

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, MAY 04, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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## BRIEFLY

### Hyderabad Police register FIR against Amit Shah over 'Poll Code Violation'

HYDERABAD, May 4 (Agencies): The city police have registered a case against Union Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP Hyderabad Lok Sabha constituency candidate K Madhavi Latha and other BJP leaders for allegedly using minors in a poll campaign here recently.

In a complaint to the Telangana Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) vice-president Niranjan Reddy alleged that on May 1 during a BJP rally from Laldawaza to Sudha Talkies, a few minor children were on the dais with Shah. Niranjan Reddy alleged that a child was seen with a BJP symbol, highlighting that it was a clear violation of the guidelines of the Election Commission, according to information available on the FIR copy.

Following his complaint to the poll panel, the CEO forwarded it to the city police for a factual report, resulting in the registration of an FIR against Shah by the Moghalpura police station at 7 pm on Thursday.

Other accused persons in the case include T Yaman Singh and senior BJP leader G Kishan Reddy and legislator T Raja Singh. Police registered the case under IPC Section 188 (violation of an order issued by a public servant) and are probing it further.

### J&K: Teacher booked for beating minor student in Rajouri

SRINAGAR, May 4 (Agencies): A Government school teacher in the Kotranka area of Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district has been booked by the police for severely beating a Class 3 boy, resulting in damage to his ear.

According to officials the incident occurred on Friday at Government Middle School Sada, in the Kotranka Educational Zone.

The In-charge Headmaster of the School was engaged in official duties when the incident took place. The 8-year-old boy had gone to the toilet, while the rest of the class was making noise.

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## FHRAI organizes stakeholders meet to propel tourism development in J&K

SRINAGAR, May 4 (Agencies): The Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI) organized a stakeholder's meet to propel tourism development in Jammu and Kashmir.

The motto of the meeting was to explore the untapped tourism potential of Jammu and Kashmir and address infrastructure-related concerns, aiming to



establish the region as a top tourist destination in India.

The objective of the meet was to create a

networking platform for FHRAI leaders from across the country and stakeholders in the hospitality and tourism sector in Jammu & Kashmir.

This event is an opportunity to showcase the region's tourism potential, discuss investment opportunities, and lay the groundwork for future collaborations. It will help evaluate the visibility of tourism leadership in Jammu and Kashmir.

Those attended the event include key stakeholders from the

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## Over 80,000 tech employees lost jobs globally in first four months this year in 279 firms: Report



NEW DELHI, May 4 (Agencies): More than 80,000 employees in the technology sector have lost jobs in the first

four months this year, and layoffs continue to haunt the overall startup ecosystem globally. Latest figures from

layoff.fyi, a portal that tracks tech sector job cuts, 279 tech companies have sacked 80,230 employees to date (till May 3).

In 2022 and 2023, tech companies worldwide laid off more than 425,000 employees, as global slowdown hit the IT/Tech and the startup ecosystem.

In a latest job cut, US customer experience

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## Police Registers FIR against 'Scandalous Communication' against women officials being circulated on Social Media

JAMMU, May 4 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police on Friday registered an FIR on the complaints received from senior women functionaries against an alleged scurrilous communication being circulated on social media, the police officials said.

According to the police, scurrilous communication has been circulated on various social media platforms (WhatsApp, etc) with baseless, scandalous, and derogatory allegations aimed at harming the reputation and integrity of officers.

"Police said that it had

received a series of complaints from senior women functionaries holding public office, along with other supporting material, alleging therein that for the last few days, a scurrilous communication has been circulated on various social media

platforms (WhatsApp, etc) with baseless, scandalous, and derogatory allegations aimed at harming the reputation and integrity of not only these female public figures but public institutions and government organisations," the

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## Saniyaa Kadree appointed chairperson of grappling committee for J&K

NEW DELHI, May 4 (Agencies): In a significant development for the grappling sports community in the state of Jammu & Kashmir, Saniyaa Kadree has been appointed as the Chairperson of The Grappling Committee of India for the region,



following the recommendation of Subham

Choudhary, Chairman (North India) Grappling Committee of India.

As the newly appointed Chairperson, Kadree's responsibilities will include overseeing and advising the operations of grappling sports in Jammu & Kashmir.

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## NC's Farooq Abdullah calls for meaningful solution to issues of Kashmiri Pandit Migrants

JAMMU, May 4 (Agencies): National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah has said the issues related to Kashmiri Pandit migrants are not merely a matter of statistics but a humanitarian crisis that demands urgent attention and meaningful solutions.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of



exploiting the Kashmiri migrants' sufferings for political gains, without genuinely addressing their grievances or ensuring their rightful return and resettlement in their homeland.

"The Kashmiri migrants issue is not merely a matter of statistics or political rhetoric, but a humanitarian crisis that demands urgent attention and meaningful

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## Five in fray for Ladakh Lok Sabha Seat; 3 Nominations rejected

LEH, May 4 (Agencies): Nominations of two covering candidates and an Independent were rejected during scrutiny of papers for the Ladakh parliamentary constituency on Saturday, the Returning officer said.

The rejections left only five candidates in the fray, Santosh Sukhadeve said.

Ladakh Lok Sabha constituency, the largest in the country with a total area of 173.266 sq km and more than 1.82 lakh voters, will go to polls in the fifth phase of elections on May 20.

The last date for withdrawal of the candidature is May 6.

After scrutiny, nomination forms of five candidates were found valid.

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## Building, car of alleged drug peddler attached in Rajouri

JAMMU, May 4 (Agencies): A multi-storey business establishment and a vehicle, both together worth more than Rs 1.80 crore, owned by an alleged drug peddler, were attached in Rajouri district on Saturday, police said.

Vikal Chogga, who was booked under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act last year, had illegally acquired the property by selling Rajouri to the youth in Rajouri town, a police spokesperson said.

He said the attached properties were a four-storied business establishment worth Rs 1.74 crore in the heart of Rajouri city and a car valued at Rs 7 lakh. Rajouri Senior Superintendent of Police Amritpal Singh said police is committed to eradicate

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# MBA MOTORS

## MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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

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



## TENTH DAY PRAYER MEETING

With profound grief it is informed that our beloved Sh. Ashok Sher breathed his last on 29th April, at his residence # 98, Ashoka Enclave-I, Sector - 34, Faridabad, erstwhile resident of Peerbagh, Srinagar.

The Tenth Day Kriya shall accordingly be performed at Garh Ganga Ghat, Garh Mukleshwar (U.P) on 08-05-2024, from 09.00 am onwards.

**Followed By:**  
Prayer meeting for the noble soul at Kashmir Bhawan, Sector - 37, Fandabad on 08-05-2024 from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm.

**Grief Stricken**  
Smt. Harsh Sher (Wife) D/o Lt. Smt. Raj Dulani & Lt. Sh. Somnath Handoo  
Smt. Suman Sher W/o Lt. Sh. Sunder Sher (Bhabhi)  
Smt. Santosh & Sh. Sunil Sher (Bhabhi & Brother)  
Smt. Rajni & Sh. Sushil Sher (Bhabhi & Brother)  
Smt. Pooja & Sh. Sanjay Razdan (Sister & Brother-in-law)  
Smt. Nidhi & Sh. Asheem Sher (Daughter-in-law & Son)  
Sh. Anuj Sher (Son)



**Sh. Ashok Sher**  
13 May 1954 - 29 April 2024  
S/o Lt. Smt. Man Mohini & Lt. Sh. Badri Nath Sher

Contact: 9871700469, 9953142043, 9891808533

## TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad untimely demise of our beloved Smt. Kanchan Ranjana (Master) W/o Sh. Rajesh Kumar (XEN), R/o H.No.598, JMC Indra Colony, Talab Tillo, Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 26-04-2024.

Tenth Day will be performed at Tali Sahab Gurudwara, Pacca Gharat, Talab Tillo, Jammu, on 5th of May, 2024 (Sunday) from 12.00 noon to 1.00 pm. **Shabad Kirtan** followed by Guru Ka Langar and **Kriya** will be performed at our residence at 9.00 am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Er. Rajesh Kumar (XEN) - Husband  
Deepika Bhardwaj, Pihu Bhardwaj, Vanshika Bhardwaj - Daughters  
Vansh Bhardwaj - Son  
Smt. Ratna Bawa & Dr. Bodh Raj Bawa - Nanand and Nanoya  
Smt. Rani Bhardwaj & Dr. Mohan Lal Bhardwaj - Bhabhi & Brother-in-law  
Smt. Anita Bhardwaj & Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj (Retd. AGM BSNL) - do-  
Smt. Savita Bhardwaj & Dr. Ravi Kumar Bhardwaj - do-  
Smt. Sushma Bhardwaj & Er. King Kumar Bhardwaj - do-  
CONTACT: 7780902329, 9419207374, 9419120166, 7006275204, 7006955916



**Smt. Kanchan Ranjana**  
(Master)

## KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform passing away of our beloved Smt. Sambo Devi W/o late Capt. Dewan Chand Sharma R/o Extn. 13 Sector-A, Sainik Colony Jammu. She peacefully departed on 14 April, 2024.

The Kriya shall be performed on 4th May 2024 (Saturday) at 12:00 Noon.

Uthala will be conducted on 6th May 2024 (Monday) from 6 PM to 6:30 PM at our residence.

**IN MOURNING**  
Sons & Daughters-in-law  
Sh. Sunnesh Sharma (Retd. Physical Director) & Smt. Sneha Lata (Retd. Lecturer)  
Daughters & Sons-in-law  
Smt. Sudesh Mishra & Late Sh. Sohan Lal  
Smt. Nimal Khajuria & Late Sh. Puran Chand Khajuria  
Grand Son & Daughter-in-law  
Er. Sushant Lakhani & Smt. Shreya Sharma  
Grand Daughter & Son-in-law  
Dr. Priyanka Sharma & Sh. Amit Khajuria (DySP JKP)  
From: Lakhanpal Family  
Contact No.: 9858522764, 9796445751



**Smt. Sambo Devi**  
(Kalawati)

## BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved S. Onkar Singh Ji R/o Shiv Nagar Udhampur, who left for heavenly abode on 27th April 2024. For the peace of the departed soul Shri Akhand Path Sahib shall be held at our residence at H.No.23 Ward No.11, Shiv Nagar, Udhampur as per the schedule.

On 3/5/2024 (Friday) - Arambh Shri Akhand Path at 9:00 AM  
On 5/5/2024 (Sunday) - Bhog Shri Akhand Path at 9:00 AM at our residence

Antim Ardas will be performed at Gurudwara Singh Sabha Udhampur at 10:30AM to 12:30 PM followed by the Guru ka Langar

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Amrit Kour (Wife)  
Harpreet Singh & Tanveer Kour - Son and Daughter-in-Law  
Gurpreet Kour & Joginder Singh - Daughter and Son-in-Law  
Jagneet Kour & Amritpal Singh - Daughter and Son-in-Law  
Grand Children : Sahaj, Simar, Manmaahi & Pargat



**S. Onkar Singh**  
05-05-1952- 27-04-2024

## KRIYA KARM/ RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Late Smt Rano Devi W/o Late Sh. Anzrez Singh Chib R/o H.No. 13, Sec-3 Pandoka Colony Paloura, Jammu.

Kriya Karm will be performed on 5th May 2024 (Sunday) at 12:00 pm at our residence.

Rasam Pagri will be performed on 10th May, 2024 (Friday) at 12:00 pm at our residence

**GRIEF STRICKEN :**  
Sons & Daughters-in-law  
Late Sh. Ramesh Singh Chib & Smt. Sandhya Devi  
Late Sh. Joginder Singh Chib & Smt. Sureshta Devi  
Sh. Ashok Singh Chib & Smt. Sushma Rani  
Sh. Ranjeet Singh Chib & Smt. Shivani Chib  
Daughters & Sons in law  
Smt. Kamlesh Devi & Sh. Ajit Singh Manhas  
Smt. Vaishno Devi & Sh. Sunder Singh Charak  
Smt. Darshana Devi & Sh. Lal Singh Manhas  
Smt. Rama Devi & Sh. Sunder Singh Langhe



**Late Smt Rano Devi**

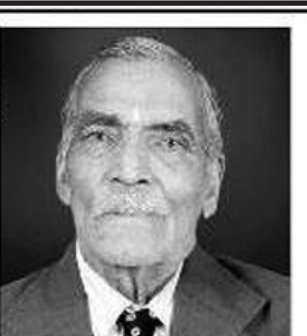
Contact No.  
94191-47339,  
9797606216, 9906173652

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Father Karamyogi Shri Dwarika Nath Fotedar S/o Lt. Shri Raugh Nath Fotedar originally resident of Village Begam, District Kulgam at present H. No. 666 Lane 5D, Suryavanshi Nagar, Muthi (Near Nand Public School) Jammu on 29-04-2024.

The Tenth Day Kriya and Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat, Near Director Education Office on 08-05-2024 at 09.30 am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN :**  
Shri Malkhan Lal Bhat - Brother-in-Law  
Smt. Phoolja Ji Fotedar & Smt. Aasha Ji Fotedar Sister-in-law  
Smt. Pamita Pandita & Shri Ravi Ji Pandita - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Shri Sanjay Fotedar & Smt. Jyoti Fotedar - Son & Daughter-in-law  
Shri Vinod Fotedar & Smt. Dimple Fotedar - Son & Daughter-in-law  
Shri Aashish Fotedar & Smt. Sheetal Fotedar - Son & Daughter-in-law  
Grand Children :  
Vipin, Ritu, Koushal, Saksham, Simran, Rinjini, Sanvi and Chitraksh  
SAMAST FOTEDAR FAMILY  
Mob. 8825027101, 9596604915, 8899291623, 9868101943



**Karamyogi Shri Dwarika Nath Fotedar**

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and heavy heart we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Shri Rattan Lal Revo (Baitathoo Ji) S/o Late Shri Mahadev Joo Revo erstwhile resident of Karan Nagar, Srinagar later on Swarn Vihar, Jammu, at present Kendriya Vihar 2, Sector 82, Noida. (U.P.) on April 27, 2024

TENTH DAY KRIYA shall be performed at Murad Nagar Ganga Canal Ghat, Uttar Pradesh on Sunday, May 05, 2024, at 7am. **CONDOLENCE** meet shall be performed at our residence House No. B- 95, Sector 23, NOIDA near mother dairy booth. 10.30 am onwards.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Dr. C. L. Revo. 9717413446  
Smt. Urmila Revo 8716044594  
Smt. Bhavna Revo 9906074304  
Sh. Vinod Revo & Smt. Savita Revo 9810644080  
Anil Revo & Smt. Janak Archana Revo 9999449486  
Sh. Bharat Wanchoo & Smt. Chetna Wanchoo 9414372940  
Sh. Omesh Ganjoo & Smt. Kalpana Revo Ganjoo 7006854539  
Razdan's, Zadoo's, Handoo's, Wanchoo's, Ganjoo's



**Shri Rattan Lal Revo**  
(Baitathoo Ji)

## 10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Rattan Rani Kachroo W/o Late Sh. Soomnath Kachroo (Zangalpora, Kulgam) on 2-5-2024 presently residing at Block C, Flat 5 & 6, TRT Nagrota Camp.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 11th May 2024 at Nagrota Ghat.  
Assembly will be held at Community Hall, TRT Nagrota Camp.  
Ph.No.: 7006645747, 9596546413

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sister-in-law & Brother  
Smt. Usha & Sh. Omkarnath Kachroo  
Smt. Chunnji Ji & Sh. Shambo Nath Raina  
Smt. Nancy Koul W/o Lt. Mohal Lal Koul  
Daughter-in-law & Son  
Smt. Shilpa & Sh. Sanjay Kachroo  
Smt. Santosh Shah W/o Late Trikoti Nath Shah - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Smt. Dazy & Sh. Anil Razdan - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Smt. Bubly & Sh. Ramesh Koul - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Smt. Shonu & Sh. Ashish Raina - Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-law  
Smt. Sheetal & Sh. Kamlesh Kandroo - Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-law  
Grand Children: Divish Koul, Akash Raina, Aman Raina, Nirav Kachroo and Aarav Kachroo



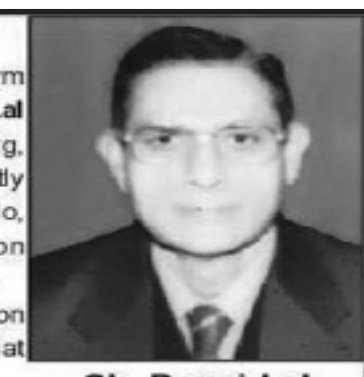
**Smt. Rattan Rani Kachroo**

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you that our beloved Papa Ji, Sh. Bansil Lal Challu, originally resident of Rang Teng, Alikadal Srinagar, Kashmir and presently residing at 159 A, Jawahar Nagar, Talab Tillo, Jammu, left for heavenly abode, on Saturday, 27th April, 2024 at Ahmedabad.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Sunday, 05th May 2024, at Muthi Ghat Jammu at 9:00 A.M.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Samast Parivar: Challu's, Tickoo's, Sapru's, Sadhu's, Thaploo's, Nagri's, Teng's, Wali's, Sekhon's, Koul's, Mathur's, Pratap's,  
7780832368, 98798 14900, 7016545742



**Sh. Bansil Lal Challu**

## OBITUARY/TENTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother Smt. Rupawati Pandita W/o Late Sh. Sarwanand Pandita originally from Maidanpora, Lolaab Distt. Kupwara A/p community Hall, Lane No. 1, Block 6 Jagti, who left for her heavenly abode on 27th April, 2024.

10th Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 6th May 2024 at 8:30 AM and Assembly will be held thereafter.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sons & Daughters-in-law  
Sh. Vinod & Smt. Neema Pandita  
Sh. Ramesh & Smt. Sunita Pandita  
Smt. Anjali W/o Late Sh. Anil Pandita  
Daughters & Sons-in-law  
Smt. Santosh & Sh. Man Mohan Pandita  
Smt. Teja & Sh. Moji Lal Pandita  
Smt. Shashi W/o Late Sh. Shubhan Ji Mallia  
Deeply missed by Grand Children.  
Mobile : 95967 28373, 91039 80827



**Smt. Rupawati Pandita**

## 10TH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR DEAR MOTHER SMT. INDRANI KOUL W/O LT. SH. LAMBOODAR NATH KOU, ORIGINALLY R/O SYED ALI AKBAR, FATEH KADAL, SRINAGAR, D/O LT. PT. GANA KOU, MAGARMAL BAGH, SRINAGAR, LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 28TH APRIL 2024.

10TH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 6TH MAY 2024 AT MURADNAGAR GHAT, GHAZIABAD, UP.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
MRS. SHAMA & K.L. AMBARDAR - DAUGHTER & S/L  
MRS. NEENA & SURESH MATTOO - DAUGHTER & S/L  
MRS. VIJAY LAXMI & SURENDER KAU - SON & D/L  
MRS. BABLI & RAMESH KOU - SON & D/L  
GRAND CHILDREN: MRS. SUNITA & SANJAY DHAR, MS. SUSHMA AMBARDAR, SWATI, SUKIRTI MATTOO, DR. SUNNY KALL, SHALINI KALL, SAAKSHI & RAHUL KOU, RETIKA & MAKSON TICKOO  
SMRITI, SIDDHARTH DHAR, SHUBHAM AMBARDAR - GREAT GRAND CHILDREN  
F-703, APEX ATHENA, SEC. 75, NOIDA - UP MOB: 98737 43175; 9419195722; 9469677790



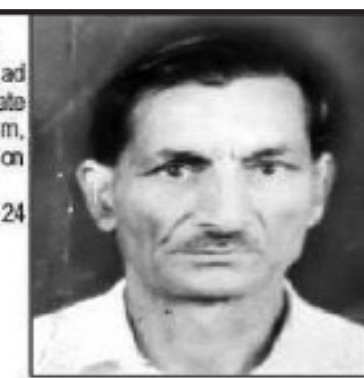
**SMT. INDRANI KOUL**

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, it is informed the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Gopi Nath Pandita S/o Late Sh. Shamboo Nath Pandita of Village Kachwa Muqam, Baramulla, Kashmir at present Pouni Chack, Jammu on 26th April 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 6th May 2024 (Sunday) at Muthi Ghat at 9:00 A.M

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Wife : Smt. Gopi Shri Pandita  
Son & Daughters in law :  
Sh. Tej Kumar Pandita (Swastik Medicafe Jagji) & Smt. Usha Pandita  
Grand Sons :  
Sh. Anoop Pandita & Smt. Vitasta Pandita  
Ayushman Pandita  
Samast Pandita Parivar



**Sh. Gopi Nath Pandita**

## 10TH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI-UTHALA/13TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother Smt. Champa Kumari W/o Late Sh. Sudeshan Lal Sharma Resident of House No. 36 Sarwal Colony Jammu on 25th of April 2024.

The 10th Day shall be performed on 4th of May (Saturday) at Laksh Sanan Ghar Sarwal near Dinesh Eye Clinic at 10.30 AM. The Kriya shall be performed on 5th of May (Sunday) at 12 Noon at our residence.

Rasam Pagri/Uthala on 6th of May (Monday) from 5 PM to 6 PM at Kishor Colony Jammu Ghar. 13th Day on 7th of May (Tuesday) at 11:30 AM at our residence.

**Grief Stricken**  
Daughters-in-law and Sons  
Smt. Pooja Sharma and Late Sh. Ashok Kumar Sharma  
Smt. Geeta Sharma and Sh. Subash Chander Sharma  
Smt. Renu and Sh. Anur Sharma  
Smt. Renu and Sh. Pooja Sharma  
Daughters and Sons-in-law  
Smt. Rana Vasudeva and Late Sh. Vijay Sharma  
Smt. Neelam Sharma and Sh. Subash Sharma  
Smt. Numa Baidyal and Sh. Sanjay Baidyal  
Smt. Sushma Sainey and Sh. Kuldip Sainey  
Grand Sons  
Mr. Nikhil Sharma, Mr. Akul Sharma  
Mr. Abheav Sharma, Mr. Mukul Sharma  
Mr. Akash Sharma, Mr. Yug Sharma  
Mr. Ansh Sharma, Mr. Satyam Sharma



**Smt. Champa Kumari**

The Great Grand Son  
Vivan Sharma  
M Nos. 9419223121, 9622558907,  
7051063590

## TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Raj Devi Wife of Lt. Shri Girdhari Lal Gupta, R/O House No. 296, Sector No. 9, Nanak Nagar Jammu on 26-04-2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on Sunday 05-05-2024 at Ram Darbar Mandir, Nai Basti, Jammu at 11 AM to 12.00 Noon.  
Kriya will be performed on Wednesday 08-05-2024 at 12.00 Noon at our residence House No. 296, Sector No. 9, Nanak Nagar Jammu.

**Grief Stricken :**  
Daughters-in-law & Sons  
Smt. Meenu Gupta & Rajinder Gupta  
Smt. Anjana Gupta & Pawan Gupta  
Daughters & Sons-in-law  
Smt. Neelam Gupta & Subhash Gupta  
Smt. Jyoti Gupta & Ravi Gupta  
Smt. Kanchan Gupta & Naresh Gupta  
Mob : 9419211757, 9419020380



**Smt. Raj Devi**

## TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Jagdish Chander Bhatti (Retd. KAS & Radio Stage artist) H/o Late Smt. Shakuntala Devi R/o House No. 253-F, Sainik Colony, Jammu on 26th April, 2024.

TENTH DAY shall be performed at Ram Mandir, Sec-D, Sainik Colony, Jammu (Ramliha Chowk, near VPS Sare) on 05th May 2024 (Sunday) at 11:00 AM.

KRIYA shall be performed at our residence House No. - 253, Sec F, Ramakrishna Lane, Sainik Colony, Jammu on 08th, May 2024 (Wednesday).

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Daughter-in-law & Son:  
Dr. Rashmi Abrol (Mumbai) & Prof. Pawanesh Abrol (Dept of CS & IT University of Jammu)  
Sons-in-law & Daughters:  
Adv. Sanjay Sachdeva & Smt. Darshan Jyoti  
Sh. Ashok Kumar & Smt. Vaishno Jyoti  
Sister-in-law & Brothers:  
Smt. Lata & Sh. C. C. Abrol  
Prof. P. C. Abrol, H/o Late Smt. Vijay Abrol  
Late Sh. Narendra Abrol  
Brothers-in-law & Sisters:  
Sh. Shamlati Soni H/o Late Smt. Binla Soni  
Late Sh. Davinder Sareen & Late Smt. Nimla



**Sh. Jagdish Chander Bhatti**  
1928-2024

Sh. Des Raj Mohindru & Smt. Kanta Rani  
Smt. Veena Kapoor W/o Late Sh. MM Kapoor  
Grand Children:  
Shivam Sachdeva, Diksha Sachdeva, Sudhanshu Pandey, Prema, Lavanya Abrol, Shubhima Abrol  
And all the Family Members  
Mobile No: 9419122511, 9419228017

## SHRADHANJALI/TENTH DAY

It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we announce the passing away of our beloved mother Kundani Dhar, fondly known Rani ji in the early morning hours of May 02/2024 at her Delhi residence. She was surrounded by family members as she left peacefully for heavenly abode. She was a woman of great perseverance, courage and mental strength who had seen and experienced all in his lifetime.

A caring and loving mother, Doting grandmother and who lived a fulfilling happy life, leaving behind beautiful memories in our hearts that will continue to guide and inspire us. Namaste to a great pious soul!

Tenth Day shall be performed on 10th May at 8 AM at Murad Nagar Ghat Uttar Pradesh.  
Remembered Forever by:  
Daughters-in-law & Sons:  
Smt. Sunila & Sh. Ravinder Dhar  
Grand Daughter-in-law & Grand Sons:  
Smt. Shivans & Sh. Deepak Dhar  
Sh. Anuj Dhar  
Sh. Abhigyan Dhar  
Great Grand Kids: Master Aarav Dhar, Miss Aariana Dhar  
Ravinder Dhar: +91-9810066727  
R.K. Dhar: +91-9419194515



**Kundani Dhar**

## 10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother Smt. Sheela Dhar W/o Late Sh. Ganga Dhar of Brait Angan, Uma Nagri presently at H.No. 19 Lane 12, Huzoori Bagh Bohri, who left for heavenly abode on 28th of April 2024.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 7th of May 2024 at Muthi Ghat at 9 AM.

**Grief Stricken**  
Sh. V. N. Bhat - Brother-in-law  
Girja & Sh. Vinod Raina - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Renoo Bhat - Daughter  
Vijay Bhat - Son  
Rishab, Riya, Tanaya - Grand Children  
Samast Raina & Bhat Parivar



**Smt. Sheela Dhar**

## 10TH DAY/KRIYA

IN REMEMBRANCE OF OUR BELOVED LATE SMT. KRISHANA GUPTA W/O DWARKA NATH GUPTA

THE PROGRAM IS AS FOLLOWS :-  
10TH DAY - 04-MAY-2024 AT PARADISE CHINOR ROAD AT 10 AM.

KRIYA - 07-MAY-2024 AT OUR RESIDENCE H. NO. 21 LANE 2/7 BLOCK ROOP NAGAR ENCLAVE JAMMU.

MAY HER SOUL BE BLESSED WITH ETERNAL PEACE  
IN GRIEF  
PRIYA GUPTA & KUSHAL GUPTA (DAUGHTER IN LAW & SON)  
SHREYANSH (GRAND SON)  
SWASTIKA (GRAND DAUGHTER)  
MOB : 9419169004, 8899732939



**Smt. Krishana Gupta**

## TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Sham Lal Sharma S/o Late Sh. Bharam Dutt Sharma R/o Koolah at present Patel Nagar W.No.20 Opp. Radha Krishan Temple, Kathua-184101 left for heavenly abode on 26th April, 2024.

Tenth Day shall be performed at our residence Patel Nagar, W.No.20, Opposite Radha Krishan Temple, Kathua on 5th May, 2024 (Sunday) at 10 am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Son & Daughter-in-law  
Mr. Sushant Dhotra & Mrs. Anji Sharma  
Mr. Peshant Dhotra - Son  
Sh. Jawahar Lal Sharma & Smt. Shakti Sharma - Brother & Bhabhi  
Sh. Chaman Lal Sharma & Smt. Pooja Sharma - Brother & Bhabhi  
Sh. Vinod Sharma & Smt. Savita Sharma - Brother & Bhabhi  
Mr. Triyash Dhotra - Grand Son  
Phone No. 9324177441, 9833973410, 9619763040, 9906119066, 9419113429, 8082126317



**Sh. Sham Lal Sharma**

## DISCLAIMER

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## DSS celebrates 'Save Water Save Birds Day' with enthusiasm

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 4: Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS) celebrated 'Save Water Save Birds Day' with great enthusiasm today at the Dogra Sadar Sabha Bhawan, Jammu. The event was organized in collaboration with several organizations including the Dogra Educational Trust, Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Management Trust, J&K Ex-Services League, Management Committee of Makkah Masjid, Bathindi, and the Forest Department of Jammu.

The event involved exchange of views on nature preservation and care of flora-fona.

President DSS Th. Gulchain Singh Charak distributed thousands of earthen 'hang-pots' to be hung on the trees and other places in homes, schools and offices and filled with water regularly. This act of kindness helps many a thirsty tiny creatures in this season of simmering heat and saves their lives as the mercury soars high in the coming months.

While speaking on the occasion, Charak, Former Minister, informed



that this initiative has been spearheaded by the 120-year-old sole representative body of the Dogras nearly 19 years ago.

The primary objective of organizing this event was to raise public awareness and foster compassion towards birds, especially amidst the rapid urbanization and diminishing natural water bodies, once abundant just a few decades ago.

Many prominent citizens along with children from educational institutions, teaching fraternity,

army veterans, officers from the State Forest Department, philanthropists and students joined in this noble effort and humane cause.

The participated guests appreciated the great peaceful effort of kindness and admired the participation from mingled cross sections of society without any reservations or distinctions.

The former minister Th. Gulchain Singh Charak also said that besides saving the tiny lives of the birds the event is also a reminder to the human-

ity to save water, which is getting scarce and costlier throughout the world over. The predications are that the futuristic wars may be fought over water. Sh Charak requested participants in large numbers to keep the 'hang pots' filled up and placed conveniently for the birds to quench their thirst in free from fear surroundings during the summer months.

He also called upon people to save precious potable water and adopt rain water harvesting for use in non-drinking activi-

ties.

The children drawn from various Institutions like Dogra Hr. Sec. School, Shastri Nagar, Rich Harvest, Bari Brahmana, Humanity Public School, Bassi kalan, Oriental Academy Sr. Secondary School, Fauji Public School, Rajinder Vihar, Dogra Law College, Dogra College of Education, Dogra Degree College Bari Brahmana, participated in the event.

In the end large a number of students, Numberdar, Chowkidars and prominent citizens shouting slogans "Aao Pakshiyon ko Pani Pilyan, Pani Bachayein" entered the Maharaja Hari Singh Zanana Park, and hung their pots filled with water on the trees for birds.

Prominent among those who expressed their views on the occasion were Lt. Gen. R.K Sharma, AVSM, SM, G.A Qureshi, G.A Khawaja, Col. Karan Singh, Col. V.K Sahi, Gambhir Dev Singh Charak, Janak Khajuria, Ravinder Singh, Regional Director Social Forestry, C.M Seth IFS Retd. and Siddique, Former Additional Advocate General.

## Altaf Bukhari warns against equating participation in LS polls with referendum

SRINAGAR, May 4 (Agencies): Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari lashed out at political leaders who equate participation in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections with a referendum, stating that "such politicians are once again deceiving the people of Jammu and Kashmir and leading them towards death and destruction."

Addressing a public meeting in Fateh Kadal area of Srinagar district, Bukhari, as per Kashmir News Service (KNS), said that during the ongoing Lok Sabha election, some political leaders are attempting to instigate an uncertain situation in J&K by likening participation in the elections to a referendum.

He welcomed the statement made by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq regarding the ongoing Lok Sabha polls, in which Farooq emphasized that "participation in the electoral process shouldn't



be treated as a referendum." "I appreciate Mirwaiz Umar Farooq's statement that elections should not be equated with a referendum. Those who claim that this election is no less than a referendum are leading Kashmir astray once again," Bukhari remarked.

Expressing gratitude to the people of Srinagar for their participation in the rally, Bukhari assured them that their

concerns would be addressed. "I want to assure the people of Shehr-e-Khaas that I will personally address the challenges you are facing. I will remove obstacles from your path with my utmost diligence," Bukhari assured.

Responding to a query, Bukhari stated, "The Jammu and Kashmir Police belong to us, and I have the right to critique them."

## Cloudy weather with possibility of light rain forecast as night temp rises in J&K

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 4 (Agencies): Weather department here on Saturday forecast generally cloudy weather with light rain and thunder at a few places in Jammu and Kashmir during the next 24 hours.

A meteorological department official said that from May 5-10, generally dry weather is expected but afternoon thundershower activity can't be ruled out at a few places.

From May 11-13, he said, generally cloudy weather with light rain and snow (over higher reaches) is expected at many places. Also, he said, there is a possibility of thunder activity at a few places during these days.

Regarding temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 11.0°C against 7.8°C on the previous night and it was 1.3°C above normal for the summer capital of JK for this time of the year.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 10.0°C against 6.2°C on the

previous night and it was 1.8°C above normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

Pahalgam recorded a low of 6.1°C against 1.7°C on the previous night and it was 1.1°C above normal for the famous resort in south Kashmir.

Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, recorded a minimum of 6.1°C against 5.9°C and it was 0.3°C above normal, the official said.

Kupwara town recorded a minimum of 9.4°C against 4.8°C on the previous night and it was 1.0°C above normal there, the official said.

Gulmarg recorded a minimum of 3.5°C against 4.0°C on the previous night and it was below normal by 0.8°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Jammu, he said, recorded a low of 22.1°C against 17.6°C on the previous night and it was below normal by 1.2°C for the winter capital of J&K. Banihal recorded a low of 11.4°C and Batote 13.5°C, he said.

## Police arrests 2 drug peddlers in Bala; Contraband substances recovered

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 4 (Agencies): Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police have arrested 2 drug peddlers in Baramulla and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

A police party of Police Station Baramulla headed by SHO PS Baramulla at a checkpoint established at Binner Crossing Baram-

ulla, intercepted two persons. During their search, 80 grams of contraband Charas like substances was recovered from their possession. They were later identified as Javid Ahmad Lone son of Mohd Ramzan & Tariq Ahmad Lone son of Gh Nabi both residents of Khadniyar Baramulla. They have been arrested and shifted to PS Baramulla where they remained in custody.

Accordingly, case under relevant sections of law have been registered at

Police Station Baramulla and investigations have been initiated.

We urge the common masses that if you witness drug peddling or any other crime anywhere near you, feel free to contact nearest police establishment or dial 112. People are requested to cooperate with police in curbing the menace of drugs from the society. We reassure the community members that police will act tough against the criminals as per law.

## Prominent socio-political activist Waqar Bhatti, his wife joins Apni Party

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 4: In a significant development, prominent socio-political activist Waqar H. Bhatti, along with his wife Roohi Bhatti, joined Apni Party today in the presence of the party president, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari. Roohi Bhatti is also a prominent activist, having served as coordinator in PDP's Youth Wing and Tribal Cell. The

couple joined the party during a special event held at the party headquarters in Srinagar.

According to a press release issued here, Bukhari gave a warm welcome to Waqar H. Bhatti and his wife Roohi Bhatti into the party fold.

He said, "I wholeheartedly welcome you both into the Apni Party. It always gives me pleasure to see well-meaning personalities, especially

political and social leaders and activists, joining hands. It indicates that people recognize Apni Party's unambiguous agenda and policies."

"Together, we can strive to ensure permanent peace, and enduring prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir. We can elevate this region to new heights of development, and we will ensure the political and economic empowerment of people here."

## Artisans of J&K's Kupwara claim to have made Asia's largest hand-knotted carpet

SRINAGAR, May 4 (Agencies): Artisans of Wayil village in north Kashmir's Kralpora Kupwara have claimed to make Asia's largest hand-knotted carpet. This hand-knotted Kashmiri carpet is 72x40 feet, covering a vast area of 2,880 square feet.

This masterpiece making has rejuvenated the passion among those who had left the art due to little revenue outputs.

According to artisans, the making of this exclusive hand-knotted carpet took over 25 artisans around eight long years to complete this masterpiece. The whole carpet industry of Kashmir Valley takes pride in its creation. The intricate weaving of this exceptional carpet was overseen by two seasoned veterans of the craft, Fayaz Ahmed Shah and Abdul Gaffar Sheikh, whose unwavering dedication ensured the completion of this monumental piece despite various challenges.

"This was a maiden carpet piece we made. We have never made such a big carpet in Kashmir ever. We had to put our minds to a lot



of things as it required a huge loom to be woven on. It was a big challenge and thank God it's been finally completed. I am sure it will be sold abroad, and I am sure that in future we will make something bigger than this," said Fayaz Ahmed Shah, a craft dealer.

The last eight years of weaving this masterpiece have not been easy. There have been multiple impediments the artisans encountered with particularly the Covid19 pandemic. The extended lockdowns led to manifold disruptions.

Pertinently Kashmir is famous for its Pashmina Shawls and Silk Carpets has now found a new course with the creation of this masterpiece. According to the craft

dealers, a good number of artisans are returning back to looms to pick up carpet weaving again.

"Since this masterpiece came into being many artisans who had left the art approach us once again and displayed willingness to work again. We hope the way any employees get paid, it has to be the same and equal wages for them as well. The artisan community needs to have a life of dignity to make them able to feed their families in a dignified way. If artisans will be paid handsomely they will never leave the work. This masterpiece is a teamwork and from designs to artisans, everyone has worked hard in this endeavor," Shah said.

## International Conference on ICMSDT-2024 concludes at CUJ

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 4: Three day International Conference on Materials for Sustainable Development and Technologies (ICMSDT-2024) concluded successfully by capturing the interest of prominent figures, specialists, and attendees across the globe. Dr. Tanuj Kumar, presented the conference Valedictory initial remark. The valedictory session was honoured by the presence of esteemed chief guest Prof. K. K. Raina, Vice-Chancellor, MS Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, Bengaluru, India and Guest of Honour Prof. Sabu Thomas, MG University Kerala, India. This session marked a significant moment in the ongoing global dialogue on sustainable practices and environmental conservation through materials. Dr. Vishal Singh deliv-



ered the closing remarks of the conference and revealed the recipients of the awards for oral and poster presentations. Dr. Pragati Kumar, shared his remarks on the experience of organizing the conferences like this and extracted feedback from the participants to improve the conference proceedings. Prof. Balaji acknowledged the support and motivation rendered from Central University of Jammu, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain for organizing such academic events. The conference, spanning three days, witnessed

a dynamic exchange of ideas, insights, and strategies focused on tackling urgent environmental challenges and advancing sustainable development in diverse sectors. Attendees, including scholars, scientists, entrepreneurs, and students, actively participated in productive conversations and delivered presentations on important topics: Exciting Innovations for Sustainable Development and Technologies.

The valedictory session was graced by the presence of Prof. K. K. Raina, Vice-Chancellor, who delivered a thought-

provoking address. He emphasized the significance of materials in achieving sustainable development and stressed the need for collective action to protect the planet for future generations. He also concludes his remark, emphasizing the significance of the energy source found in Reasi, J&K, which he attributes to the blessings of Maa Vaishno Devi.

Prof. Sabu Thomas, the esteemed Guest of Honour, graciously shared his valuable insights, praising the conference for its holistic

approach to addressing sustainability concerns. The importance of technology, education, and community engagement in promoting meaningful change and cultivating a culture of responsibility for the environment was highlighted.

The conference success was further enhanced by the enthusiastic involvement of delegates from a range of national and international institutions, underscoring the worldwide dedication to a sustainable future. Participants lauded the event for its stimulating sessions, engaging workshops, and the opportunity it offered for exchanging knowledge and enhancing skills. Following the conclusion of the conference meeting, Dr. Praveen Kumar Mehta expressed his gratitude to all of the delegates, attendees, and students who were present.

## DLSA Samba organizes legal awareness programme

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 4: Under the aegis of JK Legal Services Authority and as per the Action Plan issued by J&K Legal Services Authority, (JKLSA) for the month of May, 2024 and also under the insightful directions and overall supervision of Adnan Sayeed, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority Samba, (also Pr. District & Sessions Judge Samba), District Legal Services Authority, Samba Rekha Kapoor Nischal, Secretary, DLSA Samba, organized a legal awareness programme on "The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) of Children Act, 2015" for the children in conflict with law, Members of JJB Samba, CWC Samba and DCP Unit Samba one day programme i.e. on Saturday in the premises of JJ Board, Samba.

Adnan Sayeed, Chairman, DLSA Samba was the Chief Guest of the Programme who in his address highlighted the objectives of the NALSA Scheme that outline the basic rights and benefits and educated the participants on child rights and their protection available under the NALSA Child Friendly Scheme.

The programme had the presence of Preet Simran K Grover, CJM Samba, Ananta Raina, Principal Magistrate, JJB Samba, Nawaz Shareef, District Child Protection Officer, Samba, Neemisha Rajput, Chairperson, CWC Samba, Hitesh Sharma, Legal Aid Defence Counsel, DLSA Samba, Members of JJB and CWC Samba, Prosecuting Officer of JJB, Samba, Staff and PLVs of DLSA Samba.

Hitesh was the speaker of the programme who in his address discussed the NALSA Schemes as well as the rights of the child available under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) of Chil-

dren Act, 2015.

Neemisha Rajput, Chairperson CWC Samba also spoke on the principles which are to be kept in mind by the Members of JJB and CWC while dealing with Children in need of Care and Protection and Children in Conflict with Law.

Rekha Kapoor Nischal presented vote of thanks on the occasion whereas Nawaz Shareef presented a formal welcome address.

The proceedings of programme were conducted by Tania Pargal, Legal Aid Defence Counsel, Samba.

The objective of the programme was to make aware the participants as to what are the basic rights and benefits available to them, role of Legal Services Institutions in bridging the gap between Children in need of Care and Protection and children in Conflict with Law and the Government Departments and also to provide child friendly legal services to children.



## EDITORIAL

## Renewable Energy

India has made impressive strides in the renewable energy sector, positioning itself as a frontrunner in the global renewable energy market. Thanks to central government policies and initiatives, technological advancements, and significant foreign investments, India has witnessed remarkable growth in renewable energy capacity.

India has surpassed its renewable energy target of 175GW by 2022 and is expected to reach 174GW by 2023, according to a report by the International Energy Agency. The country's renewable energy capacity is projected to grow to 280 GW by 2025, accounting for 37% of the total energy supply. With favourable policies, technological advancements and foreign investment, India has made strides in the renewable energy sector, notably in solar and wind energy. The country's renewable energy success has also positively impacted greenhouse gas emissions and air quality.

India has made impressive strides in the renewable energy sector, positioning itself as a frontrunner in the global renewable energy market. Thanks to central government policies and initiatives, technological advancements, and significant foreign investments, India has witnessed remarkable growth in renewable energy capacity.

According to the latest report from the International Energy Agency (IEA), India's installed renewable energy capacity will reach 174 GW in 2023, accounting for about 37% of the country's total energy supply. The report indicates that India has exceeded its target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2022, with a projected capacity of 280 GW by 2025.

The government has played a proactive role in promoting the use of renewable energy sources. The flagship National Solar Mission, launched in 2010, aimed to install 100 GW of solar power by 2022, which was later increased to 450 GW by 2030. The Centre has also launched a wind energy program with a target of achieving a capacity of 60 GW by 2022. These ambitious targets have been instrumental in promoting renewable energy adoption in the country.

India's renewable energy sector has also attracted significant foreign investments, with companies from around the world investing in solar and wind power projects in the country. According to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, foreign direct investment (FDI) in India's renewable energy sector stood at \$251 million (Rs 20.5 billion) in the third quarter (Q3) of the financial year (FY) 2023, with the top investing countries being Singapore, Mauritius, the Netherlands, and Japan.

The decreasing cost of solar and wind power has been a significant driving force behind India's renewable energy growth. According to a report by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), the cost of solar power in India has fallen by 84% since 2010, making it cheaper than coal-based power in most parts of the country. Similarly, the cost of wind power has fallen by 49% in the past decade, making it one of the most cost-effective sources of energy in India.

India's renewable energy success can also be attributed to the rapid technological advancements in the sector. The country is a pioneer in floating solar technology, with the world's largest floating solar power plant, located in Kerala. The plant has a capacity of 500 kilowatts and is expected to generate 7.5 lakh units of electricity per year.

## Artificial intelligence algorithms to curb cheating, impersonation for upcoming competitive exams



By: Vijay GarG

Malpractices in competitive exams undermine the integrity of the examination process. To combat this, it is essential for exam authorities to implement strict measures such as thorough invigilation, and use of advanced technology for monitoring. The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to curb cheating can be crucial as more exams return to physical forms post-pandemic.

The National Testing Agency (NTA) recently integrated AI as one of the many measures to control impersonation and cheating in competitive exams. A case of impersonation and a few cases of cheating and unfair means were reported in JEE Main Session 2. Cases of impersonation were identified by using AI-induced face recognition. To curb the use of unfair means, the NTA deployed AI tools, including iFace, to ascertain the identity of candidates by cross-checking the photo on the admit card with the live photograph of the candidate taken at the exam centre.

Director general, NTA, says, "The command control room of NTA set up in Delhi was keeping a watch on the entire exercise across several centres on its monitors. The real-time monitoring of exam centres through the command control room ensured vigilant and prompt action against any suspicious activities."

Monitoring the moves

"The command room ensures that the invigilators at the exam centres are also on alert. If any invigilator on exam duty is seen sitting or standing for a long time, or if candidates are seen talking, the AI analyses and highlights that centre on the screen at the control room," says Director

"Flying squads were deployed by the agency. However, squads cannot be sent to every centre, so the major part was being handled with the help of AI tools. However, we tried to deploy flying squads in a more structured manner and the use of AI was also improvised. Mapping and data analytics were integrated, and a lot of features had been added in a planned manner. We implemented the measure this year starting from JEE exam and CUET PG. It would be done for the ensuing competitive exams as well like NEET, CUET UG," he says.

Potential impersonators

The NTA carries out vulnerability mapping to identify potential impersonators. "A set pattern is fed into the system, and if there is any unusual activity, AI highlights it. We match the photos of all candidates, including those of the last year's toppers since they are potential impersonators as they know the subjects well and can solve the paper," says Director

AI algorithms can analyse candidate behaviour during exams, such as unusual movements or interactions, and flag suspicious activities in real-time. AI tools also analyse data and patterns to identify areas prone to malpractices. This allows exam authorities to allocate resources more effectively and focus monitoring efforts where they are most needed.

"We analyse and map the vulnerability based on these patterns and keep a watch. Even after the exam is over, NTA continues to study the patterns and analyse video data to identify any wrongdoings. We use data analytics, including AI, right from the registration process,

centre allocation, and conducting of exams to identify any malpractices. Students will avoid unfair means after learning about these measures," says Singh.

UPSC initiatives

Deepanshu Singh, UPSC mentor and course coordinator for UP CM Abhyuday Yojana, says, "This year, the UPSC too introduced new guidelines asking candidates to upload photographs not older than 10 days from the start of the online application process and that the appearance need to be maintained till the end of the examination. The authorities must have used these photos to feed into their system and use AI tools to check impersonation and other related frauds during the exams."

"With most of the competitive exams in the country being held in the computer-based mode, there are tools which raises an alert by monitoring the eye movement and facial expression of the candidate. With the help of advanced algorithms, the authorities can check how much time a candidate is giving to each question. If the candidate is distracted or spending too much time on a particular question, there are tools to assess and detect possible anomalies during online exams."

Use of AI tools in pen-paper mode is limited, but in terms of ease and security, there are a few AI tools through which copies can be checked, he adds. "For example, in the UPSC Main exam, if a candidate has one handwriting in seven papers and a different handwriting in the eight papers, tools can analyse the handwriting based on pattern recognition to detect malpractices."

"There are a lot of things that are still not in the public domain as it might hinder the approach of the agencies towards tackling malpractices. AI in education is still in a developing stage. Not much has been done in this field as compared to fields such as cybersecurity, healthcare. There is a need for

educational authorities to use AI to make the system robust, fast, and secure."

Maintaining ethical standards  
"Maintaining ethical standards among exam officials is important. If officials are corrupt or hesitant to act against malpractices, it can undermine the entire system's integrity and allow cheating to persist. AI can check impersonation to only an extent. If there are look-alike brothers, then it may not be able to identify, and the invigilator will allow the candidate inside the exam centre."

There is a need to incorporate AI technology in all competitive exams. "There is also a need to create professors of integrity above the invigilator for every exam centre who can ensure any oversight or malpractices. To prevent cheating, paper setters should also be instructed not to repeat a question. This can prevent cheating in examinations," he adds.

Chief business officer, TalentSprint, says, "The possibility of cheating in competitive examinations, particularly in online competitive examinations, poses a huge risk to deserving candidates. AI can play a critical role in building safeguards in exam proctoring. Facial recognition methods can be used to weed out possible instances of impersonation. Deep digital proctoring can transmit the setting details, including possibility of any hidden devices that might get missed in generic proctoring."

"AI can be used intelligently in physical exams as well and in fact has been put into practical use for some competitive examinations already. We see this continuing as four years since the pandemic, more exams return to physical forms."

(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational  
columnist Malout)

## Herbal Face Packs to Revitalize the Skin



By: Shahnaz Husain

Summer has arrived - and so have all our summer skin problems. Oiliness, acne, dullness and whatnot!

Summer can be a challenging season for our skin, especially if we live in hot and humid areas or spend a lot of time outdoors

With the scorching heat waves engulfing us as soon as we step out, the excessive sweat makes it extremely difficult to keep on any skincare or makeup product, naturally turning the face dull, greasy and prone to infections.

Taking care of your skin during the summer months is essential to avoid common skin issues and maintain healthy, glowing skin.

Going for a facial every time you feel your skin unattractive is not a healthy practice as the salons are expensive, time consuming and use nothing but harsh chemical products.

If you want to rejuvenate your skin by removing excess dirt, dead

skin cells and oil in your face without spending a single penny for a salon like effect then head for your kitchen pantry than departmental store for organic face masks which will also save money and time both

Many ingredients available at home make ideal ingredients for face packs for refreshing and revitalizing the skin, as well as enhancing beauty. Fresh home ingredients leave the skin refreshed and glowing. With homemade packs allergic reactions are rare. You can relax and pamper yourself in your own home, where many ingredients with beauty benefits are easily available, like honey, curd, milk, eggs, fruits, and spices. These can be easily mixed into a face pack. Many other ingredients can be added like rose water, dried and powdered orange and lemon peels, ground almonds, oats, wheat bran (choker), gram flour, chocolate, wine and so on. Applying such ingredients can actually nourish and revitalize the skin powerfully, while others, like tulsi, neem, fenugreek, cinnamon, sandalwood and turmeric have antiseptic, healing and soothing properties.

Here are a few home-made packs for refreshing and revitalizing the skin:

Make a cold infusion of Hibiscus flowers, by allowing them to stand overnight in cold water, in a ratio of one to six. Next morning crush the flowers. Strain and keep the water. Mix the flowers with 3 teaspoons oats, 2 drops tea tree oil and add the

water to mix into a paste. This hibiscus pack helps to cleanse, refresh and tone the skin, adding a glow. Apply on the face and wash off after 20 to 30 minutes.

Take honey and yogurt and add a few tablespoons of red wine. Apply this on the face and leave it on for 20 minutes. Rinse with plain water. This softens and moisturizes the skin, removes tan and also adds a glow.

Avocado pulp can be mixed with aloe vera gel and applied on the face to nourish and moisturize the skin. Wash off with plain water after 20 minutes. Fresh and raw avocado should be used. Avocado contains about 20 vitamins and minerals. It is rich in antioxidants, which help to delay visible signs of skin ageing.

Mix cucumber and ripe papaya pulp with curd and two teaspoons oats. Lemon juice can also be added. Apply on face and neck. Wash it off after half an hour. Helps to remove tan and brighten the skin.

For oily skin, soak one tablespoon moong dal in water for a few hours. Make a paste and add one tablespoon tomato pulp. Apply on face with a light massage. Wash off with water after 20 minutes. Reduces oiliness and brightens the skin.

Take two teaspoons choker (wheat bran), one teaspoon each ground almonds, honey, curd and egg white or rose water. Mix together and apply on the face, avoiding lips and area around eyes. Wash off after 30 minutes.

Allow marigold flowers to stand in warm water overnight. Add

yogurt and sandalwood paste and mix together to make a smooth paste. Apply on the face, avoiding the lips and area around eyes. Wash it off after 20 minutes. Marigold has a soothing and germicidal effect on skin irritation and eruptions. It may be used to control pimples and rashes. It has an astringent effect, reducing oiliness and closing the pores. It is ideal for normal to oily and combination skin.

For dry skin, add red wine to aloe vera gel and dried milk powder. Apply on the face and wash it off after 20 minutes.

Add a few strands of saffron to warm milk and wheat bran (choker). Let it stand for a couple of hours. Then apply it on the face, using cotton wool. It is said to lighten skin colour over a period of time.

Mix together three teaspoons cocoa powder and 2 teaspoons oats with egg white and one teaspoon each honey and curd. Adjust the ingredients, so that it is a thick paste, which does not drip. If it is too thin, add more cocoa powder. To make it thinner, add more curd or milk. For dry skin, add egg yolk, instead of egg white. First cleanse the skin and then apply the mask, avoiding the lips and area around eyes. Wash it off after 20 to 30 minutes with plain water

(The author is an  
international fame  
beauty expert and is  
called the Herbal Queen  
of India)



## Sadhguru Madhuparamhans delivers religious sermons at Rakhbandu

### Top News Report

SAMBA, May 4: Sadhguru Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj of Sahib Bandji, while delighting the Sangat with the nectar of his sermons at Rakhbandu on Saturday, said why there is joy in that supreme abode because there is no mind there and there is no illusion there.

This is a game of time in this world. Kaal Purush is troubling the souls by giving them new problems every day.

Even Sahib said that there will be many diseases in Kalyug. So that the living beings remain busy in healing the body and are not able to do devotion.

It is a complicated situation at this time. The



soul is entangled in sinful activities. Parents nurture and raise the child. After marriage the child abandons his parents. Children give pain throughout life. Have your problems. This is all a game of time. When you are chanting the name you are safe. Otherwise you are not safe. Why is there happiness in that country, because there is no time there.

No one is fearless in this world. But the name that Sahib is talking about is not the same name that people are chanting in the world. There are crores of such names in the world, but this is not him. The true name, the name that Sahib is talking about, the name by attaining which the soul can go to its own country, the immortal world, that name is found only with the true Sadguru. This name is a divine power, which Sadguru gives to the disciple at the time of donation. This is a lively name, it is alive.

Time is living with the living being. The attack of the mind is nowhere else. His attack is on your attention. The divine vision is in your meditation only. It is the

mind that hinders self-knowledge. When you meditate continuously, you will understand the mind. Just like a child learns to write by writing. His handwriting also keeps improving. By meditating like this, your mind will understand. Some people think that this is the work of devotees. No, it is important for everyone to meditate for self-knowledge. More attention is needed than education. Earlier our people understood.

Man has never been as lost as he is today. Earlier there were many ascetic people. But now devotion has been made a business. Within no time the sin has become too much.

Sahib ji said that you should sit in meditation

daily. It is not that you sit in meditation, switch on the button and go into the inner world. It will happen slowly. This divine vision is in meditation. That's why Sahib has said only Surti Yoga. Neither did Sahib give importance to Gyan Yoga nor did he give importance to any other yoga. Only Surti Yoga spoke. Whatever is there, is Surti only. When you have the power of name, it will not be difficult for you to control attention.

A gentleman said the same thing to me, saying that you yourself say that even the great sages have been suppressed by time, then how can we do devotion. I said that the power of name is support. After the name the work will become easier.

## Session organized on digital media at Shoolini University

### Top News Report

SOLAN/JAMMU, May 4: A session on Digital Media was organized by School of Media and Communications at Shoolini University. Key speaker of the session was Varun Bhansali.

During the course of lecture and workshops, Varun Bhansali inspired students with his deep understanding and practical experience.

He emphasized on adaptability and innovation resonated strongly with the eager young minds, instilling in them the importance of staying ahead of technological advancements to craft compelling narratives in the ever-evolving media landscape.

Paarth Sharma, Assistant Professor at School



of Media and Communication coordinated the event and provided an invaluable platform for aspiring journalists to gather from Bhansali's vast experiences.

Varun Bhansali has acquired 14 year experience in promotions, reporting, producing and writing. Varun Bhansali is a media professional with an experience over 21 years in the media industry, inspired the

students at Shoolini University with his valuable insights and expertise in the following field. He has made contributions to some platforms such as NDTV, Zee News and Republic Channel. He has also been working on his own production house, "Mishi Media", headquartered in Jaipur over seven years now and it has become the third largest digital agency in Rajasthan.

## Road Safety Club, NSS Unit organize seminar at GDC Marheen

### Top News Report

MARHEEN, May 4: The Road Safety Club and NSS volunteers of GDC Marheen organized Seminar on the theme of "Road Safety and its precautions" on Saturday.

The seminar was organized under the patronage of Dr Anupama Gupta worthy Principal of the college.

On this occasion, she addressed the students, emphasized and endeavoured to mobilize the NSS volunteers, Youth and the students of the college to carry out the campaign among the people for using helmet while driving two-wheelers, use Seat belt, zebra

crossing, traffic lights and not to give bikes and other vehicles to those who are below eighteen and not have driving license and she motivated them that it is high time to create awareness among the younger generation who are losing their precious life due to road accidents. She suggested the youth of India that they should work to curb this serious problem and try to spread wide awareness among the people to enlighten them regarding traffic rules.

Dr Arun Dev Singh, NSS Programme officer and convener of Road Safety Club also conveyed the youth that the govt of India always

provide them the right platforms and guidance related to traffic rules and they should make best use of it, he motivated the students to strive in the right direction and inform the students regarding the various rules regarding traffic measures.

On this occasion the NSS Volunteers Neha, Kanika, Surekha, Dharamveer spoke on the theme and elaborated their views. Some of the volunteers raised their questions and queries.

The faculty members who were present on the occasion Dr. Balbinder, Dr. Munisha, Dr. Shalun, Prof. Preeti, Prof. Tripti, Dr. Barneet and Dr. Reemi.

## SSP Reasi Mohita inspects Kanthan Naka, PP Dhansal, Police Station Arnas

### Top News Report

REASI, May 4: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Reasi, Mohita Sharma on Saturday paid a surprise visit to Kanthan Naka, PP Dhansal & Police Station Arnas and held casual inspection, checked all the records, malkhana and kot.

SSP Reasi also took security review of Arnas area with respect to CI grid/ special police pickets and other counter insurgency measures that are in place to thwart the design of Anti-national elements.

SSP Reasi also listened to the grievances of officials patiently and assured that their genuine demands will be

redressed on merits.

The Police Officials were also briefed by SSP Reasi that public service is the prime duty of J&K Police, reiterating that safety of human lives and public property has remained among top priorities of the force.

She said that the force, despite facing tough challenges, has succeeded in prevailing a sense of security among the public.

She said that with the active cooperation of the people, the force has succeeded in bringing peace in the District and it is our endeavour to keep the peace maintained at all levels by active participation of community.

## Residents allege unscheduled power outages in Kulgam villages

### Top News Report

KULGAM, May 4: The residents of Kharbari, Parigam, Katrasu, Ramgarh, Khandipora, Shalipora and Gundbal areas 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 said 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 took on road.

Residents of the area appeals 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.

## Army organises Candle Making Training at Chhatroo



### Top News Report

KISHTWAR, May 4: In a bid to promote skill development and empower local communities, the Indian Army organised a comprehensive Candle Making Training program at Chhatroo village of Kishtwar district of Jammu & Kashmir. This initiative aimed to enhance the livelihood opportunities for the residents of village and foster self-reliance.

The candle making

training, conducted under the auspices of the Indian Army's Community Development Program, saw enthusiastic participation of 50 people of all age groups from village Chhatroo and surrounding areas.

The training program encompassed various aspects of candle making, including raw material selection, techniques for crafting different types of candles and quality control measures. Participants were

encouraged to unleash their creativity, leading to the production of a diverse range of quality candles.

The candle making training not only provided valuable skills but also fostered a spirit of camaraderie among people of Chhatroo.

The Indian Army remains committed to supporting such initiatives that contribute to the socio-economic upliftment of communities across the Nation.

## Army organises friendly volleyball match at Patnazi

### Top News Report

KISHTWAR, May 4: Volleyball has been traditionally a popular game of Chenab region and followed passionately by people of all ages.

It is a common sight to

opportunity to the youth of the region to display their sporting talent and reinforce self-confidence, Indian Army organised a Friendly Volleyball Match at Patnazi. After a competitive and a hard fought match, the team

high spirit of bonhomie and camaraderie existing between the Army and AWAAM of the region.

The residents appreciated the sincere efforts of Indian Army in involving the youth of the region in mainstream activities



see the youth involved in playing the game on available grounds and on streets throughout Chenab Valley.

In order to provide an

from Patnazi managed to defeat their spirited opponents Team Nalini 2-1 in straight sets.

The response and participation shown by populace for the match shows

and requested that many more such popular sporting events be organised in future as well.

A total of 30 residents were present during the match.

## Army holds interaction with Veer Naris and Ex-Servicemen at Lam

### Top News Report

RAJOURI, May 4: A nation which remembers and acknowledge the sacrifice of the veterans will be in a secure hand.

Living up to the traditions of maintaining contact with Veer Naris and Veterans, Indian Army organised an interac-



tive session at Lam with Veer Naris and Ex-servicemen with an intention to check their well-being and assist them in conveying the latest policies and resolution of the tribulations faced by them in aspects of pensions or other documentation procedures.

Veer Naris were also

approached by the Indian Army and a 'Door to Door' interaction was also carried out to augment the reach out. Indian Army expressed its deepest gratitude for their sacrifice. Towards the end, Veer Naris and Ex-servicemen were felicitated by Indian Army.



## In Chandigarh, renowned poet Naresh Saxena in conversation with famous lyricist Irshad Kamil talked about the demands and challenges of his profession

Poet, author and National-award-winning director Naresh Saxena, who was in Chandigarh recently, delighted the audience with his sharp insight. In conversation with celebrated lyricist Irshad Kamil, who is currently basking in the success of Netflix film Chamkila, Saxena banished the misconception that 'anybody could be a poet'.

"When somebody asks if you can paint, we say we haven't learnt it, so the same goes for singing, sculpting and other art forms. But once you talk about poetry, everybody would say, yes, I write occasionally. This is the root problem, when you feel anybody can do it," he said.

The 85-year-old received a National Film Award — Special Mention (Non-Feature Film) in 1990 for his short film Sambandh. His book, Samundra Par Ho Rahi Hai Barish, has been translated by Jagdeep Sidhu and part of the syllabus in graduation course at Punjabi University, Patiala, for many years now. The same book is part of Master's curriculum in Haryana.

Driven by passion

According to Saxena, if one truly wished to master any art form he or she should focus on it alone and not on doing several other things simultaneously. "Then it becomes a hobby, not a passion that drives you. You can give your whole life and it would still not be enough."

Saxena advised against the idea of just freestyling in poetry, as one needed to read contem-



porary as well as established names in the any genre of poetry you relate to, if not all, not just from your region or nation but across the world. A blunt but true opinion on those claiming to be Instagram poets of today, Saxena said, "If you cannot even recite your poetry without reading it from a piece paper, that's not a good sign. How do you expect your audi-

ences and readers to remember something you don't remember yourself?"

Recalling his childhood and how poetry was a profession looked down upon by parents during those times, Saxena said he also had an interest in learning the flute but wasn't encouraged by his folks. "Afterwards, I got the opportunity to hear many poets at kavi sammelans

and also used to read a lot of poetry in newspapers. My parents never liked it; for them a poet's profession did not mean a regular income! So, I went on to become an engineer and often combated professional stress because I was a poet at heart. It gave me a better perspective on things, as I found all my answers in poetry," he said. Saxena soon started writing for television and short films, while he also completed his service as a government employee.

Saxena, who enjoys reading Suryakant Tripathi Nirala and Vinod Kumar Shukla, added, "We didn't get language through writing, we got it by listening. So, to say that one is a good poet but not a great orator of his own poetry is a contradictory statement."

Praise for Kamil

About Irshad Kamil, Saxena called him a brilliant lyricist and someone who was doing a great job in an industry like Bollywood. "Writing a poem is one thing, it's very easy as compared to what lyricist does by making a poem hummable. That too where he is restricted by the mood, music, situation... it's a tough position to be in."

About the current times, he mused, "Everything has become controversial. You can only use certain words and stay away from others; when there's so much of restriction, it's not good for artistes and art lovers. But, as they say, great art evolves from hard times, I hope for the same."

## Zeenat Aman urges industry colleagues to avoid bringing wild animals to sets 'at all costs'



Veteran actress Zeenat Aman on Friday shared her distress regarding the plight of both domestic and wild animals, urging her colleagues in the film industry to avoid bringing wild animals on the sets. Taking to Instagram, Zeenat recounted an emotional experience she had while witnessing an elderly, domestic elephant on the sets of a project. The actress posted a picture of herself wearing a blue and

white kurta, standing besides a table adorned with miniature elephant idols.

Her heartfelt note read, "I was brought to tears recently when I arrived on the sets to find an elderly, domestic elephant on the scene. She was standing on the burning asphalt, bejewelled and bedecked... and she stayed there all day as the cameras rolled. I was bound by contract to do my job, but I was absolutely

guilt-ridden that such a majestic animal suffered for my job and your entertainment. The plight of animals, both domestic and wild, has always distressed me. I do not believe that any wild animal belongs in captivity, especially not an animal as perceptive, intelligent and emotional as an elephant. From the little I have learnt about this species, I know that they are highly sentient, social animals. To keep them in captivity is to willingly support cruelty."

Making a sincere appeal to her industry friends and colleagues, she said, "It is my sincere and urgent appeal to my colleagues and compatriots in the film industry to avoid bringing wild animals to the sets at all costs. We are so lucky that India hosts the majority of the Asian elephant population in the world, and that this species is our National Heritage Animal. We are also blessed to have numerous organisations in India that work towards the welfare and conservation of this incredible animal. I am sharing a few resources from such organisations on my stories. I will be elated if you peruse them."

## Aarchi Sachdeva enters the show Meetha Khatta Pyaar Hamara

Aarchi Sachdeva will be seen portraying the character of Saanchi in Star Plus show Meetha Khatta Pyaar Hamara. Aarchi was last seen in the show Junooniyat, where she starred opposite Ankit Gupta and Gautam Vig. It will be intriguing to witness what twists and turns Aarchi's character, Saanchi, brings to the show.

Aarchi says, "I am excited and blessed to be a part of Meetha Khatta Pyaar Hamara. I came to Mumbai in January and had given auditions for some other role, not for the character of Saanchi. In the meantime, I gave several auditions, but things



did not work out and I decided to leave. However, luck was by my side, and I was short-listed for the character of Saanchi, and maybe

it was in my destiny to essay this role. Saanchi is a modern, smart, girl, but at the same time she wants what she has set her heart and eyes on."

## Prime Video has released the first-look images of My Lady Jane, which will premiere on June 27

Prime Video has released the first-look images of My Lady Jane, a quick-witted romantic series set in an alt-fantasy Tudor world. The series will premiere on June 27.

Inspired by the best-selling book, My Lady Jane is a radical retelling of English royal history, in which King Henry VIII's son Edward does not die of tuberculosis, Lady Jane Grey is not beheaded, and neither is her rascal of a husband Guildford. At the centre of this rollicking new series is the headstrong Jane who is unexpectedly



crowned queen overnight and finds herself the target of nefarious

villains coming for the crown (and her head). My Lady Jane is an epic

tale of true love and high adventure, where the damsel in distress saves

herself, her true love, and then the Kingdom.

The cast is led by newcomer Emily Bader in the titular role of Jane Grey. Starring opposite her is Edward Bluemel (Killing Eve) as Guildford Dudley. Jordan Peters (Pirates) plays King Edward. Dominic Cooper (Preacher) plays Lord Seymour, Anna Chancellor (Pennyworth) plays Jane's mother, Lady Frances Grey, and Rob Brydon (The Trip) plays Lord Dudley, Guildford's father. Jim Broadbent (The Duke) plays the Duke of Leicestershire, Jane's uncle.

## Anjali Tatrari, who plays the character of Yukti Multani in Vanshaj enjoys her role to the core



Anjali Tatrari, who plays the character of

Yukti Multani in Vanshaj, enjoys her role

to the core. She says, "Yukti is experiencing a rollercoaster of emotions. She is determined that whatever happens, she won't let her goal to win over DJ fail at any point. In the upcoming episodes, viewers will witness how Yukti manages to face and fight against DJ's traps."

Mahir Pandhi, who plays the character of DJ Mahajan, adds, "DJ's frustration spikes when he finds himself stuck identifying the real culprit caught in the CCTV footage. He is somehow convinced that it is Yukti, but doesn't have any concrete proof to support his thoughts and thus he undergoes a lot of frustration. For DJ, his image, throne and his mother play a very important role, and he cannot afford to let anyone mess with them and get away with it."

## Rosamund Pike joins the cast of 'Now You See Me 3'



Hollywood star Rosamund Pike has joined the cast of the third instalment of the Now You See Me franchise. The Saltburn star is among a number of newcomers to the series, following Justice Smith, Dominic Sessa and Ariana Greenblatt.

Jesse Eisenberg, Woody Harrelson, Isla Fisher, Dave Franco, and Morgan Freeman are all returning for the third instalment, which will be directed by Ruben Fleischer of Venom fame.

The franchise, which followed the Four Horsemen, a group of magicians known for their heist skills, started with the 2013 film Now You See Me, directed by Louis Leterrier. A sequel, directed by Jon M Chu, was released in 2016. Fleischer will direct the movie from a script by Eric Warren Singer, Seth Grahame-Smith and Mike Lesslie.

## Naqiyah Haji from Shaitani Rasmein recently performed a special dance sequence in the show

Naqiyah Haji, who is a part of the show Shaitani Rasmein, recently performed a special dance sequence.

Naqiyah says, "Dancing has forever been my greatest passion. I'm particularly thrilled about filming this special sequence where, in a character as Nikki, I perform a dance to divert Chaaya Dayan's attention. Meanwhile, my character's mother-in-law and sister-in-law, portrayed by Richa Soni and Surbhi Shukla, respectively, embark on a mission to uncover Chaaya Dayan's hidden past to ultimately defeat her. Balancing my acting commitments with my love for dancing has always been challenging due to my hectic shooting schedule. But I'm absolutely thrilled about this sequence, as it allowed me to reconnect with my passion. It was an incredibly



enjoyable experience, and I felt genuinely happy throughout, from

rehearsals to performing in front of the camera."



## Pakistan government now praying that Rahul Gandhi becomes India's Prime Minister: PM Modi

**Taking a dig at Rahul Gandhi without mentioning his name, Modi said the neighbouring country might want him as PM, but India wants 'a strong country with a strong PM'.**

RANCHI, May 4 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said that the Pakistan government is praying that the Congress 'prince' (Rahul Gandhi) becomes Prime Minister of India, "but a strong India wants a strong government only."

Addressing a poll rally at Palamu during his two-day visit to Jharkhand on Saturday, Modi said that it has been 25 years of him being the Chief Minister of Gujarat and Prime Minister of India, but due to the grace of God and blessings of the people of this country, no charges of scam or corruption have been leveled against him.

"I am still the same as you sent me here on the post of Prime Minister... Modi is born not to have fun...but for a mission. Leaders of JMM and Congress have collected huge assets and properties through corruption, but I don't even have even a by-cycle or house of my own," said the PM.

Modi further added that leaders of INDI-Alliance have been collecting money and doing politics for their children. They



will leave huge properties for the coming generation but Modi will collect properties as there's no one for whom he will make money. "You all are my successors... your children... your grandchildren are my successors," he said.

Modi wished to give developed Bharat in inheritance to the people of this country so that they don't have to face any problems in their life. Telling the audience the power of their vote, Modi said, "Look at the power of your one vote; earlier you had to wait for 500 years, you had to fight the battle for 500 years and several generations passed away but it did not happen in the last 500 years. Today Ram Mandir was

built just because of your one vote."

Kashmir was burning after independence as it was hit largely by terrorism, but look at the power of that one vote of yours; Article 370 was repealed and was buried under the ground for ever, he stressed.

According to Modi, Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and several other states were Naxal infested but their one vote saved these states from the menace were freed from the red-rebels. Modi recalled and asked them to remember what happened during the Congress regime.

He mentioned how terrorists used to kill innocent people and the then government at

the center used to send love-letters to Pakistan which in return used to send their terrorists in India, who used to play with the blood of the innocent citizens of this country.

"When your one vote brought me to power, as soon as I took charge as Prime Minister of India, I said enough is enough. Now this will not be tolerated and will not allow the innocent people to be killed. I will not tolerate the insult of 'Maa Bharati' and not let the innocent be killed," said the PM.

He further added that the new India does not send dossier but strikes directly entering into the enemy's house. Modi asserted that slaps of surgical strikes and air

strike has shaken Pakistan from the inside.

He further recalled that there was a situation in the country that the cowardly Congress government used to cry before the world. However, those days are gone where India used to cry before other countries. The situation is different and now Pakistan is crying before the world seeking protection.

Meanwhile, after addressing another poll rally in Gumla, the PM targeted INDIA Iliance and said that they are waging vote jihad against him. "Whatever they do, the country is not going to step back and Modi is not going to be afraid of them."

Terming the INDIA alliance as a congregation of fools, Modi said that they are spreading lies against him and that if he comes to power, he will abolish the reservation and give it to the Muslims. But as long as I am here, I will not let it happen," he asserted.

## 'Amazon of Aligarh': Google Doodle pays tribute to India's first woman wrestler Hamida Banu

**Banu was a trailblazer of her time, and her fearlessness is remembered throughout India and across the world**



NEW DELHI, May 4 (Agencies): It was on this day in 1954 when Hamida Banu defeated famed wrestler Baba Pahalwan in just one minute and 34 seconds. While Baba Pahalwan deemed it fit to retire from professional wrestling, Banu's career expanded to international arenas and her victories reported across the globe.

Commemorating Banu's victory and to pay tribute to her as 'India's first woman wrestler', Google on Saturday put up a colourful doodle on its homepage.

Born into a family of wrestlers in the early 1900s near Aligarh in Uttar Pradesh, Banu grew up wrestling, winning over 300 competitions throughout her career that spanned the 1940s and 1950s at

a time when women's participation in athletics was strongly discouraged.

However, Banu competed with men anyway, and issued an open challenge to all male wrestlers, wagering her hand in marriage to whoever defeats her, Google wrote in a post.

Banu's success in international matches gained her further acclaim. One of these matches was the one against Russian woman wrestler Vera Chistilin, who she defeated in under two minutes.

Having made newspaper headlines for years, Banu came to be known as the 'Amazon of Aligarh'.

The bouts she won, her diet, and training regimen were widely covered.

According to a BBC report, she weighed

108kg and was 5ft 3in tall.

"Her daily diet included 5.6 litres of milk, 2.8 litres of soup, 1.8 litres of fruit juice, a fowl, nearly 1kg of mutton and almonds, half a kilo of butter, 6 eggs, two big loaves of bread, and two plates of biryani," the British media outlet reported.

Agency noted that she slept for nine hours and trained for six.

A "trailblazer of her time," Banu not only fought fellow wrestlers but the norms of her times.

"Hamida Banu was a trailblazer of her time, and her fearlessness is remembered throughout India and across the world. Outside of her sporting accomplishments, she will always be celebrated for staying true to herself," Google's note read.

## Police to speak to witnesses in woman's complaint against West Bengal Governor Bose; seeks CCTV footage from Raj Bhavan

KOLKATA, May 4 (Agencies): The Kolkata Police inquiry team constituted to investigate a woman employee's allegation of sexual molestation by Governor CV Ananda Bose, will speak to the witnesses over the next few days, a senior officer said on Saturday.

The investigators, she said have already requested the Raj Bhavan to share the CCTV footage.

"We have formed an inquiry team which will be speaking to some probable witnesses over the next few days in this matter. We have also requested the Raj Bhavan to share the CCTV footage, in case they are available," the officer said on Saturday. A contractual woman



employee of the Raj Bhavan on Friday lodged a written complaint with the Kolkata Police alleging sexual molestation by the Bengal Governor in the Raj Bhavan.

Under Article 361 of the Constitution, no criminal proceedings can be instituted against a governor during his

term in office.

Incidentally, the Raj Bhavan has issued a statement saying that Bose has ordered a ban on the entry of cops to the Raj Bhavan "in the guise of conducting unauthorised, illegitimate, sham and motivated investigations to placate political bosses during the election".

## Congress accuses Modi govt of step-motherly treatment to Jharkhand on coal royalties, scheme benefits

NEW DELHI, May 4 (Agencies): The Congress on Saturday claimed that the Centre owed Jharkhand lakhs of crores of rupees in coal royalties and central scheme benefits, and alleged that the Modi government dished out a "step-motherly treatment" to the state.

Congress general secretary posed questions to the prime minister ahead of his rally in Palamu, Jharkhand.

"Why is the PM not releasing 1.36 lakh crores due to Jharkhand? Why is the PM denying 8 lakh people of Jharkhand the homes they were promised? What happened to the Mandal Dam?" Ramesh said in a post on X.

In Jharkhand, coal mines are operated by subsidiaries of Coal



India Limited, which owes huge sums of money to the state government, he said.

"There is an outstanding of Rs 1,01,142 crore for non-payment of land compensation, Rs 32,000 crore under common cause dues head, and Rs 2,500 crore under washed coal royalty head. Sadly, given the BJP's track record in opposition-ruled states, the step-motherly treatment being dished out

to Jharkhand is hardly a surprise," Ramesh said.

"What happened to the PM's favourite slogan - Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas? Where are the Rs 1,36,042 crores that Jharkhand and its people were promised?" he said.

Ramesh also said the Centre is yet to provide benefits to 8 lakh eligible beneficiaries in Jharkhand under the Centre's flagship housing scheme, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

(PMAY).

"In 2021-2022, despite the scheme's portal listing more than 10 lakh beneficiaries, only 4 lakh homes were sanctioned.

Most recently, about two lakh beneficiaries were arbitrarily removed from the list by the Ministry of Rural Development.

Where are the 8 lakh homes that Jharkhand and its people are entitled to?" he said.

"The Mandal Dam project in Palamu is yet another poll promise that PM Modi conveniently forgot about after elections," Ramesh said.

Just ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the PM had laid the foundation stone of Mandal Dam project with great fanfare, he said.

"Five years later, the project remains stalled. Conceptualised to address agrarian dis-

tress in Jharkhand and Bihar, the project has languished even while the state has suffered back-to-back droughts in recent years," Ramesh said.

He claimed that the dam's progress has been hindered as the BJP has refused to meet the demands of displaced families and failed to resolve compensation issues.

"Despite promises of additional compensation, the project remains inactive, raising questions about the BJP government's commitment to completing crucial irrigation projects.

"Is the PM doing anything to ensure that this crucial project will be built? What is his vision to help rid Jharkhand of droughts?" he said and asked the prime minister to break his "silence" on these issues.

## Man arrested from Uttarakhand's Dehradun for sharing intimate pictures of Thane girl on Internet

THANE, May 4 (Agencies): The police from Maharashtra's Thane city have arrested a 21-year-old man from Uttarakhand capital Dehradun for allegedly sharing the private pictures of a 13-year-old girl on the Internet, an official said on Saturday.

Accused Rohit Kumar, originally from Saran in Bihar, had befriended the teenager from Thane on social media and allegedly accessed her nude pictures, the official said.

When the girl refused to continue chatting with Kumar, he shared her intimate pictures with her relatives and released them on the internet, the official said.

On a complaint by the girl, the Vartak Nagar police registered a case on April 1 under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and IT Act and launched a probe.

Acting in various inputs, they tracked down Kumar to Dehradun and arrested him from there on Thursday, said senior inspector Rajkumar Wakchoure of Vartak Nagar police station.

The official said Kumar is a habitual offender and has targeted many girls similarly in the past.



## Minor Dalit girl, out to defecate, set on fire in UP village



BALRAMPUR, May 4 (Agencies): A 13-year-old Dalit girl who was out to defecate was burned to death in a village under the Haraiya Police Station jurisdiction, an officer said on Saturday.

Police are still to figure out how and why she was set on fire.

Additional Superintendent of Police Yogesh Kumar said the girl had gone to a field near her village Friday evening to defecate.

When she did not return for an hour, her family started searching for her.

Meanwhile, some villagers told them that a nearby field had caught fire. When they reached the field they found the girl there, dead, the ASP said.

Her charred body was sent for post-mortem, the officer said, adding that police are probing the matter.

## 5 killed in car accident in Uttarakhand's Mussoorie

DEHRADUN, May 4 (Agencies): Five people, including a woman, were killed and another was injured in the early hours of Saturday when their car fell off the road in Uttarakhand's Mussoorie.

The car fell about 60 metres down on another road near Jharipani in Mussoorie, an official said.

Four men died on the spot while one of the two women seriously injured in the accident succumbed to her injuries during treatment at a nearby hospital.

The other injured

woman is still under treatment, fire official Dhiraj Singh Tariyal said.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami expressed grief at the loss of lives in the accident.

"Received the painful news about the death of five persons in an unfortunate road accident in Mussoorie. Pray for peace to the departed souls and strength to their families to bear the pain," Dhami said in a post on X.

The information about the accident was received at around 5:30 am, he added.

The victims were mostly students in their twenties who had come to Mussoorie on a trip on Saturday morning.

Two men and two women were from the IMS Unison University in Dehradun and one was from the Dehradun Institute of Technology University.

Those killed were identified as Aman Singh Rana (22), Dingyansh Pratap Bhati (23), Tanuja Rawat (22), Ashutosh Tiwari and Hridayansh Chandra (24). Nayanshri (24) is still under treatment at a hospital.



## Flood and landslide hit Indonesia's Sulawesi island, killing 14

**Floods up to 10 feet affect 13 sub-districts as water and mud covered the area**

JAKARTA, May 4 (Agencies): A flood and a landslide hit Indonesia's Sulawesi island, killing 14 people, officials said Saturday.

Torrential rain pounding the area since Thursday triggered a landslide in Luwu district in South Sulawesi province, said local rescue chief Mexianus Bekabel.

Floods up to 3 meters (10 feet) have affected 13 sub-districts as water and mud covered the area. More than 1,000 houses were affected, with 42 of them swept off their foundations.

A search and rescue team worked to evacuate residents using rubber boats and other



vehicles. More than 100 residents have been moved to mosques or relatives' houses outside the affected area, National Disaster Management Agency spokesperson Abdul Muhari said Saturday. Seasonal downpours cause frequent land-

slides and floods in Indonesia, a chain of 17,000 islands where millions of people live in mountainous areas or in fertile floodplains.

Torrential rain in April triggered landslides and killed 20 people in Tana Toraja district of South Sulawesi province.

## Taiwan detects 9 Chinese military aircraft, 5 naval vessels around nation

TAIPEI (TAIWAN), May 4 (Agencies): Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence (MND) on Saturday said that nine Chinese military aircraft and five naval vessels were detected operating around nation from 6 am (local time) on Friday to 6 am (local time) on Saturday.

In response to Chinese action, Taiwan monitored the situation and deployed combat patrol aircraft, naval vessels and coastal missile systems, according to Taiwan's MND statement.

In a post on X, Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence stated, "9 PLA aircraft and 5 PLAN vessels operating around Taiwan were detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. #ROCArmed-Forces have monitored the situation and responded accordingly." Earlier on Friday, Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence (MND) said that it detected 26 Chinese military aircraft and five naval vessels operating around the nation from 6 am (local time) on Thursday and 6 am (local



time) on Friday.

Among the 26 People's Liberation Army (PLA) aircraft, 14 aircraft crossed the Taiwan Strait median line, Taiwan's MND said. Two Chinese military aircraft were spotted in the northeast sector of Taiwan's air defense identification zone (ADIZ) and three other fighters entered the southwest ADIZ, Taiwan News reported.

Following China's action, Taiwan monitored the situation using its intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance systems and deployed combat

patrol aircraft, naval vessels, and land-based air defence missile systems, according to Taiwan's MND.

So far in May, Taiwan's MND detected Chinese military aircraft 30 times and naval vessels 16 times, Taiwan News reported on Friday. Since September 2020, China has intensified the use of "gray zone tactics" by operating more military aircraft and naval ships around Taiwan, according to Taiwan News report.

On Friday, Taiwan's MND said that the country is in the peak period of weapon acquisition

to strengthen its integrated "kill chain" functionality and prevent a Chinese attack, reported Taiwan News.

The ministry further emphasized that they will continue to improve the integration of newly acquired weapons with command and control systems to enhance "kill chain" functionality, hence doubling combat effectiveness.

"Kill chain" refers to a sequence of tactical steps or processes in which weaponry finds, engages, and "kills" targets in military operations.

Earlier on April 26, the MND submitted a written report titled "Taiwan's Latest Defense Military Preparation and Strategic Actions in the Face of the International Warfare Situation," to the Legislative Yuan (parliament) in the country, Taiwan News reported.

It highlighted that the military is sharing information about the Indo-Pacific with allied countries to construct a regionally integrated deterrence force.

## US teacher arrested for 'making out' with 5th-grader months before wedding

WISCONSIN, May 4 (Agencies): A 24-year-old teacher in the US has been charged with sexual assault for allegedly "making out" and having an "inappropriate relationship" with one of her fifth grade students. Madison Bergmann's alleged abuse of the 11-year-old boy came to light less than three months before her wedding, CBS News Minnesota reported.

The incident came out in the open when the boy's mother overheard him talking to Bergmann on the phone, and took the device away from him. The boy's parents allegedly found texts between him and the teacher, following which they went to the school with printouts of the conversations.

According to the charging documents

presented to the police, the texts included messages from Bergmann allegedly discussing several encounters with the 11-year-old inside the classroom during lunch or after school. She is also accused of telling the boy how much she enjoyed him touching her.

The boy told investigators that he talked to Madison Bergmann "almost daily" and got her number when he went skiing with her and his mother in the Afton Alps over the winter break. The teacher agreed to get his number during the trip, saying it was shared with her if they were separated at the park.

The month Bergmann went on the skiing trip was the same when he got engaged to her boyfriend.



Inside Bergmann's backpack, a folder with the boy's name on it was found that contained many handwritten notes. The 11-year-old told police that he and Bergmann would write each other notes throughout the day, and most of these mention the two "kissing each other", according to court documents.

In one of the letters,

Madison Bergmann allegedly questioned her relationship with the fifth-grader. "One of my cousins is in the 5th grade and I can't imagine a man talking to her how we talk. I know we have a special relationship and I do love you more than anyone in the world, but I have to be the adult here and stop." Bergmann was set to be married in July,

less than three months before her arrest.

She was let out on a \$25,000 (nearly Rs 21 lakh) signature bond and has been placed on administrative leave. She has also been barred from school property or at school events, and from contacting any district students, parents or staff, New York Post reported.

The school principal expressed "shock" over the incident, saying they are all "disturbed by this news". "Our greatest concern is for the River Crest School community and the children impacted," CBS Minnesota reported, quoting Principal Kimberly Osterhues's message to parents.

Madison Bergmann's next court appearance is scheduled for May 30.

## Elon Musk's X Cracks Down On Deepfakes With Improved Image Matching



SAN FRANCISCO, May 4 (Agencies): Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk, on Saturday, said that a new update on "improved image matching" will defeat deepfakes as well as shallowfakes on social media platform X.

The new update will show notes on 30 per cent more posts that contain "similar or identical images." "We just rolled out the

update and will be monitoring for any erroneous image matches," X said in a post.

Elon Musk added that this move "should make a big difference in defeating deepfakes (and shallowfakes)."

Shallowfakes are photos, videos and voice clips generated without the help of artificial intelligence (AI), and use widely available editing and soft-

ware tools.

X notes on images automatically show on posts that contain a matching image.

"It's common for these notes to match on dozens, hundreds and sometimes thousands of posts. Now, you can see how many posts an image note is matching on, right in note details," according to the company.

In the global election season, experts have warned about the spread of fake news and deepfakes that aim to interfere with polls.

The independent Oversight Board which has 22 global human rights and freedom of expression experts from across the globe, has called for urgent action to tackle deepfakes threatening global elections.

## 1 Dead, Several Injured In Drug-Related Shooting In Paris

BOBIGNY, May 4 (Agencies): One person was killed and six injured overnight in a gritty northern Paris suburb in a shooting likely linked to drug trafficking, prosecutors and the mayor said Saturday.

The attack in a parking lot near a cultural centre at Sevran, which lies between central Paris and the city's main airport Charles de Gaulle, took place around 11:45 pm (2145 GMT) Friday, prosecutors said.

Upon arriving on the scene, police found four injured people strewn on the ground. One died soon after and the three others were taken to hospitals in a serious condition, a police source said.

Three more people injured by bullets were later taken to hospital, the source said, adding that two men had arrived in the parking lot in a car and one of them got out and opened fire. The attackers then fled.

Sevran mayor Stephane Blanchet told agency "it was clearly a settling of scores linked to drug trafficking."

"There is a need to establish order and eradicate trafficking," he said. "Those idiots fired live bullets and did not heed appeals for calm".

Police have opened an investigation into intentional homicide by an organised gang, they said. No arrests had been by Saturday morning.

## Russia says shot down four US-made missiles launched by Ukraine

MOSCOW, May 4 (Agencies): Russian defence ministry said on Saturday its air defence forces shot down four US-produced long-range missiles over the Crimea peninsula, weapons known as Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS) that Washington has shipped to Ukraine in recent weeks.

The ministry did not give details. On Tuesday, Russian officials also said Ukraine had attacked Crimea with ATACMS in an attempt to pierce Russian air defences of the annexed peninsula but that six had been shot down.

A US official said in Washington last month that the United States secretly shipped long-range missiles to Ukraine in recent weeks.

The ATACMS missiles, with a range up to 300 km (190 miles) were used for the first



time in the early hours of April 17, launched against a Russian airfield in Crimea that was about 165 km (103 miles) from the Ukrainian front lines, the official said.

The Pentagon initially opposed the long-

range missile deployment, concerned that taking the missiles from the American stockpile would hurt US military readiness.

There were also concerns that Ukraine would use them to attack targets deep inside Russia, a step which could lead to an escalation of the war towards a direct confrontation between Russia and the United States.

Russia seized and annexed Crimea from Ukraine in 2014. Its Black Sea Fleet is based on the peninsula.

On Thursday, British Foreign Secretary David Cameron promised 3 billion pounds (\$3.7 billion) of annual military aid for Ukraine for "as long as it takes", adding that London had no objection to its weapons being used inside Russia, drawing a strong rebuke from Moscow.

## A Chinese driver is praised for helping reduce casualties in a highway collapse that killed 48

BEIJING, May 4 (Agencies): A Chinese truck driver was praised in local media Saturday for parking his vehicle across a highway and preventing more cars from tumbling down a slope after a section of the road in the country's mountainous south collapsed and killed at least 48 people.

Wang Xiangnan was driving Wednesday along the highway in Guangdong province, a vital economic hub in southern China. At around 2 a.m., Wang saw several vehicles moving in the opposite direction of the four-lane highway and a fellow driver soon informed him about the collapse, local media reported.

Reacting swiftly, Wang, a former soldier, positioned his truck to block the highway, effectively stopping dozens of vehicles from advancing into danger, Jiupai News quoted Wang as saying. Meanwhile, his

wife got out of the truck to alert other drivers about the situation, it said.

"I didn't think too much. I just wanted to stop the vehicles," Wang told the Chinese news outlet.

Wang's courageous actions not only garnered praise from Chinese social media users but also recognition from the China Worker Development Foundation.

The foundation announced Friday that in partnership with a car company it had awarded Wang 10,000 yuan (\$1,414). A charity project linked to tech giant Alibaba Group Holding also gave an equal amount to Wang, newspaper Dahe Daily reported. Wang told the newspaper he would donate the money to the families of the collapse victims.

The accident came after a month of heavy rains in Guangdong. Some of the 23



vehicles that plunged into the deep ravine burst in flames, sending up thick clouds of smoke.

About 30 people were hospitalized. On Saturday, one was discharged from the hospital, state broadcaster CCTV report-

ed. The others were improving, but one remains in serious condition.

On Saturday, the Meizhou city government in Guangdong said in a statement that authorities would conduct citywide checks on expressways, railways and roads in mountainous areas.

The Chinese government had sent a vice premier to oversee recovery efforts and urged better safety measures following calls by President Xi Jinping and the Communist Party's No. 2 official, Premier Li Qiang, to swiftly handle the tragedy.

The dispatch of Zhang, who is also a member of one of the ruling Communist Party's leading bodies, illustrates the concern over a possible public backlash over the disaster, the latest in a series of deadly infrastructure failures.



## DPS Junior Kathua hosts solo dance competition



### Top News Report

KATHUA, May 4: Delhi Public School Junior - Kathua ignited the stage with the vibrant hues of talent as it hosted a mesmerizing solo dance competition exclusively for its UKG students. The event witnessed an exceptional display of enthusiasm and flair as young dancers took

center stage, showcasing their skills and passion for dance.

The ambiance was electric as students, brimming with excitement, poured their hearts into every step, infusing the air with infectious energy. Each participant radiated joy and confidence, illustrating the transformative power of dance as a form of self-expression and

physical activity.

Monika Singh, the esteemed School In-Charge, emphasized the significance of dance beyond mere movement. "Dance is not just about rhythm and grace; it is a celebration of vitality and expression," remarked Ms. Monika Singh. "Engaging in dance not only nurtures physical well-being but also fos-

ters emotional resilience and happiness. It is a medium through which children discover themselves, build self-esteem, and cultivate invaluable life skills."

She extended her heartfelt appreciation to the dedicated class teachers, Mrs. Anu Bala, Mrs. Sonam Gupta, and Mrs. Anu Jasrotia, whose unwavering support and

guidance ensured the seamless execution of the event. Furthermore, she expressed profound gratitude to the parents whose unwavering cooperation and encouragement played an instrumental role in making the competition a resounding success.

In acknowledgment of the event's success, Principal Vivek Arora conveyed his utmost appreciation to all participants, teachers, and parents, underscoring the school's commitment to fostering holistic development and a vibrant learning environment.

The solo dance competition not only showcased the immense talent and creativity of the students but also reaffirmed Delhi Public School Junior Kathua's dedication to nurturing young minds and empowering them to thrive in all facets of life.

## For their political gains, the traditional parties inflicted sufferings on city dwellers: Bukhari

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 4: Apni Party President, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Saturday, said that "traditional parties deliberately subjected the residents of Srinagar city, Shehr-e-Khas, to unnecessary sufferings, solely for their personal political advantages." He said that "these leaders exploited the innocence of the city dwellers by keeping them engaged in disputes like Sher-Bakra and India-Pakistan, and so on. Their aim was to keep the pot boiling and ensure their political dividends out of the turmoil."

Bukhari made these remarks today while addressing a party convention in the Habba Kadal area of Srinagar's Shehr-e-Khas.

In his speech, the President of the Apni Party expressed his heartfelt sympathies with the people residing in the city, saying that most of the population here lives under difficult circumstances, lacking adequate housing, financial resources, and job opportunities.

He said, "It pains me to see that most of the population in downtown Srinagar endures challenging conditions marked by inadequate housing, financial constraints, and a lack of employment opportunities. I know that they have been pushed into this situation over the years and decades by the traditional political parties and their leaders, who kept the people of the city busy with conflicts like Sher-Bakra, India-Pakistan, and so on, only to gain their own political advantages out of these conflicts."

"The educated young boys and girls from the city are grappling with the lack of employment opportunities, as they neither have avenues for doing businesses nor do they fall into any reserved category to benefit from the government job markets. Many of these boys and girls have surpassed their marriageable age, either because they do not have proper avenues for earn-

ing or they lack adequate housing to raise a family," he added.

Talking about the glorious past of downtown Srinagar, Bukhari remarked, "This historic city has been an epicentre of rich culture and civilisation for centuries. Moreover, this city has been the abode of the masters of different traditional crafts and skills. It is only due to political apathy, misleading narratives, and misrepresentations that the present generation finds itself grappling with challenges and dilemmas."

However, Bukhari promised that when Apni Party gets a public mandate to serve, it would not only create employment opportunities and modernized housing in Shere-e-Khas but will also undertake the task of restoring the ancient glory of this historic city.

He said, "I assure you that Apni Party has a clear vision for the prosperity and development of this city. Once we get the mandate, we will ensure the well-being and prosperity of the people here. We will change the scenario of this Shere-e-Khas for the better."

Bukhari also promised that he would ensure that the people who are in jail are released and back home to restart their normal lives.

He said, "Following the events of August 5, 2019, the entire Jammu and Kashmir was in great chaos for several months, and thousands of people were in jails. At that time, people were apprehensive that after the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A, Jammu and Kashmir would lose their demography and thus its identity. At that crucial stage, my colleagues and I came forward to meet the leaders in New Delhi. We ensured that the people of J&K continued to have exclusive rights to agricultural land and jobs here. Also, we ensured the release of thousands of people who had been detained post-August 5. However, there are still hundreds of people in jails, and I promise you that we will

leave no stone unturned to ensure their release and return home so that they can restart their normal lives with their families."

He appealed to people to vote for Mohammad Ashraf Mir, the party's candidate for Srinagar, in the Lok Sabha elections.

He said, "I request you to give us a chance to serve you. This is also an opportunity for you to rid yourself of the exploitative politicians from the traditional parties. They have consistently damaged your interests through their misleading narratives and hollow promises. This is the time to choose to change for a better future."

The prominent party leaders who were present on the occasion included the party's Provincial President Kashmir Mohammad Ashraf Mir, State Secretary and Chief Spokesperson Muntazir Mohiuddin, District President Srinagar Noor Mohammad Sheikh, Senior Leaders and Former Legislators Yawar Mir, Provincial President for the party's Youth Wing and spokesperson Khalid Rathore, District secretary Srinagar and in charge constituency Habba Kadal Jeelani Kumar, District President youth and in charge Khanyar Mohsin Zaffar Shah, District secretary Srinagar Peer Wajahat, Senior Leader Irfan Zargar, Adil Bhat, Firdous Ahmad Sheikh, Manzoor Ahmad Najar, Fida Hussain, Tanveer Ahmad, Hajra ji, Dawood Sahib, and others.

### NOTICE

I Kuldeep Kumari Gupta W/o Late Sh. Vijay Kumar Gupta R/o R S Pura has changed my name from Kuldeep Kumari Gupta (old name) to Kuldeep Kumari (new name). I do hereby assume from this date the name Kuldeep Kumari (new name)

## Bandipora-Gurez road closed for traffic amid inclement weather

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 4 (Agencies): In wake of fresh snowfall at Razdan Pass, authorities in Bandipora district Saturday ordered closure of the 84-km-long Gurez road.

"In view of forecast for Rain/snowfall and as a precautionary measure movement on Gurez Bandipora road shall remain suspended till further orders," the SDM Gurez said in a statement, issued to the news agency Kashmir News Observer.

Reports said that Razdan Pass received fresh snowfall late last night. The road was also closed last week several times due to inclement weather and slippery conditions.

## Air India Reduces Cabin Baggage Allowance To 15 Kg For Lowest Fare Segment

NEW DELHI, May 4 (Agencies): Loss-making Air India has reduced the free cabin baggage allowance to 15 kilogram from 20 kilogram for the lowest economy fare segment on domestic flights.

The changes have been made in the menu-based pricing model fare families that were introduced by the Tata Group-owned Air India last August, with the airline saying that a one-size-fits-all approach is no longer ideal.

There are three fare families — Comfort, Comfort Plus and Flex — that offer different levels of benefits and fare restrictions at various price points, an airline spokesperson said on Saturday.

With effect from May 2, the free cabin baggage

allowance for the 'Comfort' and 'Comfort Plus' categories has been reduced to 15 kg from 20 kg and 25 kg, respectively.

Prior to the introduction of the fare families concept, passengers on Air India's domestic flights were allowed to carry 25 kilograms of cabin baggage free of any additional charge.

"On domestic routes in Economy Class, both 'Comfort' and 'Comfort Plus' fare families now provide 15 kg baggage allowance, while 'Flex' provides 25 kg allowance."

"The Business Class baggage allowance on domestic routes ranges from 25 kg to 35 kg. The free baggage allowance on international flights

varies from market to market," the spokesperson said.

In other domestic airlines also, passengers are allowed to carry 15 kg of cabin baggage without additional charge.

The Air India spokesperson said the fare families are designed to let passengers choose the kind of fare and services that best suit their requirements, given that travellers today have varied preferences, and a one-size-fits-all approach is no longer ideal.

Elaborating on the proposition, the spokesperson said that for example, the price difference between 'Comfort Plus' and 'Flex' fares would typically be around Rs 1,000 in a domestic sector like Delhi-Mumbai, with the

'Flex' fare providing the value of nearly Rs 9,000, including 10 kilograms extra baggage and zero change or cancellation fees.

The introduction of fare families is in response to customer feedback and Air India's own comprehensive study. It is also benchmarked against the offerings of relevant competitors in each of the markets we have introduced it in, the spokesperson added.

Tata Group has embarked on an ambitious plan to revive the fortunes of the loss-making Air India, which it had acquired from the Government in 2022.

## FROM PAGE 1

## FHRAI organizes stakeholders meet to propel tourism development in J&K

hospitality and tourism sector in Jammu and Kashmir, government officials, tourism experts, and potential investors.

Speaking at the occasion, President FHRAI Pradeep Shetty emphasized the importance of the event, stating, "We have been eagerly looking forward to this event, which serves as a crucial platform to unlock the tourism potential of Jammu and Kashmir. By bringing together industry leaders and stakeholders, we anticipate fruitful discussions on infrastructure enhancements, investment opportunities, and strategic collaborations."

"This event aligns with our vision to promote Jammu & Kashmir as a premier tourism destination in India, and we expect positive outcomes that will pave the way for sustainable growth and development in the Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

## Over 80,000 tech employees lost jobs globally in first four months this year in 279 firms: Report

management platform Sprinklr sacked about 116 employees.

Exercise equipment and fitness company Peloton this week announced to lay off 15 per cent of its workforce (about 400 employees).

Google also laid off about 200 employees from its core teams in a reorganisation move, according to reports.

In fresh job cuts, Elon Musk-run Tesla laid off hundreds of employees, weeks after reducing 10 per cent (or 14,000 people) from its global workforce.

The tech billionaire disbanded the entire Tesla charging team in the new layoff round.

In India, ride-hailing platform Ola Cabs has started a restructuring process that will impact at least 10 per cent of its workforce.

## Police Registers FIR against 'Scandalous Communication' against women officials being circulated on Social Media

police said in an official statement.

The police further said that they have registered a case under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and IT Act.

"The authorship of the communication is purportedly made in the name of 'Manish Sharma' of Pir Panjal Times. The Crime Branch of J-K Police has taken cognizance of the complaints lodged by the women functionaries, registered a case under sections 467, 471, 500, and 509 of the IPC and 66C IT Act and has taken up the investigation," it added.

## Saniyaa Kadree appointed chairperson of grappling committee for J&K

Kadree is expected to bring a fresh perspective and strategic guidance to the development of grappling sports in the region.

Kadree's appointment marks a crucial step towards promoting and nurturing the talent pool of grapplers in Jammu & Kashmir. Her working area will encompass all regions within the state, ensuring comprehensive coverage and support for the growth of grappling sports at grassroots level.

Speaking on her appointment, Saniyaa Kadree expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to contribute to the advancement of grappling sports in Jammu & Kashmir. She emphasized her commitment to fostering a vibrant grappling community and creating opportunities for aspiring athletes to excel on both national and international platforms.

The decision to appoint Saniyaa Kadree as the Chairperson of the Grappling Committee for Jammu & Kashmir reflects a concerted effort to bolster the infrastruc-

ture and resources available for grappling sports in the region. It is anticipated that under her leadership, the grappling community in Jammu & Kashmir will witness significant strides towards excellence and inclusivity.

## NC's Farooq Abdullah calls for meaningful solution to issues of Kashmiri Pandit Migrants

solutions," Abdullah said while interacting with a delegation of Kashmiri migrants here on Friday.

The delegation of migrants was headed by former NC MLC and the chairman of the party's minority cell, Bhushan Lal Bhat, who apprised Abdullah of the hardships being faced by the community, according to a release issued by the party.

Bhat said most of the Kashmiri migrants residing in the Jagti, Purkhoo, Muthi, Buta Nagar and Nagrota camps here as well as those settled in Jammu, Kathua and Udhampur districts are facing problems in the absence of basic amenities for them.

Abdullah criticised the BJP's "divisive rhetoric and discriminatory policies", claiming that the ruling party has only "exacerbated tensions and alienated communities" in the region.

He called for a more inclusive and compassionate approach for resolving the Kashmiri migrants' plight, one that prioritises human dignity, justice and reconciliation.

The member of Parliament from Srinagar urged the Kashmiri migrants to ensure maximum participation in the upcoming phases of the ongoing Lok Sabha polls in the Union Territory, emphasising the importance of their collective voice in shaping the country's political landscape.

"There is a dire need to change the government at the Centre so that the problems of the public as well as Kashmiri migrants can be effectively addressed," he said.

Additional general secretary of the NC and former Jammu and Kashmir minister Ajay Sadhotra asked the BJP-led Centre to reveal what steps have been taken by it for the welfare of the migrant community.

"It is really unfortunate that despite the

increased cost of living amid skyrocketing prices and peak inflation, the cash assistance being paid to the Kashmiri migrants has not been enhanced for the last so many years," he said.

Sadhotra said the NC will remain steadfast in its dedication to advocating for justice, dignity and equality for all Kashmiri migrants, and continue to work tirelessly towards the realisation of these principles.

In his address, NC's provincial president Rattan Lal Gupta asserted that the party has always stood for the cause of Kashmiri migrants and shall continue to do the same for all times to come.

"The BJP government had made promises to rehabilitate the Kashmiri Pandit migrants in the valley but those proved to be a cruel joke as no steps were taken in this direction since 2014," he said.

Gupta appealed to the migrant community to strengthen the hands of Farooq Abdullah and NC vice-president Omar Abdullah by supporting all three party candidates in the parliamentary polls — Mian Altaf Ahmed from Anantnag-Rajouri, Aga Syed Rahul from Srinagar and Omar Abdullah from Baramulla.

"There is no better option for Kashmiri Pandit migrants than to wholeheartedly support and vote for the NC candidates in the valley," he said.

The Srinagar constituency will go to polls on May 13, Baramulla on May 20 and Anantnag-Rajouri on May 25. The counting of votes will be taken up on June 4.

## Five in fray for Ladakh Lok Sabha Seat; 3 Nominations rejected

while the candidatures of BJP's and Congress's covering candidates Stanzin Lakpa and Smanla Dorje Nurboo were cancelled.

The nomination of Independent candidate Ghulam Nabi Zia, whose form was found incomplete, was rejected as well, Sukhadeve said.

Of the five remaining candidates, BJP's Tashi Gyalson and Congress's Tsering Namgyal are from Leh. The three Independents, Mohamad Haneefa Jan, Sajjad Hussain, and Kacho Mohd Feroz are all from Kargil.

Thupstan Chhewang won the Ladakh Lok Sabha seat from the BJP for the first

time in 2014.

He resigned from the party in 2018 and is presently heading the Leh Apex Body, which, along with Kargil Democratic Alliance, is spearheading an agitation for restoration of statehood and extension of the sixth schedule of the Constitution to the Union Territory.

The BJP managed to retain the seat in 2019 general election through Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, who, after he was denied a ticket this time, openly revolting against the party.

He, however, joined the campaign for the party nominee Gyalson on Friday, ending the over week-long uncertainty in the party camp.

Congress has won the seat six times — the highest, National Conference twice, and Independents thrice since it came into existence in 1967.

## Building, car of alleged drug peddler attached in Rajouri

the menace of drugs from the district.

## J&K: Teacher booked for beating minor student in Rajouri

Upon the boy's return, the enraged In-charge Headmaster allegedly subjected him to severe physical abuse, including slapping his ear. The boy's ear began to bleed profusely, and a deep wound was inflicted. The teacher, realizing the gravity of the situation, took the boy to a nearby medical shop where first aid was administered, and the wound was bandaged. However, the teacher reportedly failed to inform the boy's family about the incident and sent him home. As the bleeding persisted, the boy's parents took him to Kotranka Hospital for treatment. Doctors at the hospital provided initial medical assistance before referring the boy to GMC Rajouri due to the severity of the ear injury. Upon learning about the incident from their son and other students, the boy's parents lodged an FIR (No. 49/2024) against the In-charge Headmaster at Kotranka Police Station. Subsequently, the police attempted to arrest the teacher, but he evaded capture by fleeing from his residence, as confirmed by a police official.



## Elon Musk's Tesla files trademark infringement case against Gurugram-based Tesla Power

NEW DELHI, May 4 (Agencies): Elon Musk's electric vehicle (EV) maker Tesla Inc filed a trademark infringement case against Gurugram-based Tesla Power India Ltd amid discussions of Tesla's entry into India, a Delhi High Court record showed on Friday.

Tesla is incorporated in Delaware, United States and has accused the Indian company of using trade names "Tesla Power" and "Tesla Power USA".

In its defence, Tesla Power told the court that the company has no intention to manufacture EVs "at all" and will not market other entities' EVs as well under their trademark and trade-name 'Tesla Power USA' or any other brand deceptively similar or use the word 'Tesla'. The carmaker told the



court that it discovered the Indian company was using its brand name in 2022 and tried to stop it from doing so, forcing it to file the lawsuit.

"...a cease-and-desist notice was sent on 18th April 2022 to the defen-

dant (Tesla Power).. since defendants continued to advertise and market their goods, the present suit was filed," Tesla Inc told the court as per the record copy. The Delhi High Court judge allowed the Indian

firm three weeks to submit written responses after it handed over a set of documents in support of its defence, the court record showed. The next hearing of the case has been set for May 22.

The case comes after Musk cancelled his much awaited visit to India on April 21 to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi. A week later, Musk made a surprise visit to China to push for an advanced driver assistance package.

Quoting a Tesla Power representative, Reuters reported that it has been present in India much before Musk's Tesla and had all government approvals.

To attract investments into the EV space, the Centre has lowered import duties to 15 per cent from 100 per cent for models of electric cars with a combined cost, insurance, freight prices of \$35,000 or above for five years, a key precondition for Tesla's entry to test out the "market potential" in India.

## Centre lifts onion export ban, imposes minimum export price of \$550 per tonne

NEW DELHI, May 4: (Agencies): The Centre on Saturday lifted the ban on onion exports as the onion-producing Nashik region gears up for Lok Sabha elections.

However, the government has imposed a minimum export price (MEP) of \$550 per tonne. Earlier, the Centre had imposed an export duty of 40 per cent on onions from May 3.

"The export policy of onions is amended from prohibited to free subject to MEP of USD 550 per metric ton with immediate effect and until further orders," the directorate general of foreign trade (DGFT) said in a notification on Saturday.

This comes days after the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) candidates slammed the Centre's



earlier move to allow export of 99,150 tonnes of onion to six countries, including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, the UAE, Bahrain and Mauritius. Shiv Sena (UBT)'s Rajabhau Waje contesting in Nashik and NCP (SCP)'s Bhaskar Bhagare contesting in Dindori had on April 28 called the move an eyewash ahead

of the elections to woo farmers protesting the export ban, reported The Times of India.

The earlier decision to ban export was made in a bid to curb rising prices of onion. On Friday, the government also lifted the import duty on Bengal gram till March 2025 after a decline in its production was reported.

## Malaria linked with genetic changes associated with ageing: Study

NEW DELHI, May 4: Malaria infection is linked with genetic changes, known to be brought about by ageing, according to a new study.

Researchers extracted genetic material from blood samples of more than 1,800 adults from the African countries of Tanzania, Botswana, Ethiopia, and Cameroon, where malaria is known to be endemic, or constantly present.

According to the 2023 World Health Organisation (WHO) Malaria report, published in 'The Lancet Microbe' journal, around 70 per cent of the global burden of the mosquito-borne disease is concentrated in 11 countries, including India and 10 African countries.

The team, including researchers from the University of Pennsylvania, US, analysed the DNA in white blood cells - crucial to immunity and fighting infections - and measured the lengths of telomeres present at the ends of chromosomes, which carry the genes.

Telomeres protect the chromosome ends from sticking to each other or getting frayed. They are known to shorten with age and can also help predict an individual's risk of getting affected by ageing-related diseases and death.

"We highlight the contributions of genetic and environmental factors influencing telomere



length in leukocytes (white blood cells), and we have uncovered a potential role of malaria in shortening of telomere length across sub-Saharan Africa," said Sarah Tishkoff of the University of Pennsylvania, a co-senior author on the study published in The American Journal of Human Genetics.

The researchers found shorter telomere lengths in the white blood cells of adults indigenous to regions where malaria is highly endemic, compared to those in adults indigenous to regions with low malaria endemicity.

Malarial infection is known to cause massive destruction of white blood cells. The authors said that this process, coupled with that making new cells to restore this loss, could be a possible mechanism through which the disease shortens the length of telomeres.

They also found that the extent to which malaria

was endemic to a region had a greater impact on telomere lengths, compared to environmental factors previously identified and known to impact telomere lengths.

"This association between malaria and telomere lengths of white blood cells appears larger than any other known exposure or behaviour that has been investigated in large-scale studies," said Tishkoff.

While previous studies have suggested a link between malaria infection and telomere shortening, the researchers said it remained unknown whether repeated infections throughout life could have a lasting effect on the telomere lengths in people living in malaria-endemic regions.

The authors also said that a longitudinal (long-term) study in children and adults indigenous to regions of high and low malaria endemicity would provide more insightful information.

## Fixed deposits: SBI Multi Option Deposit Scheme vs HDFC Bank senior citizen special FD vs Punjab Bank FD

NEW DELHI, May 4 (Agencies): When it comes to parking one's hard-earned money into safe investment tools, fixed deposit schemes are still the most chased ones looking at the volatility in the market. As the Reserve Bank of India kept the repo rate at the same level, many banks have tweaked their fixed deposit rates to attract customers. In the last Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting in April, the central bank decided to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 6.5% as retail inflation continues to be above its target of 4%. This is the seventh meeting on the trot that the MPC maintained a status quo on the repo rate.

Here are the some of the fixed deposit schemes to look at:

**SBI Multi Option Deposit Scheme or SBI MODS** scheme is a fixed deposit (FD) or a term deposit scheme that is linked to the savings or current account of an individual. It offers 7 per cent interest to investors.

SBI's Multi Option Deposit (MOD) Scheme offers a distinct advantage over traditional term deposits by allowing partial withdrawals. This feature enables account holders to continue earning interest at the prescribed rate on the remaining balance in their MOD account. The interest rate on the MOD account balance will remain the same as it was at the time of the first deposit.

The balance amount in MODS will continue to earn interest at the rate applicable at the time of initial deposit. The sum of available balance in the transactional account and MOD balance can be used for issuing cheques or withdrawal or making any other payment.

An SBI Multi Option Deposit Account can be opened either

online through the SBI portal or in person at a branch.

### Amount of Deposit

The minimum amount of investment in the scheme is Rs 10,000, and if further deposits are being made, they need to be multiplied by Rs 1,000. It is to be noted that the bank has not specified an upper limit on the amount that can be invested.

### SBI MOD Balance Interest Rate

The scheme offers a minimum annual interest rate of 2.90%, with the potential to earn up to a maximum of 5.40% per annum, based on the deposited sum. Please note that the applicable interest rates will vary according to the duration of your deposit and the total amount invested.

### Investment Tenure

The minimum period of investment for the scheme is one year, and the maximum tenure for MOD is five years.

### Taxes on SBI MOD Interest Rates

The taxes can be deducted at the source when the interest earned on the deposit is known to be more than Rs. 10,000 during a financial year.

### Maturity amount

The maturity amount is based on the tenor and type of a/c selected by you. You may enquire the maturity amount, maturity date and rate of interest, without opening e-TDR/e-STDR(MOD) through "Enquiry" tab available in e-TDR/e-STDR(MOD) page.

### Premature closure of MOD a/c

For premature closure of MOD a/c, you may use 'close a/c' tab under e-TDR/e-STDR (MOD) link which will close your MOD account instantly if request is initiated between 08:00 AM IST and 08:00 PM IST. Request initiated beyond this period will be

scheduled for next opening hours i.e. 08:00 AM IST. The maturity proceeds will automatically be transferred to your debit a/c from which MOD account was originally funded at the time of opening.

**Renewability of the Scheme**  
The scheme cannot be renewed after a period of 5 years.

**SBI MOD Interest Rates 2024**  
Interest Rates for 7 days - 45 days

General Customers: 3%  
Senior Citizens: 3.50%

46 days - 179 days  
General Customers: 4.50%  
Senior Citizens: 5%

180 days - 210 days  
General: 5.25%  
Senior Citizens: 5.7%

211 days - 364 days  
General: 5.75%  
Senior citizens: 6.25%

1 year - 1 years 364 days  
General: 6.80%  
Senior citizens: 7.30%

2 years - 2 years 364 days  
General: 7%  
Seniors: 7.50%

3 years - less than 5 years  
General: 6.50%  
Seniors: 7%

5 years - 10 years  
General: 6.50%  
Seniors: 7.50%

### HDFC Bank senior citizen special FD

Last month, HDFC Bank extended the last date to invest in its senior citizens-only special fixed deposit scheme to May 10. Launched in May 2020, the special Senior Citizen Care FD offers higher interest rate benefits for senior citizens.

According to the HDFC bank website, "Senior Citizens can enjoy a higher interest rate with HDFC Bank Senior Citizen Care FD. Apart from the existing premium of 0.5% over the regular FD rate, Senior Citizen Care FD

provides an additional 0.25% over and above the 0.5% premium. The benefit of the above additional rate of 0.75% is applicable on the special offer between 18th May 2020 to 2nd May 2024. Further, this scheme is for those depositors who wish to deposit below Rs 5 crores."

Individuals can invest in Senior Citizen Care FD with a minimum amount of Rs 5000 and a maximum amount of Rs 4,99,99,99.99 (i.e., less than Rs 5 crores).

Individuals can invest in Senior Citizen Care FD for a minimum tenure of 5 years and 1 day and a maximum tenure of 120 months.

**Interest rates**  
= ₹ 2 Cr. to

**Premature closure**  
If someone opts to prematurely close this special senior citizen FD (including sweep in / partial closure), the interest rate will decline.

If the deposit is closed prematurely on or before 5 years, the interest rate will be 1.00% lower than the rate on the date of booking, for the time during which the deposit was held by the bank.

If a Fixed Deposit is prematurely closed after 5 years, the interest rate will be 1.25% lower than the rate on the date of deposit booking, for the time during which the deposit was with the bank.

### Punjab National Bank FD

Punjab National Bank (PNB) revised FD interest rates on deposits below Rs 2 crore. The new rates are effective from April 12, 2024. The bank is offering FD interest rates between 3.50% to 7.25% for regular citizens, while for senior citizens, the bank is offering interest rates between 4% to 7.75%. For super senior citizens, the interest rates are between 4.30% and 8.05%.

## Vision problems may be an early sign of Alzheimer's

NEW DELHI, May 4 (Agencies) According to a US study published in The Lancet Neurology, a rare eye condition known as posterior cortical atrophy (PCA) could be the first symptom of Alzheimer's disease in 10 per cent of patients. Patients with PCA have difficulty reading and writing, judging distances, differentiating between moving and stationary objects and picking up a dropped item.

To find out how predictive of dementia PCA might be, researchers reviewed data from 1,092 patients at 36 sites in 16 countries. The average age of symptom onset was 59 years and 60 per cent of the patients were women. About 94 per cent of patients with PCA went on to develop Alzheimer's disease and

the remaining 6 per cent developed other types of dementia such as Lewy body disease or fronto-temporal lobar degeneration.

According to researchers, PCA is far more predictive of dementia than memory loss—only 70 per cent of people with memory problems eventually get a diagnosis of dementia. Though most patients do not have cognitive issues early on, they show mild or moderate deficits in memory, executive function, behaviour and speech and language about 3.8 years after PCA symptoms onset.

"It is critical that doctors learn to recognise the syndrome so patients can receive the correct diagnosis, counselling and care," said the study.

## Paper Industry urges Govt to allot degraded land for Pulpwood plantation

NEW DELHI, May 4 (Agencies): The Indian paper industry has urged the government to provide degraded land on a long-term lease to paper mills for pulpwood plantation to address raw material shortage and boost rural employment.

The industry has highlighted that a large chunk of degraded land is available in the country, and even if a small fraction of that is allotted on lease to paper mills for pulpwood plantation, it can be a game changer for industry growth and greening of India.

The paper industry has faced shortage of wood, the key raw material, and it is the biggest concern for mills in India, the Indian Paper Manufac-

turers Association (IPMA) said in a statement on Saturday.

While the paper industry is continuing with agro forestry efforts, pulpwood plantations need to be enhanced rapidly to meet the requirements of domestic industry, the IPMA stated.

"Even if a fraction of the degraded land available in the country is provided on lease to the industry for pulpwood plantation, the same can be a game changer for growth of domestic manufacturing, rural empowerment and greening of India," it said.

"We have been trying to convince the government that this land can be given to the paper industry on long-term lease. It will provide the desired quan-

tity of wood not only to paper mills, but to several wood-based industries while generating a huge amount of rural employment," IPMA President Pawan Agarwal said.

If domestic agro forestry is not encouraged, import of wastepaper and wood pulp will have to be further increased causing heavy strain on the industry and economy, Agarwal added.

The IPMA also said that for procurement of wood, the industry has worked incessantly with over 5 lakh marginal farmers over the last several years and has successfully brought over 12 lakh hectares of largely degraded land under plantations through agro forestry.

The IPMA estimates a growth of 6-7 per cent per annum in paper consumption in the country for many years. Suitability of paper as biodegradable and sustainable material for packaging, especially for replacing single-use plastic is boosting the usage of paper across different sectors of the economy, IPMA mentioned.

It stated that the move will also help reduce carbon footprint of the country. India needs to bring an additional 25-30 million hectares of degraded land under forest and tree cover to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5-3 billion tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2030, it added.

## Kotak Mahindra Bank posts 18% rise in Q4 profit at Rs 4,133 crore

NEW DELHI, May 4: Private sector lender Kotak Mahindra Bank on Saturday reported an 18 per cent growth in standalone net profit at Rs 4,133 crore for the quarter ended March 31, 2024.

In the fourth quarter of 2022-23 fiscal, Kotak Bank had posted a profit of Rs 3,496 crore.

Total income rose to Rs 15,285 crore in March quarter of financial year 2023-24, from Rs 12,007 crore in the year-ago period.

For the 2023-24 fiscal, net profit rose 26 per cent to Rs 13,782 crore, from Rs 10,939 crore in the 2022-23 fiscal.

Total income increased to Rs 56,072 crore in

2023-24, from Rs 41,334 crore in 2022-23.

Net Interest Income (NII) for fiscal 2023-24 increased to Rs 25,993 crore, from Rs 21,552 crore in 2022-23, registering a 21 per cent on-year increase.

NII in March, 2024 increased to Rs 6,909 crore, from Rs 6,103 crore in the year-ago period, up 13 per cent.

The Board of Directors of the Bank has recommended a dividend of Rs 2 per equity share having face value of Rs 5, for the year ended March 31, 2024.

As on March 31, 2024, gross non-performing assets (NPA) was 1.39 per cent and net NPA was 0.34 per cent.



## KKR win an away tie against MI after 12 years, all but put hosts out of IPL

Mumbai Indians were shot out for 145 in 18.5 overs chasing 170

MUMBAI, May 4 (Agencies): Kolkata Knight Riders bowling unit performed in unison to win a battle of attrition against five-time champions Mumbai Indians by 24 runs in an IPL match here.

If KKR batters were guilty of not working out their game plan on the go in the first half to be bowled out for just 169 with Venkatesh Iyer contributing 70, Mumbai Indians' underperforming batters stood no chance on a tricky wicket which demanded both application and patience. They were all-out for 145 in 18.5 overs and are practically out of the competition which has been a nightmare for Hardik Pandya.

It was KKR's first away win in Mumbai after 12 years and last time they won here, their principal owner Shah Rukh Khan was embroiled in an argument with security staff which led to his ban from the venue for next three years. That year KKR won the trophy and this win took them to 14 points and kept them in contention for a finish among the first two teams.

Despite Suryakumar Yadav's brilliant fifty, Mumbai Indians were shot out for 145 in 18.5 overs chasing 170, found wanting with the bat once again as Mitchell Starc (3.5-0-33-4) cleaned up the tail for KKR's seventh win in 10 matches.

Until he top edged one off a full toss from Andre Russell (2/30), Suryakumar appeared to be proving the difference between the two sides with a top quality knock which brought MI back from the brink.

With six fours and two sixes, Suryakumar made 56 off 35



balls in an innings that kept MI's hopes alive.

Suryakumar also brought the equation down enough for his side to get over the line after they were reduced to 71/6 at one stage.

But none of the MI batters showed their hand up as KKR ran away with the game with a flurry of wickets towards the end.

Also impressive were KKR's spin duo of Varun Chakravathy and Sunil Narine, producing identical figures of 4-0-22-2 to keep the MI batters under the pump.

Having smacked a six and a four off Starc, Ishan Kishan (13) missed connecting a wild heave which resulted in the Aussie knocking down his leg stump.

Naman Dhir (11) hit two fours to start with but he also went for a heave and missed with Chakravathy striking on his first delivery.

Playing as an impact sub, Rohit Sharma (11) lofted Starc

for a spectacular six over extra cover but failed to connect well when he went to pull a short one from Narine.

Manish Pandey covered a fair distance moving backwards to reduce MI to 46 for three in the powerplay.

Chakravathy ensured a short stay in the middle for MI's most successful batter this year when he had Tilak Varma (4) caught by Narine at short third man.

The flow of wickets pushed MI on the backfoot and the pressure resulted in further success when Nehal Wadhwa (6) chopped one onto his wickets off Narine.

MI skipper and India vice-captain for the upcoming T20 World Cup Hardik Pandya walked out to loud boos once again at home turf Wankhede Stadium only to be outdone by the awkward pace off the surface.

Pandya's innings lasted only two balls as he too, like a few others, was early into his shot which produced a top edge to

be grabbed easily.

Earlier, Kolkata Knight Riders' aggressive approach came a cropper on a sluggish surface as they were bowled out for a paltry 169 despite Venkatesh Iyer's half-century.

Venkatesh scored 70 off 52 balls but his selfish attitude of trying to preserve his own wicket by sacrificing enforcer Russell certainly cost the Shah Rukh Khan co-owned side 20 runs which didn't turn out to be costly in the end.

Veteran Pandey scored 42 off 31 balls in a stand of 83 for the sixth wicket with Venkatesh.

Just like the top-order was blown away before the total reached 60, the last five fell for just 29 runs as Jasprit Bumrah (3/18 in 3.5 overs) was too hot to handle with his toe-crushers at the death.

On a two-paced wicket which had the odd delivery coming on to the bat slower than expected, KKR batters were guilty of rushing into their shots and not reading the track well before formulating their plans.

As a result, half of their side was back in the hut in the powerplay without having anything significant on the board.

After the explosive top order cut a sorry figure, Rinku Singh (9) too squandered an opportunity to bat big, forcing KKR to turn to the experienced Pandey as impact sub for rescue.

Brief scores

KKR: 169 all out in 19.5 overs (Iyer 70, Pandey 42; Bumrah 3/18, Thushara 3/42) vs MI: 145 all out in 18.5 overs (Suryakumar 56; Starc 4/33, Chakravathy 2/22, Narine/2/22).

## T20 World Cup: Former Ranji Trophy top-scorer Milind Kumar to play for USA



DALLAS, May 4 (Agencies): Former Delhi batter and 2018-19 Ranji Trophy top run-getter Milind Kumar found a place in the United States of America squad for the upcoming T20 World Cup, starting June 1.

The USA, a co-host of the event alongside the West Indies, announced its 15-member squad to be led by Gujarat-born Monank Patel.

Right-handed batter Milind, who scored 1331 runs in the 2018-19 Ranji Trophy season, had before that played seven seasons for Delhi and then migrated to the USA in search of better opportunities.

Milind, a Delhi-born cricketer, played for the state, Sikkim and Tripura in the Indian domestic before migrating to the USA.

The 33-year-old batter also played for Delhi Daredevils (now Delhi Capitals) and Royal Challengers Bangalore in the Indian Premier League.

During the 2018-19 Ranji Trophy, he finished as the highest run-scorer for the season playing for Sikkim before making his cricketing debut in the US in 2021 with The Philadelphians in the Minor Cricket League.

Former Mumbai left-arm spinner Harmeet Singh has also made it to the side.

The 31-year-old Mumbai-born featured for the Indian team during the 2012 U-19 World Cup, besides playing for Rajasthan Royals in 2013 and state cricket for Tripura.

He made his US cricketing debut in 2021, leading Seattle Thunderbolts in the Minor League Cricket.

Saurabh Nethravalkar, another Mumbai-born pacer, played in the 2010 U-19 World Cup, the batch that saw stars like KL Rahul, Jaydev Unadkat and Mayank Agarwal going on to represent the senior Indian team.

However, a couple of renowned Indians and members of the 2012 U-19 World Cup-winning team -- Unmukt Chand (skipper) and Smit Patel (wicketkeeper) -- failed to find a spot in the squad.

Another well-known face in the squad is Corey Anderson, a former New Zealand all-rounder who represented the Black Caps in the 2015 ODI World Cup and the T20 World Cups in 2014 and 2016.

He moved to the US in 2023 and made his debut with the side last month in a T20I against Canada.

Pakistan-born pacer Ali Khan is also an inclusion in the squad, who was recruited by Kolkata Knight Riders in 2020.

USA will start their campaign against neighbours Canada here on the opening day, having also been clubbed alongside India, Pakistan and Ireland in Group A. USA squad for T20 World Cup: Monank Patel (c & wk), Aaron Jones (vc), Andries Gous, Corey Anderson, Ali Khan, Harmeet Singh, Jessy Singh, Milind Kumar, Nisarg Patel, Nitish Kumar, Noshtush Kenjige, Saurabh Nethravalkar, Shadley Van Schalkwyk, Steven Taylor and Shayan Jahangir.

## Consistency key for Paris glory, feels Tanisha Crasto

NEW DELHI, May 4 (Agencies): Set to compete at the Paris Games, young shuttler Tanisha Crasto believes she and her women's doubles partner Ashwini Ponnappa have the game to match the world's best but need to work a bit more on consistency and patience to produce results at the Olympics.

The 20-year-old Tanisha and Ashwini, 34, made the cut for the Olympics after finishing 13th at the end of the qualification cycle.

"I feel like one thing we could work on is being more consistent and having more patience on the court because one thing that is very common in this set of players is that the matches go very long and also they are very consistent with the way they play," Tanisha told agency.



"If we work on the same aspect, it could help us in tackling these players. I think we are already there at that level and I think we are very much capable of competing and even winning tournaments."

The world No. 21 pair will face the likes of heavyweights Nami Matsuyama-Chiharu Shida (Japan), Chen Qing Chen-Jia Yi Fan (China) and Baek Ha

Na-Lee So Hee (South Korea) at the Paris Games.

Tanisha said the experience of her partner Ashwini, a two-time Olympian, will hold them in good stead in Paris.

"She's one of the legends in Indian badminton, she has a great level of experience. She has been in this field for so long which helps us on the court," said Tanisha.

## Virat Kohli vs Shubman Gill battle for survival in Bengaluru

BENGALURU, May 4 (Agencies): Virat Kohli is back in form and so are RCB. After their loss in the final-ball thriller vs KKR, RCB have managed to stitch two confident wins in a row against SRH and GT - both away from home. The team will now return to Bengaluru and play their reverse fixture against Shubman Gill's Gujarat. In the last game, Kohli and Will Jacks put in a tremendous partnership to chase down 200 runs against the famed spin attack of GT. While Kohli as unbeaten at 70, Jacks scored a terrific stroke-filled hundred.

RCB will hope for the same, given they still have kept their playoffs hopes alive in the Indian Premier League at the moment. Captain Faf du Plessis has spoken about the side's mentality and how much strength they have shown to make a comeback after an extremely poor start. The RCB unit seems confident of their approach and one would hope that they put in a strong performance in the back end of the tournament.



Shubman Gill's Gujarat have lost way in the IPL after their strong start at home and are currently in the 8th spot in the league table. Gill was not picked up in the main squad for the T20 World Cup 2024 and will hope that he is able to avenge the selection call. The batter has been far from his best this season but has shown glimpses of his prolific 2023 form. There can be no better ground than Bengaluru to return to form and Gill would hope for a statement outing today.

RCB vs GT: Head-to-Head RCB and GT have played

four times in the Indian Premier League and the spoils are shared at 2-2 at the moment. In the last game, RCB hammered GT with a thundering partnership between Virat Kohli and Will Jacks.

RCB vs GT: Team News Changes might be in cards for GT after their hammering in the last match. Noor Ahmad and Rashid Khan were ineffective vs Kohli and GT might think about trying out Spencer Johnson against the hosts. Johnson's left arm angle could come handy on the day.

RCB vs GT: Pitch Report

The Bengaluru pitch has seen some really high scores this season. The last match played in the stadium was the one where SRH registered their world record. The pitch has gone through some work and is expected to provide a better balance between the ball and the bat.

RCB vs GT: Predicted XI

GT Predicted XI Shubman Gill (c), Wriddhiman Saha/Matthew Wade (wk), Sai Sudharsan, Azmatullah Omarzai/Vijay Shankar, Shahrukh Khan, David Miller, Rahul Tewatia, Rashid Khan, R. Sai Kishore, Sandeep Warrier, Noor Ahmad/Spencer Johnson, Mohit Sharma.

Impact Player: Darshan Nal-kande.

RCB Predicted XI Virat Kohli, Faf du Plessis (c), Will Jacks, Rajat Patidar, Glenn Maxwell, Cameron Green, Dinesh Karthik (wk), Swapnil Singh, Karn Sharma, Mohammed Siraj, Yash Dayal.

Impact Player: Mahipal Lomror.

## No Sahal and Subhasish as India announce probable FIFA WC Qualifiers squad

FIFA World Cup qualifiers: AIFF has released the provisional squad for the FIFA World Cup qualifiers. Coach Igor Stimac has picked a 26-member squad for India's remaining World Cup qualifier games against Qatar and Kuwait. The list includes the likes of Sunil Chhetri, and Brandon Fernandes, but is missing the likes of Anirudh Thapa and Sahal Abdul Samad.

NEW DELHI, May 4 (Agencies): The All India Football Federation has announced India's provisional squad for the remaining matches of their FIFA World Cup Qualifiers campaign. Head coach Igor Stimac took to Twitter to announce the squad on Saturday, 4 May. The 26-member list will travel for the Bhubaneswar training camp, where the national side will prepare for their upcoming FIFA World Cup 2026 Quali-

fiers games against Kuwait and Qatar. The Indian Football team is all set to kickstart their Camp on May 10, ahead of their last two Group A fixtures against Kuwait in Kolkata on June 6, followed by the big game against Qatar in Doha on June 11.

The list released by AIFF on Saturday morning includes some big names like their skipper Sunil Chhetri, Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, Brandon Fernandes, but are also missing players like

Sahal Abdul Samad, Anirudh Thapa and Shubhasish Bose.

India, currently standing on the second position in Group A, which includes Qatar, Kuwait and Afghanistan, and will need to win all of their remaining fixtures to ensure a safe qualification further into the tournament. After suffering a frustrating 2-1 defeat to Afghanistan on March 26 due to a late penalty by Sharif Muhammad, India missed out on their chance to



secure an easy path to the next round. The defeat brought up loads of criticism of coach Stimac's unnecessarily defensive approach and mistimed substitutions, with many calling

out for the axing of the Croatian. Upon AIFF holding a virtual meet with Stimac on April 4, it was decided that the 56-year-old will continue to be in the managerial role of India, at least

through the rest of their World Cup Qualifier fixtures.

INDIA PROBABLE SQUAD FOR FIFA WC QUALIFIERS

Goalkeepers: Amrinder Singh, Gurpreet Singh Sandhu.

Defenders: Amey Ganesh Ranawade, Jay Gupta, Lalchungnunga, Muhammad Hamad, Narendar, Nikhil Poojary, Roshan Singh Naorem.

Midfielders: Brandon Fernandes, Edmund Lalrindika, Imran Khan, Isak Vanlalruatfela,

Jeakson Singh Thounaojam, Mahesh Singh Naorem, Mohammad Yasir, Nandhakumar Sekar, Rahul Kannoly Praveen, Suresh Singh Wangjam, Vibin Mohanan.

Forwards: David Lalhansanga, Jithin Madathil Subran, Lalrinzuala, Parthib Sundar Gogoi, Rahim Ali, Sunil Chhetri.

Despite the loss to Afghanistan, India can still qualify into the third round of the FIFA World Cup Qualifiers, provided they can at

least grab three points in their upcoming two games against Qatar and Kuwait.

The comparatively easier tie for India comes with their clash against Kuwait on June 6.

India will also be hoping that Afghanistan will lose at least one of their 2 upcoming matches, most preferably against Kuwait on June 11. This will see India qualify for the third round as the second-placed team of their group.



## Sunil Dimple holds meeting with Dr Farooq Abdullah

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 4: The meeting between Dr. Farooq Abdullah, President of the National Conference (NC), and Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, held at Dr. Farooq Abdullah's residence in Bathindi, Jammu, focused on addressing the aftermath of the decisions made by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on August 5, 2019.

These decisions notably included the abrogation of Article 370 and the bifurcation of the state of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories.

During the meeting, both leaders expressed strong opposition to these decisions, emphasizing that they are not acceptable to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

They underscored the need for unity among all political parties and alliance partners in the region to counter the



effects of these decisions.

Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Sunil Dimple engaged in a detailed discussion, particularly focusing on strategies to ensure success in the upcoming parliamentary and assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

They emphasized the importance of mobilizing support for candidates aligned with their alliance and preventing candidates backed by the BJP from winning seats in the region.

Furthermore, Dr. Farooq Abdullah highlighted the need for simultaneous preparations for the upcoming assembly elections. He expressed confidence that the alliance, including the INDIA Bloc, would secure victory in all five seats of Jammu and Kashmir and one seat in Ladakh.

Regarding the political landscape in the region, Dr. Farooq Abdullah criticized the BJP's rhetoric urging voters to reject "three families" in Kash-

mir, emphasizing that such statements lacked substance. He also questioned the effectiveness of parties like the Apni Party, Peoples Conference, and the role of Ghulam Nabi Azad, alleging that they had not effectively served the interests of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

The leaders discussed the economic challenges faced by the region, including rising unemployment, inflation, and the perceived exploitation of resources by outsiders.

They stressed the importance of safeguarding the rights and resources of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, highlighting the historical significance of Article 370 and the Instrument of Accession signed by Maharaja Hari Singh in 1927.

Sunil Dimple echoed these sentiments, emphasizing the demand for the restoration of Article 370 and the implementation of the conditions outlined in the Instrument of Accession to protect the land, jobs, and demography of Jammu and Kashmir.

In conclusion, Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Sunil Dimple reaffirmed their commitment to the collective struggle against the decisions made by the BJP on August 5, 2019. They vowed to continue their political and legal efforts to advocate for the restoration of Article 370 and the rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

## Chairman JKTF calls on Director School Education Jammu



### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 4: Ganesh Khajuria, Chairman Jammu Kashmir Teachers Forum (JKTF) on Saturday called on Ashok Sharma, Director School Education Jammu in his office chamber to discuss issues and problems faced by teaching fraternity. Subah Mehta Joint Director JSK also present during the meeting.

Ganesh Khajuria highlighted the problems faced by the employees to complete the files of One Time Exemption, who have acquired higher Qualification during service, and made Director aware about the situation

of chaos among the teaching community and loss of class work due to unnecessary documentation.

He requested that the files must be taken only from those who have acquired P.G degrees or other higher qualifications and not from those who have acquired Graduation or B.Ed. Degrees.

Furthermore, Ganesh Khajuria highlighted the issue of In-situ promotion of Masters promoted in 2014 and requested to speed up the process of In-situ promotion as these files are already delaying since long.

Director School Education Jammu after patient hearing the grievances,

assured to speed up the process and both the issues will be resolved on priority and the necessary instructions will be passed on tomorrow itself to the subordinate offices to minimise the documentation and unnecessary harassment to teaching community.

Ganesh Khajuria accompanied by Darshan Sharma, Ravinder Singh, Kuldeep Singh Bandral, P.D Singh, Gautam Singh, Bharat Bhushan Sharma and Pawan Sharma conveyed his heartfelt thanks for threadbare discussions, for showing his concern and for assurance for early redressal of the issues.

## Ladakh surpasses last year achievement in MSME Schemes implementation



### Top News Report

LEH, May 4: MSME-DNC, Ladakh the field office of Ministry of MSME, implements various schemes and activities for the benefit of MSME Sector for Ladakh with jurisdiction of both District Leh and Kargil.

The activities including Entrepreneurship Awareness Program, Intellectual Property Rights Awareness Program, Procurement Marketing Support Scheme Awareness Program, PM-Vishwakarma Awareness Program, PM-Vishwakarma Awareness Workshop, Entrepreneurship & Skill Development Program, Management Development Program,

Reimbursement of Barcode Expenditure, Reimbursement of Stall Charges, To and From Charges, Advertising Expenditure for participating in various exhibitions conducted in all parts of the Country.

MSME Development Nucleus Cell Office inaugurated officially on February 14, 2024 in the presence of Jamyang Tsering Namgyal MP of Ladakh, Sanjeev Khirwar, Principal Secretary Industries & Commerce, Tashi Kachu, Chairman, Ladakh Chamber of Industries & Commerce and other dignitaries, the event was Co-ordinated by G.Velladurai, IEDS, Joint Director, MSME DFO Jammu, J&K.

During the financial year 2023-24 MSME DNC Ladakh organized 09 programs covering EAP's, IPR's, PM Vishwakarma Seminar's & Workshop and PMS awareness program benefitting 3505 participants covering both the Districts of Leh and Kargil of Ladakh including far flung areas like Rupsho, Kharsa, Vill.Phyang compared to 120 participants benefited in the 2 programs organized in the financial year 2022-23 in District Leh of Ladakh. These achievements were made possible through the dedicated work of Sonam Targias and Thinles Tsomo who were looking after the activities in the office.

## Govt Polytechnic Jammu distributes Certificates under PM Vishwakarma Scheme

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 4: Government Polytechnic Bikram Chowk Jammu organised Certificate Distribution Function under PM Vishwakarma Scheme in which certificates were distributed to the more than 180 trainees from Four Batches in Tailor (Darzi), Two Batches of Carpenter (Suthar) Trade, Two Batches of Assistant Barber-Salon Services Trade, One Batch of Blacksmith (Lohar) and One Batch of Brick Masson (Rajmistr) on the successful completion of the Basic Skilling Training under PM Vishwakarma Scheme.

Er. Arun Bangotra Principal Government Polytechnic Jammu highlighted the basic objectives of the scheme by recognition of artisans through PM Vishwakarma Certificate as well as basic training of five to seven days.

On the occasion the staff from SBI Bank

conducted an awareness session for loan scheme under PM Vishwakarma Scheme and also informed students on how to apply for loan under this scheme. While speaking on the occasion, several trainees expressed their gratitude towards the administration of the college for the successful and smooth conduct of their training.

Other presents on the occasion were Inderjeet Singh Workshop Superintendent, Manjeet Singh HOD Electrical Engineering, Sukhdeep Singh HOD Civil Engineering/ SPoC, Sanjay Koul HOD Computer Engg, Sakshi Kapahi Lecturer I&C, Paramjit Singh Demonstrator Civil Engineering, Dinesh Kumar, Sandeep Kumar and Amit Kapoor Instructor, Sunil Sharma, Surekha Rani, Sangojeta Mehra, Kanta Baloria, staff of Government Polytechnic Jammu, and various vishwakarma's were also present on the occasion.

## DPS Jammu leads interactive drug abuse workshop

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 4: In an ongoing commitment to raise awareness and promote understanding regarding the multi-faceted issues of drug abuse and its repercussions, Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu conducted a two-day workshop on Drug Abuse, tailored for students of classes XI and XII.

Under the auspices of the Narcotics Control Bureau, Jammu, the workshop welcomed Aakash Rai and Abhishek Sharma, Intelligence Officers from NCB Jammu, as Resource Persons.

Their engaging sessions not only emphasized on the pivotal role of educational institutions in combating drug abuse but also on advocacy of healthy lifestyles among students.

The interactive nature of the workshop facilitated open discussions, enabling students to grasp the profound consequences of drug abuse on individuals, families, communities, and the economy. Emphasis was placed on the imperative need for comprehensive strategies



to address this societal challenge effectively.

Diving into the nuances, the Experts elucidated on various drug classifications, their physiological and psychological effects, and the underlying factors contributing to substance abuse behaviours.

The workshop culminated with a resounding call to action, urging all stakeholders to synergize efforts in combating drug abuse. Through heightened awareness, collaborative initiatives, and evidence-based interventions, the collective endeavour aims to empower individuals towards healthier choices, thereby paving the way for a safer, drug-free future.

Ruchi Chabra, Principal of DPS Jammu urged the students to remain vigilant against the perils of drug abuse and to make

informed decisions. Also present on the occasion were Meenu Gupta-Headmistress, Ravi Kumar Kotroo- Headmaster along with Coordinators.

The vote of thanks was given by Umesh Kumar Sharma, Dy. Headmaster. The workshop's dynamic exchange concluded with an interactive Q&A session, followed by the rendition of the National Anthem, symbolizing unity and resolve in the fight against drug abuse.

The esteemed management of DPS Jammu, President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC- Dr. Ritu Singh and Director S.S. Sodhi congratulated the Principal & Staff for the successful conduct of the workshop and extended their best wishes to students and staff for their future endeavours.

## Congress holds Govt responsible for lack of development in remote areas

### Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, May 4: Congress leader Dr Mulk Raj Bhumagi visited various parts of the tehsil Mongri (Bhumag) and held Nukkad Meeting at different villages to listen to the problems of local residents in these far-flung remote areas.

During the meeting people of these areas raised the issue of the areas like road connectivity, infrastructure of the school buildings, shortage of drinking water supply, electricity, health care facilities, and non payment of wages under the MGNREGA since March 2014 people alleged that despite

repeated requests to concerned department authorities of the district administration nothing has been done so far.

Congress leader Dr.Mulk Raj Bhumagi while addressing the villagers meeting at Suthar near Mongri said here on Saturday BJP in the past had deliberately neglected remote areas of the district Udhampur because of vote bank considerations.

He said the elected representatives of this party never wanted education or awareness to reach the people in far-flung remote areas so that, election after election, the people's ignorance could be exploited to secure their

vote. Dr.said the educational institutions are running in these villages without roof of school building and shortage of teaching staff there school infrastructure and teaching staff have not been provided in these schools of the far flung remote areas.

He said holding the Government and their elected representatives from 2014 responsible for the lack of development in remote areas.

Congress leader Dr Mulk Raj Bhumagi today alleged that BJP deliberately ignored far-flung areas.

BJP and it's representatives deliberately

ignored development of far-flung areas so that people of these belts remain backward and cut off from outer world for continuously using them as mere vote bank and people who voted them to power were intentionally deprived from development and kept backward in respect of basic facilities of life.

Dr.Bhumagi assured the villagers of taking up all the genuine issues with higher authorities in the first instance.

Those who attend the meeting Sarpanch Yash Pal Singh, Munshi Ram, Prem Singh, Kaki Ram, Punjabu Ram, Subash Singh, Shamsher Singh, Manjeet Singh etc.

## Online Registration for Management Aptitude Test started

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 4: The All India Management Association (AIMA) is the apex body for management in India, dedicated to enhancing management skills and capabilities through various programs, initiatives, and examinations. One of its flagship offerings is the Management Aptitude Test (MAT). This national-level entrance exam serves as the gateway to over 600 prestigious B-schools across India, facilitating admissions into MBA and PGDM programs.

From May 2024, AIMA is introducing MAT 2.0, an evolved version of MAT, which covers newer

segments like current business and economic trends. MAT 2.0 is a new-age entrance test that offers a fresh perspective on management education aligned with contemporary industry practices and growing educational requirements.

The alterations in MAT 2.0 encompass various aspects, including exam structure, content focus, and duration. Notable changes include a streamlined exam structure featuring 150 questions to be attempted within 120 minutes, providing candidates with a more focused and efficient examination experience. Scheduled to be conducted through various modes, including

Paper Based Test (PBT), Computer Based Test (CBT) and Internet Based Test (IBT). MAT offers candidates flexibility in choosing a mode that best suits their preferences and convenience.

Candidate registrations are ongoing for MAT May 2024. MAT is scheduled to be held in Jammu in computer-based test (CBT) and paper-based test (PBT) modes. Candidates online apply at <https://mat.aima.in/>. Graduates in any discipline or Final-year students of Graduate Courses can also apply. The last date of registration for PBT is May 28, 2024, and the test is scheduled for June 2, 2024. The last date of registration

for CBT is May 19, 2024, and the test is scheduled for May 26, 2024. The examination fee for MAT May 2024 is Rs.2100. Candidates can opt for an additional test mode by paying an extra fee of Rs.1200. Both the PBT and CBT exams will be held on Sunday.

The list of Participating B-Schools are Lovely Professional University (Phagwara), Shoolini University (Solan), Chitkara University (Rajpura), New Delhi Institute of Management (New Delhi), IMS Ghaziabad, Sharda University (Greater Noida), University of Petroleum & Energy Studies (Dehradun) and GD Goenka University (Gurugram).