country, making them vulnerable to addictive distraction. The abuse of drugs and alcohol is by far the leading cause of preventable illness and premature death in our society. Indian Army organised a lecture to spread

awareness about dangers of drug abuse amongst the teenagers and its ill effects in the society at Govt Higher Sec School, Samote, Rajouri. The focus of the awareness lecture was to enlighten resident people about increasing drug menace and its harmful effects, both physical and mental. The attendees were also informed about the ill effects of Tobacco consumption & how does it leads to oral cancer among people. The residents expressed their gratitude towards Indian Army for organizing such awareness programs and seminar on social issues.

Non-local among two died after falling into well in Kulgam village

Top News Report

KULGAM, Apr 19: Non local among two died after they slipped into a well at Checkpora area of South Kashmir's Kulgam district on Friday afternoon. An official told that they were working in the trench when suddenly they slipped fell into it and died. Soon after the incident police, locals rushed to spot and rescued them," he said. The official said they

were shifted to a hospital, where of two among them died. The deceased have been identified as Maqbool Dar of Kulgam and Aziz ur Rehman of Bengal. Medical Superintendent district hospital Kulgam, Gulzar Ahmad Dar told that two were brought dead to the hospital, while one is undergoing treatment and another one has been discharged. Meanwhile, Police have registered a case in this regard.

Seminar on "Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy" organised

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Eco Club of Government College for Women Bhagwati Nagar organised a students seminar under the patronage of Principal Dr Meeru Abrol as part of the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiative. The topic of seminar was "Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy". The objective of the seminar was to spread voter awareness among students and the community and promoting voter literacy in India to build a truly participative democracy by encouraging all eligible citizens to vote and make an informed decision during the elections. Program started with welcome address by Dr Mosmi Raina. About 15 Students from different semesters expressed their views effectively on importance of electoral participation, civic responsibility and in democratic values. Principal of the College, Dr Meeru Abrol appreciated the students and organisers of the seminar and put light on the power of vote in strengthening the nation and encouraged everyone to exercise their right to vote with responsibility. Program concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr Mosmi Raina, organiser of the event.

NOTICE
I, Rano Devi Sharma W/o Krishan Lal R/o Bardhal Kalan, Tehsil & P/o Akhnour, District Jammu, have clarified that my husband's name has wrongly been written as Krishan Lal Sharma (Wrong name) instead of Krishan Lal (right name) on my passport. I am applying for the correction of the same. Objections if any may be conveyed to the concerned authority within 7 days from the publication of this notice.

FROM PAGE 1

Women throng 'Pink Booths' in Doda to cast their votes

Election Commission," she added. Nineteen 'pink booths' have been established in the Udhampur Lok Sabha constituency. In these model all-women polling stations, all staffers, including police and security personnel, are women, officials said. Sunita Devi, a first-time voter who cast her vote at the 'pink booth', said it looked like she had come to a place of festival as the booth was decorated. "Such an initiative will attract more women to the polling booths and will increase the turnout. It's an innovative step to increase the female turnout," she said. Poll officials said there has been a rush for voting since morning. It seems the initiative has attracted more women voters this time, they said. Polling began at 7 am in 2,637 polling stations across the constituency with over 16.23 lakh electors eligible to exercise their franchise. It is going on peacefully with no untoward incidents reported, officials said. Voting will decide the fate of 12 candidates, including Union Minister Jitendra Singh, who is eyeing a third term after winning the seat for the BJP in 2014 and 2019. This is the first major electoral battle after the abrogation of Article 370 and the bifurcation of the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state into two Union Territories on August 5, 2019. Prominent among others in the fray include Congress leader and two-time

former MP Choudhary Lal Singh and the DPAP's G M Saroori, besides six independents. More than 11,000 polling staff, including reserves, have been deployed while tight security arrangements have been made to ensure free and fair elections, officials said. According to the office of the chief electoral officer, a total of 1,472 polling stations, out of 2,637, have been equipped with webcasting facilities in the constituency having a diverse electorate comprising 16,23,195 eligible voters. Among them, 845,283 are men, 777,899 are women, and 13 are third-gender voters. Of the 2,637 polling stations, 2,457 are in rural areas and 180 in urban areas. The highest 701 polling stations are in Kathua, 654 in Udhampur, 529 in Doda, 405 in Kishtwar, and 348 in Ramban. **Amit Shah files nomination from Gandhinagar Lok Sabha Seat** officer in the state capital exactly at 12.39 pm, considered as 'Vijay Muhurat'. The former BJP president had won from the Gandhinagar constituency in the 2019 general elections by a margin of more than 5 lakh votes. **Overstaying in Govt Accommodations: JK Admn Seeks HC Intervention**

for doing so. The bench had further clarified that if the accommodation of any individual mentioned in the report is continued, specific reasons supported by necessary materials must be provided before this Court so that it can examine as to whether the authorities have taken an appropriate and fair decisions as regards government accommodation being presently provided to these persons. Nanda filed the application seeking modification of the division bench order on the ground that the Estates Department without losing time proceeded in the matter and issued notices to the occupants under reference in the PIL. The senior additional advocate general further submitted that in view of the enforcement of Model Code of Conduct after the announcement of the Lok Sabha election schedule, there may be legal impediment in calling such occupants and passing appropriate orders on merit, in furtherance of the directions passed by the high court. The Estates Department has sought the permission to defer the proceedings till June 4 and thereafter the process will be taken to its logical conclusion to meet the directions issued by the Court, he said. The division bench had also directed both the directors of estates department to inform the court about the rentals being paid by the occupants with supporting documents since the time they ceased to hold the offices on the basis of which they were allotted these official accommodations and why they have not charged rental at commercial rates since they are not holding any office as of now.

The case will come for hearing on May 8 again. **Father-Daughter arrested for drug peddling in JK: Police** spokesperson said in a statement. The detained suspects admitted to being a father-daughter duo involved in drug trafficking in the locality. They were identified as Roshan Din and Payaro Bibi, residents of Rakh Barotain in Samba. A case under Sections 8, 21, 22, 27-A, and 29 of the NDPS Act has been lodged at Vijaypur police station, and an investigation is underway. **Senior IPS Officer Nalin Prabhat to head India's counter-terrorism force NSG** IPS officer of Odisha cadre, is currently working as Additional Director in the IB. She has been appointed as the Special Director, IB for a tenure of two years from the date of assumption of charge of the post or up to the date of her superannuation i.e. April 30, 2026, the order said. **Rains continue as temperature drops in J&K** normal for the summer capital of JK for this time of the year.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 8.6°C against 9.6°C on the previous night and it was 2.1°C above normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said. Pahalgam recorded a low of 4.8°C against 7.2°C on the previous night and it was 1.4°C above normal for the famous resort in south Kashmir. Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, recorded a minimum of 7.8°C against 11.2°C on the previous night and it was 1.3°C above normal, the official said. Kupwara town recorded a low of 7.5°C against 10.9°C on the previous night and it was 0.7°C above normal there, the official said. Gulmarg recorded a low of 1.6°C against 3.2°C on the previous night and it was below normal by 0.7°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district. Jammu, he said, recorded a minimum of 17.9°C against 21.4°C on the previous night and it was below normal by 2.0°C for the winter capital of J&K. Banihal recorded a low of 9.4°C, Batote 9.6°C and Bhaderwah 9.6°C, he added. **07 Drug peddlers arrested within 24 hrs in Anantnag: Police** Kgs of Bung Boosa. Police party of Police Station Bijbehara during naka checking recovered about 05 Kgs of Cannabis powder from the possession of Indraz Ahmad Thoker son of Ali Mohammed Thoker resident of Waghama Bijbehara. All Seven accused persons were arrested and cases under relevant sections of NDPS Act got registered in five different Police Stations of District.

BLSKS concludes nine-day Navratri festival

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: To celebrate the nine days Chaitra Navratra festival 2024 & to promote the traditional folk cultural of J&K, Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS) concluded its Navratra Festival and staged its 417th Friday Series Musical Play "Maa Sherawali" in collaboration Sangam Tru Art Production and National College of Computer Education at Durga Bhawan, Janipur, Jammu.

During the Navratra Festival, Devotional programs presented like Bajans, Kirtan. The function was inaugurated after lighting the Traditional Lamp by the Chief Guest Davinder Chadha, Head Pujari, Durga Bhawan Jammu and V.K. Magotra, Former Regional Director, Directorate of Field Publicity, Government of India, Dr. Tara Singh Charak, Former Deputy Director, Health Department, J&K Government



J&K Government, J.K.Raina, Freelancer Producer Director and Dr. Anju Dogra from Health Department, J&K Government were the Guests of Honor. The programme commenced with welcome song "Jai Jai Sherawali", "Mayia he Mahiya meri Mahiya", "Tum Durga Tum Laxmi Tum Hi Maa Sherawali". Speaking on the occasion Chief Guest said Navratra in India is a big

religious festivity for nine propitious days. Celebration goes on for these favorable days with different rituals and customs in distinct parts. These nine days have a great significance in Hindu culture and religion. The worshippers adore their mother in beautiful incarnations with incompatible celebrations for nine consecutive days of Navratra & Lauded the role of Bhartiya Lok

Sangeet Kala Sansthan (NGO) for underlining the importance of staging such plays in all parts of the state in generating awareness among the masses about various social evils through Musical Play / Theatre / Drama which are still very powerful medium of communication. The musical play written, produced and directed by M.L. Dogra (Chairman BLSKS) & highlighted the

importance of the play, the music was composed by M.C. Kotwal, General Secty.

On the occasion of Ram Navami, Mata's Rani Vishal Bhandara was also organized at Durga Bhawan for large numbers of Devotes.

Sh.J.K.Raina, Member, BLSKS said that Navratra is considered as an important sacred festival in Hindu religion. Navratra worships Goddess Durga and her various forms which are the epitomes of power and have the ability to bring in anything desired. The singers, musician, actors and students of Music and Computer institute who performed in the musical play were Usha Raina, Mahesh Chander Kotwal, Rajni Gupta, Sudesh Kumari, Bindia Okheda, Rahul Kumar and many others presented the enthralled performance. Deepak Kumar presented vote of thanks for successful conduction of the program.

NCC Group Commander reviews training activities at NCC Training Academy



Top News Report

NAGROTA, Apr 19: Brigadier PS Cheema, SM, VSM, Group Commander of NCC Group Jammu, conducted a comprehensive review of the training activities at the NCC Training Academy in Nagrota. His visit was marked by interviews, guidance sessions, and motivational talks aimed at enhancing the performance and morale of the NCC Cadets, ANOs & the Instructional Staff.

During his visit, Brigadier Cheema interacted closely with the Permanent Instructor Staff and Associate NCC Officers, providing invaluable guidance and motivation to optimize their training efforts.

The cadets in their maiden training camp for the fresh training year are being screened and trained for various competitions in the current year namely Inter Directorate Sports Shooting Competition (IDSSC) and Thal Sena Camp.

The cadets are being trained extensively in

Map reading, Firing, Obstacle Course, Tent Pitching and Health & Hygiene aspects.

The Group Commander highlighted the Training Philosophy issued by the DG NCC for the current training year and aligned all stakeholders to the intent. He also conveyed the Key Result Areas of Maj Gen Rajesh Sachdeva, ADG NCC Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh Directorate. The focal point of his visit was the interaction with the 500 NCC Cadets currently participating in the Annual Training Camp and oversee the training being imparted to 101 Agniveer aspirants.

Brigadier Cheema shared profound insights on the qualities essential for success as a student and in life, emphasizing the significance of continuous improvement.

In his engaging address, Brigadier Cheema underscored the cultivation of leadership qualities by instilling commitment, curiosity, right attitude, aptitude and disciplined action. He inspected the recently upgraded firing

range at the academy including the gymnasium hall. He complimented Col RS Jasrotia, SM Commanding Officer 2 J&K NCC Battalion and his team for their dedication and efforts in achieving all stated objectives of the camp.

Col RS Jasrotia briefed the Group Commander on the process of selection and training of Cadets for the various TSC events and the way ahead for a podium finish performance. Brigadier Cheema took the opportunity to meet with the selected cadets for TSC events and firers who are preparing for the Inter Directorate Sports Shooting Competition. His encouragement and support are expected to inspire the participants to excel in the upcoming event.

Brigadier Cheema's visit was a testament to his dedication to the development and enhancement of the NCC Training Program, fostering a culture of excellence and leadership among the cadets and personnel.

CCI President meets with Chief Secretary, discusses issues

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Arun Gupta, President Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCI) Jammu met the Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo.

During interaction Arun Gupta apprised the Chief Secretary that although the government is trying is level best for the development and beautification of Tawi River banks and creating a fresh water lake the project needs to be expedited and more such projects are also required to be taken in hand to attract a pilgrims / tourists to the city of temples as in near future the train is going to be reach Kashmir Valley.

Further, he said, the work on the Mubarak Mandi Heritage complex is going on at snails pace and requested that the work on the aforesaid project should be expedited and the light and sound system over there should also be started at the earliest.

Arun Gupta also requested that Patnitop should be developed as a tourist hub for which it is necessary to allow commercial activities over there on the pattern of Gulmarg and Pahalgam. Gupta also apprised

the Chief Secretary that Jammu has great potential for pilgrims and tourists which has remained untapped till now. Peer Panchal mountainous region of Jammu has vast tourists potential but has been neglected so far he said and requested that tourists potential of this region together with tourists attractive places in Poonch, Rajouri districts should be tapped in right earnest.

Similarly, he said, religiously important places like Shiv Khori, Mata Vaishno Devi, Sudh Mahadev and tourists attractive places like Patnitop, Sanasar should be inter connected by improving road and erecting picnic spots on route. Historical natural water lakes like Mansar & Surinsar should be developed on modern lines to attract tourists.

Arun Gupta also pointed out that since last three decades the JDA as well as the Housing Board have not established any commercial area or residential colony due to which there is dearth of both commercial sites as well as residential area. The possibilities of same may be explored.

Government should formulate a scheme allow-

ing ownership rights of leasehold Industrial land to local sons of soil / entrepreneurs after a period of 25 years of first/ original allotment of land after charging a nominal amount as conversion fee. He also requested the Chief Secretary existing allottees of Warehouse should also be given ownership rights after charging reasonable premium.

During interaction Arun Gupta briefed the Chief Secretary that in spite of depositing the prescribed fee by the allottee of Shiv Market Railway Station have not been executed since last more than 15 years the same should be expedited.

He also apprised the Chief Secretary that the lease deeds of some allottees of Sabzi Mandi and Fruit Mandi Narwal have expired the same should be renewed after charging minimum possible premium. Further some allottees of Bahu Plaza commercial shops have not been given procession and lease deeds executed with them the same should also be expedited.

Arun Gupta further apprised the Chief Secretary that Large chunk of land in Jammu have

been declared as "Gair Mumkin Khud" by Revenue Department despite the fact that no water body is passing through these lands. Registration and Construction activities on these lands is barred. There is the need to redefine the "Kism" of this type of land and also a Policy should be formulated to allow the commercial and construction activities on those lands.

The old bus stand building has been declared as unsafe. We request that steps should be taken to repair the said building to avoid any untoward incident. Further we request that this area of the bus stand should be developed into a new multistory project and the existing shopkeepers / businessmen working in the present building may be rehabilitated on the analogy of rehabilitating the shopkeepers of newly constructed/developed multistory projects so that their livelihood is not effected.

Arun Gupta also said that the development work of Transport Nagar Narwal which is being carried by Jammu Metropolitan regional development authority through JDA is going on at a very

slow pace. We request that the said work should be expedited and more funds be released on need basis to get the development work of Transport Nagar completed without any further delay.

Gupta also apprised the Chief Secretary that although the Union Government is very much concerned for the development of Jammu on modern lines for which they have provided many projects like flyovers etc. but at the same time we wish to request that the businessmen and general public of those areas should not feel inconvenience and harassed while constructing the expressway and flyovers besides should not hinder the emergency services and impact on daily commuters while constructing flyovers/ expressway.

Arun Gupta welcomed the move of UT Govt to waive off interest and surcharge on domestic power connections by introducing amnesty scheme. He also demanded power tariff amnesty scheme for the commercial users (Traders and Industrial Consumers) so that they get relief on this front.

Modi Govt's schemes giving benefits to all sections: Sat



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Former Minister and Senior BJP leader Sat Sharma accompanied by BJP Talab Tillo Mandal President Keshav Chopra, Ex Chairman JMC Jeet Angral and other leaders conducted door to door campaign at Ward 12. The BJP leaders went around many streets, fixed stickers, distributed books, pamphlets and other material having details of the

achievements of the 10 years of the Narendra Modi Government

Speaking during the campaign, Sat Sharma said that Narendra Modi Government during its 10 years tenure has done tremendous work for the weaker sections of the society.

"All the schemes of Modi Government have given benefits to all those people who really need it. The 10 years of Modi Govt has changed the fortunes of people," said Sat Sharma.

Keshav Chopra while speaking highlighted the various development projects undertaken by the government.

Emphasizing their potential to transform lives and uplift communities, Keshav also urged the locals to cast their vote in favour of BJP Jammu Reasi Lok Sabha candidate Jugal Kishore Sharma.

Speaking on the Occasion Jeet Angral asked the people not to get misled by the false propaganda of the Congress and other parties and strengthen BJP as it is the only party which takes care of one and all in a fair manner.

Pratibha Sharma, Anil Angral, Swarn Samy, Tarun Angral, Manmohan Sharma, Swarna Devi, Kamlesh, Shobha, Gulshan Sharma, Priya Kumari, Darshana Kumari, Nisha Savita Sharma, Rishika Kumari, Anuradha Kumari, Pinky Kumari and others were also present.

Abhishek to represent India in World Cup Qualifying event

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Abhishek Jamwal, National Games Gold medalist, has been selected in the Indian squad for the participation in the World Cup Qualifying event in Jiangshu (China) from 21st -26th April 2024. Wushu Association of India conducted selection trial for the finalisation of the Indian Wushu team for the sent event at Haridwar, in which he defeated all his counter mates and impressed the selection committee for his selection in the Indian squad for the World Cup Qualifying event to be held in China.

The sports authority of India has cleared the Indian Wushu team for the said event at Cost to the government.

Abhishek Jamwal has a number of medals at National and International event. The Wushu Association of India will conduct selection trial in the month of May for the

BRICS Games scheduled to be held in Kazan (Russia) and 10th Asian Wushu championship to be held at Macau in the month of september 2024.

Kuldeep Handoo (Dronacharya Awardee) congratulated Abhishek and Indian Squad for the event and wished all the very best to him and the Indian Wushu team for the World Cup Qualifying event.

He thanked J&K Sports Council for providing all facilities at both province of international standard, with the result J&K Wushu team at all levels is excelling at both National and international level.

The Wushu Association of J&K office bearers along with Vijay Saraf (President) and Bhavneet (General Secretary) congratulated Abhishek Jamwal for selection in the World Cup qualifying event in the china and wished him all the very best for the championship.

Incumbent Govt least bothered about people's miseries: Jan



Top News Report

POONCH, Apr 19: Ajaz Jan, Provincial President of Youth Wing of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) and former MLA, raised serious concern over the hardships being faced by the common masses under the present dispensation and emphasized the significant impact on the youth residing in remote and far off areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a workers meeting in Mandi area of district Poonch, the senior NC leader said that the incumbent Govt has least bothered about the people's miseries. He also expressed concern over the soaring levels of unemployment, which has reached its peak under the current administration.

Jan urged the dedicated workers of JKNC to proactively engage with the residents of every nook and corner of the Mandi district. He emphasized the importance of raising awareness about the key achievements of JKNC, which have positively

impacted the lives of numerous individuals in the region. By spreading the message of progress and development, he believed that the party's message will resonate with the people and strengthen the party's position.

Additionally, Ajaz Jan called upon the party cadre to work diligently towards ensuring maximum public participation of people in the upcoming Lik Sabha elections.

Furthermore, Ajaz Jan extended his appeal to the people of district Poonch, urging them to come out in large numbers and actively participate in the voting process. He emphasized the importance of this collective effort to ensure the victory of National Conference (NC) candidates and create a mandate that would effectively remove the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) from power.

Jan highlighted the need for a change in leadership and policies, emphasizing that the NC is committed to addressing the concerns and aspirations of the people

in Poonch. By joining forces and casting their votes, the residents have the power to shape the political landscape and bring about the desired transformation for the betterment of the district and its people.

The programme was organized by senior leader Bashir Naik Block president Mandi.

Among those who were present include Bashir Naik, Block President of the NC Mandi; Mubashar Bandy, Sarpanch; Kh. Abdul Razaq, Sarpanch Baila; Rehmat Ullah Khan, Marnote; Mush-taq Naik, NC Worker; Aslam, NC Worker; Ab. Jabar Tantray; Aslam Malik, Sarpanch Arai; Ab. Ahad X, Sarpanch Beedar; Guffar Dar, NCW; Imitiaz Bandy, Sr. NCW; Rafiq Bhat, Sawji-an; Ishaq Sheikh, YNC BP Sathra; Ajaz Loone, NCW; Ab. Ahad Balnai; Jamal Din, Sarpanch; Hakam Din Ch.; Nayaz Ganaie, Panch; Bashir Loone, Baila NCW; Ghulam Rasool, Panch Trichala; Javid Mir, NCW; Qadir Hussain, Ch. NCW; and Ashraf Bandy from Mandi.

Bumrah shines bright as Mumbai beat Punjab by nine runs

Ashutosh Sharma's sensational 28-ball 61 went in vain as Mumbai Indians beat Punjab Kings by nine runs at the Mullanpur Stadium.

MULLANPUR, Apr 19 (Agencies): Ashutosh Sharma's sensational 28-ball 61 went in vain as Mumbai Indians beat Punjab Kings by nine runs at the Mullanpur Stadium on Thursday. For MI, Jasprit Bumrah was the star with the ball, taking 3/21. With the victory, MI moved to seventh place (6 points) in the table.

Chasing an above par target, Punjab were in for a shock. First, Ishan Kishan took a blinder down the leg side to remove Prabhsmiran Singh, and then came the Jasprit Bumrah special. The Mumbai pacer delivered his trademark yorker, sending the off-stump cartwheeling to remove Rile Russow. In the same over, he also dismissed Sam Curran — another down the leg catch — and Kings were three down. Coetzee only added insult to injury as he outwitted Liam Livingstone with a fast bouncer. By the time the powerplay ended, Kings were down to 40/4.

From thereon, it all went downhill for Punjab. Shreyas Gopal got rid of Harpreet Singh, and



Akash Madwal trapped Jitesh Sharma on the pads. Once again, it was down to Shashank Singh and Ashutosh Sharma to play the rescue act. They smashed 34 runs over the next 14 balls, and it seemed like Kings were getting back on track. Pandya brought back Bumrah and he delivered with the wicket of Shashank (41 from 25 balls).

However, Ashutosh kept the fight going. He, along with Harpreet Brar, collected 13 runs off Coetzee. But it was the Madwal over that became the turning point. Ashutosh hit two

sixes, including one off a no ball before Brar finished the over with another. 24 runs came off that over, reducing the required run rate to 7. At this point, it was the Kings' match to lose. All they had to do was play out Bumrah and that is exactly what they did.

Three runs came off Bumrah over, and they needed 25 off 18 balls. When Coetzee came back for his final over, Ashutosh fell for a splendid 61 from 28 balls, trying to hit the South African over deep midwicket. From there, Kings crumbled to 183 all out in 19.1 overs, falling short by

nine runs.

Earlier, having been put into bat by Sam Curran, Mumbai lost Ishan Kishan early. But Rohit Sharma picked up boundaries off Liam Livingstone and Arshdeep Singh. SKY hit Kagiso Rabada for consecutive boundaries. Rohit, meanwhile, pulled Singh into the stands and followed it up with another hit down the ground off Curran, taking MI to 54/1 in six overs.

From thereon, SKY had the most of the strike as he reached his fifty in 34 balls. On the other hand, the former MI captain was outdone by Curran for 36 runs from 25 balls.

Punjab sneaked in two boundary-less overs, but Tilak Varma and SKY made it up with four boundaries in the Arshdeep over. Although Surya got out to Curran for 78 from 53 balls, skipper Hardik Pandya fell for ten runs from five balls, Tim David smashed Curran for two fours and a six in the penultimate over. His 14 off seven balls, along with Varma's 18-ball 34, proved valuable in MI getting to 192/7.

Rohit says India-Pakistan Test cricket would be 'awesome'

Asked by Vaughan if playing Pakistan in a Test series would be beneficial for the five-day game, Rohit said: "I totally believe that."



NEW DELHI, Apr 19 (Agencies): India captain Rohit Sharma has thrown his support behind any resumption of Test cricket against arch-rivals Pakistan, saying it would be "awesome".

The South Asian neighbours are bitter political adversaries and have fought three wars against each other since they were partitioned at the end of British colonial rule in 1947.

Their cricket teams have not faced off in a Test since 2007. Instead they play only occasionally in the shorter versions of the game and usually on neutral territory in international tournaments.

Rohit appeared on a YouTube chat show hosted by former captains Adam Gilchrist of Australia and Michael Vaughan of England.

Asked by Vaughan if playing Pakistan in a Test series would be beneficial for the five-day game, Rohit said: "I totally believe that."

"They are a good team, superb bowling line-up, good contest. Especially if you play in overseas conditions, that will be awesome," added the 36-year-old.

"I would love to. It would be a great contest between two sides... so why not?"

Australia has said it would be prepared to host a series between the rivals.

India and Pakistan have not faced each other on either side's soil in a bilateral series since 2012.

India last year refused to travel to Pakistan for the white-ball Asia Cup, prompting part of the tournament to be staged in Sri Lanka.

last met at the 50-over World Cup in India in October.

Candidates: Caruana pegs back Gukesh as Pragg, Gujrathi incur losses

TORONTO, Apr 19 (Agencies): Grandmaster D Gukesh played out a creditable draw against top seed Fabiano Caruana but slipped a rung to the joint second position on a day when his compatriots endured frustrating losses in the Candidates chess tournament's 11th round here.

Nerves finally came into play as R Praggnanandhaa and Vidit Gujrathi lost their way against American Hikaru Nakamura and Russian Ian Nepomniachtchi, respectively. But the 17-year-old Gukesh held his own against Caruana. In the other encounter, Frenchman Firouzja Alireza proved superior to Nijat Abasov of Azerbaijan.

With just three rounds remaining, the scales are tilting in favour of Nepomniachtchi, who is gunning for his third straight Candidates title. The Russian, who is competing under the FIDE flag owing to his country's international suspension, shot back to sole lead on seven points out of a possible 11.

Caruana, Nakamura and Gukesh are in pursuit of the leader, half-a-point behind in the stand-

ings. Praggnanandhaa and Gujrathi have fallen apart with 5.5 and five points, respectively. Coming back from behind is Alireza, who probably has no contest from Abasov in the bottom half.

In the women's competition, the Chinese continued to dominate as Zhongyi Tan scored a win over Kateryna Lagno of Russia to regain sole lead ahead of compatriot Tingjie Lei, who played out a draw with Anna Muzychuk of Ukraine.

R Vaishali came back roaring, albeit a bit late, to beat top-seeded Russian Aleksandra Goryachkina while Koneru Humpy proved too good to avenge her early loss at the hands of Nurgyl Salimova of Bulgaria.

Tan continued to reign supreme with seven points. Lei stood half-a-point behind and the Russian duo of Lagno and Goryachkina were virtually out of the race along with a resurgent Humpy, who has warmed up towards the close, with 5.5 points.

Tough day Praggnanandhaa, who has been quite popular among the fans, played with white and faced an irregular queen pawn

opening. For once, the Indian did not seem to know much about the subtleties.

Nakamura took command and it was one of those days for Praggnanandhaa when nothing went right. The Indian lost a piece trapped in the corner of the board and Nakamura was never going to let him get away with any lapses. Gujrathi lost to Nepomniachtchi out of a Petroff defence. The opening has been serving well for the Russian since 2018, when he won his first Candidates, and it did not disappoint him.

The middle game saw Gujrathi on top more than once but Nepomniachtchi hung in there to his credit.

Gujrathi had more than a few chances to come up victorious but one spoiler took over another till Nepomniachtchi had the game firmly in his grasp.

Gukesh was the only one to keep his nerves intact despite his tender age. The queen's gambit landed in a worse position for the talented youngster but he fought on to equalise against Caruana in the ensuing queen and pawns endgame.

Today's IPL Match, LSG vs CSK: Fired-up Chennai eye another away win

LUCKNOW, Apr 19 (Agencies): KL Rahul's Lucknow face a stern test when they host informal Chennai in a Friday evening blockbuster at the Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Stadium in Lucknow. While Chennai are heading into the contest on the back of a morale-boosting win over their arch-rivals, LSG are on a two-match losing streak, which includes a hammering against KKR in their last IPL 2024 game in Kolkata.

After having made a bright start to their IPL 2024 campaign with 3 wins in their first 4 matches, LSG have slipped and joined the mid-table middle with back-to-back defeats. Lucknow looked toothless in their last two games, allowing Delhi and Kolkata to chase down targets without breaking a sweat. It's been tough going for LSG, who have had to deal with an injury concern to their young pacer sensation, Mayank Yadav. The Delhi fast bowler 6 wickets in 3 matches, clocking consistently above 150 kph, but the youngster has had to be sidelined.

Mayank Yadav returned to training earlier in the week and was spotted bowling in the nets in Lucknow, but LSG's bowling coach Lance Klusener refused to confirm whether the 22-year-old would return to XI against CSK on Friday.

LSG handed an IPL debut to Shamar Joseph at the Eden Gardens, but the West Indies pace sensation had a nervy outing, conceding 47 runs in 4 overs. Barring left-arm pacer Mohsin Khan, the likes of Yash Thakur and Arshad Khan have conceded aplenty in their last two games. Ravi Bishnoi and Krunal Pandya, two high-quality spinners, need to come to the



party if LSG are hoping to stop the Super Kings juggernaut.

The battle between Ravi Bishnoi and CSK's spin killer Shivam Dube will be interesting to watch. LSG will love more pace against the Super Kings and Mayank's return can be a huge boost to their chances.

LSG VS CSK H2H: The two teams have met only thrice and they have won one game each. One of them did not produce a result due to bad weather. Nonetheless, LSG would also want better contributions from their top-order, especially Quinton de Kock, who has struggled for form in IPL 2024.

After starting the season with 54 and 81, De Kock has not gone past 20 in his last three innings. Yes, KL Rahul has looked more proactive in their last few games, but he has lacked the support from his teammates.

Deepak Hooda, at No. 3, has not worked and LSG might think about bringing back Devdutt Padikkal, who also struggled at the crucial spot before he was dropped. Ayush Badoni has been a bright spot for LSG so far.

While Marcus Stoinis and Nicholas Pooran will be hoping for more consistency, LSG will have to make better use of Krunal Pandya's batting capability as the all-rounder has managed to face only 41 balls so far in 6 matches.

LSG VS CSK: LUCKNOW PITCH CONDITIONS

Unlike the last two years, the Lucknow pitch has offered good balance between bat and ball. A 200-plus score is yet to be posted here but Lucknow defended 199 and 163 successfully before failing to defend 167 against Delhi in their previous home game. Interestingly, pacers have dominated the wickets column in Lucknow this year but that might change as the summer gets more intense.

LSG VS CSK: TEAM NEWS

It will be a tough test for LSG against the Super Kings bowling unit, which has been wonderfully led by Matheesha Pathirana. The likes of Tushar Deshpande and Shardul Thakur have stepped up in the absence of Deepak Chahar, who will need a bit more time to fully recover.

Head coach Stephen Fleming did not sound confident about

Deepak Chahar's return to the side and CSK will be looking to retain their winning pace-bowling combination.

On the other hand, the Super Kings might look to play an extra spinner in Maheesh Theekshana. However, Mustafizur Rahman and Matheesha Pathirana will be more than handy options if LSG offer a two-paced pitch. Rachin Ravindra might get a couple of overs if the pitch offers turn.

Quinton de Kock might get another opportunity before LSG look at Kyle Mayers, who has been warming the bench. LSG also have M Siddharth's service for left-arm spin, but they need to use Krunal Pandya better with the ball and the bat.

It remains to be seen whether Mayank Yadav returns to the side, but Shamar Joseph is likely to get another go.

LSG VS CSK: PREDICTED XI AND IMPACT SUBS

LSG: Quinton de Kock, KL Rahul (captain/wicketkeeper), Deepak Hooda, Ayush Badoni, Marcus Stoinis, Nicholas Pooran, Krunal Pandya, Ravi Bishnoi, Mohsin Khan, Shamar Joseph, Yash Thakur.

Impact Sub: M Siddharth.

CSK: Rachin Ravindra, Ruturaj Gaikwad (Captain), Ajinkya Rahane, Daryl Mitchell, Shivam Dube, Ravindra Jadeja, Sameer Rizvi, MS Dhoni (wicketkeeper), Shardul Thakur, Tushar Deshpande, Matheesha Pathirana.

Impact Sub: Mustafizur Rahman.

LSG VS CSK Prediction: LSG have the firepower to test the Super Kings on Friday, but CSK will work their way through to another win.

It was my dream to play sweep shot against Jasprit Bumrah, says Ashutosh Sharma

MULLANPUR, Apr 19 (Agencies): Punjab Kings' batting sensation Ashutosh Sharma said he lived a "dream" when he swept "world's best fast bowler" Jasprit Bumrah during his team's IPL clash against Mumbai Indians here.

The 25-year-old Ashutosh put the Bumrah-led Mumbai Indians' bowling to sword here on Thursday when he hammered seven sixes and two fours to make 61 off a mere 28 balls, a knock which brought PBKS back from the brink after an early collapse.

PBKS were 17/4 inside the powerplay but courtesy the stunning

fightback from Ashutosh and Shashank Singh (41), they were able to get close to MI's 193-run target before losing by nine runs.

It was in the 13th over of Punjab's chase when Ashutosh got down low on his front to convert an attempted yorker from Bumrah into a full toss and smack it for a six over backward square leg.

"It was my dream to hit a sweep shot against Bumrah. I was practising for that shot but it came against the best bowler in the world it is a part of the game," Ashutosh told the media here after the match.

Ashutosh said he was confident of taking Punjab over the line.

"I had belief in myself that I would be able to win the game for the team," he said. Ashutosh credited former India player and coach Sanjay Bangar, head of cricket development at PBKS, for his improvement this season.

"Sanjay sir told me that I am not a slogger and that I can play proper cricket shots. It was a small statement but carried a huge meaning for me.

I am only following it I am not a hard-hitter, I am playing proper cricketing shots and that is what has changed my game," Ashutosh said.

"Back home, I was working with

my coach Amay Khurasiya who had told me that the longer you stay on the pitch, the more your team has a chance of winning," he added.

The right-handed batter, who made some gestures towards the PBKS dugout after completing his fifty, said the celebrations were meant for his team management.

"That celebration was for our Sanjay (Bangar) sir, I have been working a lot with him and I keep asking him questions," Ashutosh said.

"He gave me a chance, and also the entire Punjab team which showed belief in me. Our head

coach Trevor Bayliss, Ashish (Tuli) paaji, Shikhar (Dhawan) paaji, everyone believed in me, so it was for all of them," he added.

Punjab slumped to their fifth defeat in seven matches as well as to the ninth spot in the points table, but Ashutosh said his side has been playing well.

"Winning and losing are part of the game. How you are playing is something that matters and we are playing well as a team. If we will play well, we will win," he said.

Mumbai Indians' pacer Gerald Coetzee conceded his side was tense after Ashutosh's stunning onslaught.

"He really brought it to us. We just wanted to be really clear tactically what we wanted to do. We executed really well to him in the back end to shut it down and win the game," the South African bowler said.

"But it was tense, as I think everyone saw. But it was just all tactical discussions," he added.

Coetzee conceded Mumbai Indians could've been better with their slower balls, something that PBKS used perfectly in the first half.

"We just really learned from their innings. We adapted our plans and I think it worked," Coetzee added.

Programme organized under *Pratikantham Sanskritam Sampark Abhiyaan*

Trust is making good efforts to promote Devvani Sanskrit in UT: SP South

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Shri Kailash jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust organized a program at Government High School Muthi Jammu under the "Pratikantham Sanskritam Sampark Abhiyaan" to take Devvani Sanskrit to every home. On this occasion, SP South Jammu, Ajay Sharma was the Chief Guest.

On this occasion, Trust head Mahant Rohit Shastri said that this campaign has been started to promote Devvani Sanskrit and a book named "Saral Sanskrit Bodh" has been published by the Trust which will be distributed free of cost.

The two things in which India's prestige lies are Sanskrit and culture.



This language has to be taken to every home and if there is willpower then success will definitely be achieved in it. There is variation in the pronunciation of different languages according to the region, but based on phonetics, the pronunciation of Devvani Sanskrit

is the same in every part of the world.

On this occasion, SP South Ajay Sharma said that we should try to teach Sanskrit language to children at home only then we can advise others to use this language.

Appreciated the efforts

of the Trust to promote Devvani Sanskrit and said that the Trust is making good efforts to promote Devvani Sanskrit in the state. Devvani Sanskrit has to be taken to every home and if there is willpower then success will definitely be achieved in this.

He said that we should try to teach Sanskrit language to children at home only then we can advise others to use this language. The script of Sanskrit language is Devanagari. The sages chose this language for composing mantras because the pronunciation of words in this language was very effective in creating proper vibrations in the brain. The Vedas appeared in this language and the Upanishads, Ramayana, Mahabharata and Puranas were composed.

On this occasion, distinguished citizens like Ajay Sharma, Jagdev Singh Chib, Sunil Sharma, Naresh Raina, Sat Pal Khajuria, Ajay Singh, Pawan Khajuria, school staff, students were present.

BSI Learning, Australia signs MoU with Aryans Group of Colleges to provide Australian Qualifications in Chandigarh



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: BSI Learning (RTO 21371) and Aryans Group of Colleges proudly announce the signing of an Expression of Interest (EoI) to create opportunities for Indian students to pursue Australian Qualifications in India with the support of Can And Able Advisory.

BSI Learning (RTO 21371), is committed to delivering a learning experience that produces beneficial change for both your people and your organization.

BSI Learning aims to develop programs that have measurable effects, not only on your people and their performance but on the bottom-line results of the company.

Aryans Group of Colleges stands as premier consortium of eight educational institutions, offering a diverse array of programs ranging from engineering to law, and business to nursing. With a steadfast commitment to high-quality education, Aryans Group has become synonymous with academic excellence and professional readiness.

The primary objectives of signing this EoI is to

explore a potential collaboration to offer Australian Skillsets and Qualifications in Business, Leadership & Management, Project Management, Retail and Hospitality, and Fitness.

"Australia and India share a strong relationship, and Australian educational institutions are set to leverage this partnership to provide skill training to a massive workforce in emerging domains such as digital healthcare and renewable energy. To achieve this goal, BSI Learning is visiting India to build market literacy and skills partnerships.

The collaboration between Aryans Group of Colleges and us aims to create pathways for their students in education, innovation, and economic growth" said Kala Philip, CEO, BSI Learning.

Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group said "After the restrictions on immigration in various countries, including Australia, Canada, USA, UK etc. It has become tough for the students to get the visas for such countries.

Attaining Australian skill education in Chandigarh will be a big opportunity

for the students of North India. The students will be able to save the cost & time while studying Australian skill courses at Aryans Group of Colleges.

He also added that Aryans nursing, Pharmacy, and paramedical courses are high in demand & we would prefer to impart Australian skill education among students with the help of BSI Learning from Australia."

"As part of our ongoing commitment to add value additions in the education sector, we are happy to support this collaboration between BSI and The Aryan group to give Indian students a chance to pick a program as per their interest giving them internationally accepted knowledge and a relevant certificate." Added Munish Arora, Managing Partner, Can and Able Advisory.

This collaboration is an endeavor of Australian Government's Australia-India Future Skills Initiative (FSI) a program aiming towards facilitating collaboration between Australia Skills providers and Indian Skilling institutions.

Comm/Secy Dr Franklin, Chief Electoral Officer UT Ladakh Yatindra attend concluding Festival of Apricot Blossom

Top News Report

LEH, Apr 19: Commissioner/Secretary, Planning Development & Monitoring, Agriculture & Horticulture, Animal/Sheep Husbandry & Fisheries, Dr. Lalthinkhuma Franklin and Chief Electoral Officer, UT Ladakh, Yatindra M. Maralkar attended the concluding festival of apricot blossom at Saspol Village.

The festival, organized by the Tourism Department in collaboration with the villagers of Saspol, was filled with different cultural per-

formances and dances by cultural troupe and the talented students of the Higher Secondary School, Saspol. Nambar, Saspol, Tsewang Norboo in his welcome speech thanked the tourism department for organizing the concluding festival of apricot blossom at Saspol and welcomed the dignitaries to the festival with traditional scarfs (Khataks). Esteemed officers and officials of the tourism and Horticulture departments also attended the festival with great enthusiasm.

Adding to the festivity, the SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) team from Leh, headed by SVEEP State Nodal Officer Dr. Tsewang Morup conducted an engaging SVEEP awareness campaign and distributed SVEEP t-shirts and keychains to dignitaries and participants. They highlighted the importance of voting in a democracy and urged everyone to exercise their right to vote on 20th May 2024. Furthermore, State SVEEP Icon Phunchok Ladakhi light-

ened the atmosphere with melodious songs on voter awareness and appealed participants to cast their vote as a democratic duty on the voting day.

Chief Electoral Officer, UT Ladakh, Yatindra M. Maralkar emphasized the significance of voting, underlining the Election Commission of India's efforts to simplify the electoral process. He mentioned user-friendly apps like Saksham ECI, designed to assist elderly and disabled voters, the cVigil App for reporting

model code of conduct violations, and the KYC App for accessing information on candidates' criminal records. He encouraged the public to explore these resources on the ECI website.

The festival concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks from the Assistant Director of Tourism. As the event drew to a close, attendees were urged to participate actively in the upcoming elections and cast their votes on 20th May, ensuring a vibrant and robust democratic process.

VC JU releases newsletter of Poonch Campus



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: The Vice Chancellor (VC) University of Jammu (JU) Prof. Umesh Rai today released the Newsletter of JU'S Poonch Campus.

In a momentous event highlighting the academic prowess and community engagement of the JU'S Poonch Campus, Professor Umesh Rai, the Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu commended the efforts of Director Poonch Campus, Professor Rakesh Vaid, for the release of the Newsletter of Poonch Campus.

The Newsletter serves as a comprehensive showcase of the remarkable achievements and initiatives undertaken by the Poonch Campus.

Prof Umesh Rai lauded the dedication and hard work of the entire team at Poonch Campus, particularly acknowledging the contributions of Dr. Rubia Bukhari in ensuring the productivity and informativeness of the Newsletter. He expressed his sincere congratulations to

the team for their commitment to excellence and service to the community.

During the event, Director Poonch Campus, Professor Rakesh Vaid, provided a detailed briefing to the Vice Chancellor about the significant achievements and ongoing initiatives at the Poonch Campus. He highlighted the various awareness programs being organized, specifically tailored to benefit the local community, with a particular focus on the agricultural sector and the welfare of farmers in the area.

On this special occasion, Prof Rahul Gupta, Registrar, Prof. Meena Sharma, Dean of Planning and Development, Prof Seema Langer, Head of the Department of Zoology, Prof Dipankar Sengupta, former Director of Poonch Campus Dr. Ranjeet Kalra, Teaching faculty MMTC, all took the opportunity to address the audience. Each of them spoke warmly, extend-

ing their congratulations to the director of Poonch Campus and the entire team involved in finalizing the Newsletter. Their words of appreciation echoed the collective effort and dedication put forth by the team, underscoring the significance of their accomplishment.

Dr. Rubia Bukhari, Campus Officer said the release of the Newsletter marks a pivotal moment in the journey of the Poonch Campus, reflecting its dedication to academic excellence, community empowerment, and societal development.

Present on the occasion Prof. Rahul Gupta Registrar, Prof. Meena Sharma, Dean Planning and Development, Prof. Seema Langer Head of the Department of Zoology, Prof. Dipankar Sengupta, Dr. Ranjeet Kalra, Teaching faculty MMTC, Irfan Goni Campus Development Officer, Miss Gurmeet Kour Assistant Poonch Campus.

KCIS organises motivational talk on Viksit Bharat

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Viksit Bharat@2047 represents the government of India's ambitious vision to transform the nation into a developed entity by the centenary of its independence in 2047.

Realizing this vision, KC International School (KCIS) conducted a session on the Viksit Bharat to spark the unwavering dedication, a firm belief in India's destiny and a profound recognition of the vast potential talent of KCIS.

Chaitanya Chowdhary, President KCIS, and Ms Anu-



pama Sinha, Principal KCIS, formally welcomed Gaurav Gupta, a motivational speaker and secretary Jammu Club by a sapling for his gracious presence.

He tried to instill his motto "work towards a brighter and more prosperous future for the region" amongst the students.

The students of classes 9 and 10 participated with great enthusiasm, demonstrating a profound understanding of the subject matter.

Their receptiveness and eagerness to contribute over the next 25 years were palpable.

The students expressed a strong desire to see India as a top-ranked nation globally. Their aspirations included placing the country among the top three economies, emphasizing the need for sustained economic growth and development.

Notably, Gaurav galvanized students to have commitment to inspiring and involving people in their neighbourhoods to contribute collectively towards the vision of a developed India.

They should acknowledge the role of communication skills in conveying the essence of Bharat Viksit and considered it essential for making the vision a reality.

Today's elections are not about any party but about different ideologies: Braham Jyot

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 19: Braham Jyot Satti, BJP senior leader and incharge BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir issued a press statement and marked ongoing as a fight between anti-national and nationalist mindset.

In his statement he said today's election is not about any party but about ideology, one which is in the interest of the country and the other which is anti-national. The BJP always works in the interest of the nation and our public will vest their interest in BJP again and we will make majority government.

He said from the past 10 year PM Narendra Modi led government is working for betterment of public and giving true example of Sewa, Sushasan and Garib Kalyan.

He said Prime Minister Modi is very dedicated and down to earth personality and has launched various beneficial schemes for our youth and has provided new career opportunities to them.

He said in past 10 years BJP has made India a strong and Progressive country and created new



employment opportunities for youth and working for all segments and India is blessed to have PM like Narendra Modi.

On INDI Alliance and opposition, he said opposition leaders like Farooq Abdullah, Mehbooba Mufti and others are in love with Pakistan so that they always seem to stand with Pakistan and try to do polarization politics between Jammu and Kashmir.

He said opposition parties are frustrated by the growth BJP and their hatred politics has come to an end Even the common public are not supporting them and in the influence of stress opposition leaders are giving hatred statements like Farooq Abdullah which he has given in the past few days.

He said PM Narendra Modi led government is working for segments of society and there is a huge number of highly

beneficial schemes which are running by Government just for needy people and the public should take advantage of these schemes.

He said Nation's first ideology of BJP is best and it works in the nation's interest and prominent citizens are joining hands with BJP which is highly appreciable.

He said in the past 10 years BJP dealt with big issues like surgical strike to strengthen the country, construction of Ram temple which has been in dispute for a long time, removal of Article 370 to connect Kashmir in the main stream, ban on triple talaq for justice to minority women. Our party has tried to realize the slogan of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas.

He highlighted about schemes like Ayushman Bharat, Kisan Samman Nidhi yojana, cleanliness campaign, Aawas Yojna, Ujjwala gas scheme and how their effect was visible on the ground and said that during the tenure of the BJP government, under the Jan Dhan Yojana, lakhs of people are being directly benefited by connecting them with banking facilities.