

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, MAY 07, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

**Manoj Bajpayee starts shooting for The Family Man Season 3**



NATIONAL | 7

**Jobs used to be on sale during Congress rule in Haryana: Manohar Lal Khattar**

INTERNATIONAL | 8

**Putin is starting his fifth term as president, more in control of Russia than ever**



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## BRIEFLY

### MeT forecasts mainly dry, 'Hot' weather in J&K

SRINAGAR, May 7 (Agencies): Mainly dry and "hot" weather has been forecast over Jammu and Kashmir till May 10.

"Mainly dry and hot weather is expected in Jammu and Kashmir," said meteorological department here in a statement for the forecast during the next 24 hours and subsequent two days. However, the MeT department has said that thundershower activity during the afternoon can't be ruled out at a few places till May 10.

On May 11, it said, there is forecast of partly to generally cloudy weather with light rain and thunder at a few places.

Generally cloudy weather with light rain/snow (over higher reaches) has been predicted at many places with thunder activity at few places on May 12.

On May 13, it said, partly to generally cloudy weather is expected with light rain at few places.

Regarding temperature, a MeT spokesperson said that Srinagar recorded a low of 10.5°C against 11.2°C on the previous night and it was 0.2°C below normal for the summer capital of JK for this time of the year.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 9.0°C, same as on the previous night and it was 0.2°C below normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

Pahalgam recorded a low of 5.8°C against 5.4°C on the previous night and it was 0.3°C above normal for the famous resort in south Kashmir.

Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, recorded a minimum of 10.3°C against 9.7°C and it was 1.1°C above normal, the official said.

Kupwara town recorded a minimum of 8.6°C against 8.0°C on the previous night and it was 0.7°C below normal there, the official said.

Gulmarg recorded a minimum of 7.6°C against 5.2°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 2.4°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Jammu, he said, recorded a low of 22.1°C against 21.3°C

Turn to page 9

## ECI directs ethical Social Media use by political parties

NEW DELHI, May 7 (Agencies): Taking cognizance of the certain violations of MCC and the extant legal provisions by Political Parties (their representatives while using social media for election campaigning, the Commission today has issued directions to political parties for responsible and ethical use of social media in election campaigning to ensure level playing field among all stakeholders.



The Commission has also warned the parties against misuse of AI based tools to create deep fakes that distort information or propagate

misinformation, emphasising the need to uphold the integrity of the electoral process. The ECI has brought to the notice of political parties the

existing legal provisions that govern the regulatory framework against the use of misinformation and impersonation using deep fakes. This includes the Information Technology Act, 2000 and the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021, the Indian Penal Code and framework of the twin acts namely the Representation of People Act.

Turn to page 9

## 2 terrorists killed in encounter in Kulgam, Search operation underway



SRINAGAR, May 7 (Agencies): Two terrorists were killed in an anti-terror operation

conducted by security forces in the Redwani Payeen area in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam

on Tuesday, officials said.

The bodies of the terrorists have been recovered, as confirmed by the Kashmir Zone Police. Their identities are yet to be ascertained by the authorities.

"Bodies of 02 #terrorists killed in the anti-terrorist operation recovered so far. Identity & affiliation being ascertained. #Operation in progress. Further details

Turn to page 9

## Man killed over land dispute; Police conduct multiple raids

JAMMU, May 7 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir police has stepped up their efforts in the ongoing investigation into the murder of a person over a land dispute here and have conducted multiple raids at the residences of suspects, officials said on Wednesday.

The incident occurred on May 1, when Avtar Singh (40), son of Balbir Singh, was hit on his head with an iron rod and died because of excessive bleeding during a scuffle between two groups, who staked their claim over the piece of land in Greater Kailash locality.

An angry mob, including the family and relatives of the deceased, blocked Kalu-Chak road on Jammu-Pathankot national highway and demanded a CBI probe into the killing, police said.

"Continuing crackdown on suspects and accused involved in the

Greater Kailash murder case, police seized two vehicles involved in the commission of crime along with raids at houses of suspects to affect their arrest," a police spokesman said.

He said that the police examined the CCTV footage of the area

Turn to page 9

## ACB arrests Naib Tehsildar, Khrew for accepting bribe

SRINAGAR, May 7 (Agencies): Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday said to have trapped and arrested Naib Tehsildar Khrew, Pulwama while a Constable was also held for allegedly facilitating the offence.

The spokesman said J&K Anti Corruption Bureau received a complaint against Naib Tehsildar, Khrew, District Pulwama alleging therein that the said Naib-Tehsildar is demanding Rs 10,000 from complainant through his clerk namely Ajaz Ahmad for settlement of dispute of ancestral land at village Sathpokhran, Khrew Pulwama, "The complainant approached the Tehsil

Office Khrew several times for settlement of the dispute, but the Naib Tehsildar didn't budge. Moreover the complainant has been harassed through Notices by the said Naib Tehsildar," the statement said.

"The complainant approached ACB for taking necessary action against the said Naib-Tehsildar and his clerk namely Ajaz Ahmed. On receipt of the complaint, a case under FIR number 02/2024 under section 7 PC Act 1988 was registered at PS ACB Anantnag and investigation taken up," the statement said.

During the course of investigation, a trap team was constituted.

Turn to page 9

## Woman drug peddler arrested in Kathua with cash, heroin

JAMMU, May 7: A woman drug peddler was arrested in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district on Tuesday and cash and heroin was recovered from her possession, police said.

Acting on information, a police team intercepted a woman at a checkpoint in Rajbagh area and recovered heroin, Rs 15,670 cash and a mobile in Khanpur area, they said.

The drug peddler identified as Asha Bibi was arrested and a case was registered against her, police said.

She was involved in illegal trade of selling narcotics to the drug addicts of Khanpur area as well as its adjoining area and had kept a huge quantity of narcotics substance in her possession, they said.

## Police attach properties of 7 pak based terror handlers in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, May 7 (Agencies): Police on Tuesday attached the properties of seven alleged terror handlers based in Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Police said on Tuesday that after obtaining an attachment order passed by Additional Sessions Court, Baramulla attached properties (13 Kanals) land worth lakhs belonging to terror handlers based in Pakistan.

"The action was taken under sections of 88 CRPC and are linked with case FIR No.04/2008 u/s 2/3 EIMCO Act, 121 RPC,7/25 IA Act, 13 UA (P) Act of PS Kreeri," police said.

The property was identified as belonging to

Turn to page 9

# 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 Mukteshwar (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 Dulari & Lt. Sh. Somnath Handoo  
Smt. Suman Sher W/o Lt. Sh. Surinder 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

## OBITUARY

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF **SH. ROSHAN LAL KOUL (BHAI SAHAB)** S/O LATE SMT PRABHAVATI & LATE SH PREM NATH KOUL (ARPAN) OF BUGAM, KULGAM KASHMIR, PRESENTLY AT H.NO. 472, VINAYAK NAGAR, SECTOR-2, NEAR K S PUBLIC SCHOOL, & VODAFONE TOWER, MUTHI JAMMU, ON 02/05/2024 AT MUTHI.

THE TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE HELD AT MUTHI GHAT, NEAR DIRECTOR SCHOOL EDUCATION OFFICE ON 11/05/2024 SATURDAY AT 9 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
SMT PAMMY & SH. SUNIL KOUL - SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW (9810985713)  
SMT SHELLA KOUL (JIGRI) W/O LATE SH. NEELKANTH KOUL - AUNTY  
SMT. PHOOLA KOUL (TATHEE) W/O LATE SH SOON NATH KALL - BABHI (6006101560)  
SMT SHYAMA JI & SH. JI TIKOO - SISTER & BROTHER IN LAW (7303597287)  
SMT. USHA JI & SH. PEARY K KOLL - SISTER & BROTHER IN LAW (9419197225)  
SMT RAJJI & DR ROOP KRISHEN BHAT - BROTHER & SISTER IN LAW (988555535)  
SMT MALNI & DR ASHOK KOUL - BROTHER & SISTER IN LAW (401-4976139-USA)  
SMT RAJJI & SH GIRDHARI LAL KOUL - BROTHER & SISTER IN LAW (7006467691)  
SMT BABUJI & SH VIJAY K KOLL - BROTHER & SISTER IN LAW (9419146262)  
SMT NANCY JI & SH. PARDEEP KOUL - BROTHER & SISTER IN LAW (9086009550)  
SMT SONI & SH. M. K. BHAT - DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW (9818452263)  
SMT BEAUTY & SH VIMAL BHAT - DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW (8826187876)  
SMT NEELAM & SH VINOD KOUL - SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW (981671250)  
SMT MEENAKSHI & SH PUNEET KOUL - SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW (8699739882)



**SH. ROSHAN LAL KOUL (BHAI SAHAB)**  
RAHI KOUL - SON  
GRAND CHILDREN  
MEET, NIYATI, NEEV,  
AVNI, NIMIT,  
SAWAN, SUPRIYA,  
PURVI, SHAVI

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief, we inform that Smt Shanta Harker W/o Late Sh Badri Nath Harker, originally from Drabyar Srinagar, has left for her heavenly abode on 30th April, 2024.

The Tenth Day Kriya shall be performed at Muthi Ghat, near Directorate of School Education, as per the following schedule:  
Date: 8th May Time: 8.00 am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN (Daughters & Son-in-laws)**  
Ranjana Pandita & Surinder Pandita  
Sunita Kaul & Sunil Kaul  
G K Dhar & Vijaya Dhar (Brother & Sister-in-law)  
Shiela Shah & Dulari Koul (Sisters)  
Surya Ranjan Pandita, Surya Deep Pandita, Kartik Kaul - Grand Sons  
**Mob. Nos.: 9350233777 / 9783457979 / 9796227200 / 8899105016**



**Smt Shanta Harker**

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother Smt. Rani Ji Kharu W/o Lt. Mohan Lal Kharu originally resident of Moliyar Rainawari at present Ambedkar Nagar Lane No.1 Paloura Top on 29-04-2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu on 08-05-2024 at 8:30 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Daughter-in-law  
Smt. Seema Ji Kharu W/o Lt. Ravinder Kharu  
Smt. Archana Kharu W/o Lt. Dileep Kharu - Daughter-in-law  
Smt/Sh. Sunita & Ravinder Kalla - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Smt/Sh. Pushpa & Surinder Pandita - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Smt/Sh. Kalpan & Amit Arora - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Samast: Kharu, Kalla, Pandita, Arora & Ganjoo Pariwar



**SMT. RANI JI KHARU**

## KRIYA KARM/ RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Late Smt Rano Devi W/o Late Sh Anrez 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 Surinder Singh Charak  
Smt Darshana Devi & Sh Lal Singh Manhas  
Smt Rama Devi & Sh Surinder Singh Langeh



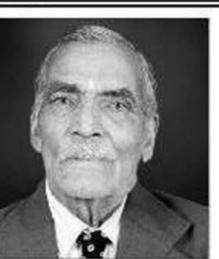
**Late Smt Rano Devi**  
Contact No.  
94191-47339,  
9797606216, 9906173652

## 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, Mutthi (Near Nand Public School) Jammu on 29-04-2024.

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

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Shri Makhan Lal Bhat - Brother-in-Law  
Smt. Phoola 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, Ranjini, Sanvi and Chitraksh  
**SAMAST FOTEDAR FAMILY**  
Mob. 8825027101, 9596604915, 8899291623, 9868101943



**Karamyogi Shri Dwarika Nath Fotedar**

## TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

It is with profound sorrow that we announce the demise of **Sh. Ved Raj Goswami**, a esteemed resident of Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, on April 29, 2024. The commemorative Tenth Day Ceremony is scheduled for May 8, 2024, at 11:00 AM, to be held at 127-A Gandhi Nagar. Following this, the KRIYA rites will be conducted on May 9, 2024, at the aforementioned location. The UTHALA observance is slated to take place at 5:00 PM on May 9, 2024, at the Shiv Temple near our residence in Gandhi Nagar. Your presence and condolences during these somber proceedings would be greatly appreciated.

**Grief Stricken**  
Son & Daughter-in-law  
Rakesh Goswami (Rd.A.E.E. JK PDD) & Anjali Goswami  
Daughters & Son-in-laws  
Sarita & Col. Balbir Sharan  
Savita & Col. - Shyam Sunder Kaushal  
Vandana & Dr. Prem Nath Sharma  
Nidhi & Dr Virinder Dubey  
Vinod Goswami & Veena Goswami - Nephew & Daughter-in-law  
Parmod Goswami & Renu Goswami - Nephew & Daughter-in-law  
Anil Goswami & Neeru Goswami - Nephew & Daughter-in-law  
Mrs. Shashi Dogra - Sister-in-law  
**DEEPLY MISSED AND REMEMBERED BY GRAND CHILDREN AND DEAR ONES.**  
Contact No.: 7889607454, 9419187074



**Sh. Ved Raj Goswami**

## 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. Churni 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. Bubby & 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 Arav Kachroo



**Smt Rattan Rani Kachroo**

## 5TH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Sunil Khajuria**, Husband of Sonia Khajuria.

**Fifth Day** will be performed on Wednesday at 10 am to 11 am on 08 May/ 2024 Hari Ghaat Canal Road Near RRL Canal Road Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Mama ji & Masad Ji  
Suraj Parkash Sharma  
Sukhdev Sharma  
Brother in-law & Sister-in-law  
Neeraj Upadhyay & Alpana Upadhyay  
Sister in-law & Brother in-law  
Poonam Upadhyay & Anil Sharma  
Nidhi Mishra & Kunal Mishra.  
**Mob. 8146799729, 7217895721**



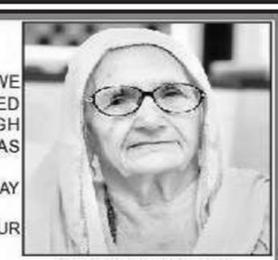
**Sh. Sunil Khajuria**

## TENTH DAY

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SMT SANKARO DEVI** W/O LATE HARNAM SINGH CHIB R/O RAIPUR SATWARI NEAR SHIVA GAS STORE, JAMMU ON 28.4.2024.

TENTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED ON MONDAY 06-05-2024 AT OUR RESIDENCE AT 10 AM.  
RASAM PAGRI WILL BE HELD ON 10.5.2024 AT OUR RESIDENCE AT 12 NOON.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
SON/DAUGHTER IN LAW:  
SH. BALWAN SINGH CHIB/NEENA CHIB (DIVE SUPDT. ONGC)  
SH. RABINDER SINGH CHIB/VIJAY CHIB  
SH. NARINDER SINGH CHIB/ASHA RANI (LECTURER)  
DAUGHTERS AND SONS IN LAW:  
SURESHA DEVI/KULWANT SINGH SAMBYAL  
ASHOK KUMAR/SUKHVINDER SINGH CHARAK  
GRAND SONS/DAUGHTERS IN LAW:  
NITIN CHIB/PRIYANKA CHANYAL  
SHAHL CHIB/SWATI BHAU  
SHUBHAM CHIB  
AKHL CHIB



**SMT SANKARO DEVI**  
GRAND DAUGHTERS:  
DEWASHI CHIB  
ANAMIKA RAJPUT  
GREAT GRAND DAUGHTERS:  
SPRIHA RAJPUT, RIGEL CHIB.  
MOB. NO. 9419205501,  
9419232174, 9469753554

## 10TH DAY/RASAM KIRYA/UTHALA

YOU WILL LIVE IN OUR HEART AND THOUGHTS  
Our dearest Smt Sudershan Gupta left for her heavenly abode on May 01, 2024.

**10TH DAY** will be held on Thursday 09 May, 2024 at our residence House No 202 Lane No 15 Talab Tillo Jammu From: 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

**RASAM KIRYA** will be held on Sunday 12 May 2024 at our residence House No. 202 Lane No 15 Talab Tillo Jammu from 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.  
**UTHALA** will be held on Monday 13 May 2024 at Tali Sahab Gurudwara Talab Tillo Jammu from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

**IN GRIEF**  
Om Prakash Gupta- Husband  
Dheeraj Gupta & Ruchi Mahajan (Son & Daughter-in-law)  
**9419196325, 9419142476**



**SMT SUDERSHAN GUPTA**

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Ram Krishan Bhat** S/o Thakur Joo Bhat Originally resident of Sadkabad Anantnag Kashmir at present Khajuria Mohalla, Paloura Jammu on 04th May 2024 (Saturday).

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 13th May 2024 (Monday) at Mutthi Ghat, Near Directorate of Education Office, Mutthi Jammu at 08:30 AM

**DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY :-**  
Smt. Veena ji Bhat (Wife)  
(Sons & Daughter-in-laws)  
Sh. Sunil Kumar Bhat & Pinky Bhat  
Sh. Vinod Kumar Bhat & Sapna Bhat  
Grand Children: Manvi, Janvi, Pranav Ji & Kiyon Ji.  
**Grief Stricken:** Bhat, Koul, Dhar & Pandith Parivars  
Contact Number: 8899445585, 9796003838



**Sh. Ram Krishan Bhat**

## GREAT TRIBUTE

Respectful homage to noble & pious soul, SMT. RITA BHAI CHHIBBER W/o Bhai Yuhvir Chhibber, R/o #1602, Sector - 22/B, Chandigarh, who left for heavenly abode on 3rd May, 2024. We will always miss you.



Rita Bhai Chhibber

**FONDLY REMEMBERED BY:**  
Kanka, Nimi Pandita & Dr. Deepal Pandita.

## 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.



Smt Raj Devi

**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 Kancharan Gupta & Naresh Gupta  
Mob: 9419211757, 9419020380

## TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Jagdish Chander Bhatti (Rtd 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 (Ramika Chowk, near VPS Store) 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).



Sh. Jagdish Chander Bhatti

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Daughter-in-law & Son:  
Dr Rashid Anand (Mantaj) & Prof Pawansh 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 O C Abrol  
Prof P C Abrol, H/o Late Smt Vijay Abrol  
Late Sh. Nirmal Abrol  
Brothers-in-law & Sisters:  
Sh. Shamal Soni H/o Late Smt Binla Soni  
Late Sh. Davinder Sareen & Late Smt Nirmala

Sh. Des Raj Mohindra & Smt Kanta Rani  
Smt Veena Kapoor W/o Late Sh. MM Kapoor  
Children:  
Shyam Sachdeva, Dilesha Sachdeva, Sudhanshu Pandhi, Prema, Lavanya Abrol, Shubhima Abrol  
And all the Family Members  
Mobile No: 9419225111, 9419228017

## SHRADDHANJAL/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 this lifetime.

A caring and loving mother, Doting grand-mother and who lived a fulfilling happy life, leaving behind beautiful memories in our hearts that will continue to guide and inspire us. Naman to a great pious soul!  
Tenth Day shall be performed on 10th May at 8 AM at Murad Nagar Ghat Uttar Pradesh.



Kundani Dhar

Remembered Forever by:  
Daughter-in-law & Sons:  
Smt. Sarla & Sh. R. K. Dhar  
Smt. Sunila & Sh. Ravinder Dhar  
Grand Daughter-in-law & Grand Sons:  
Smt. Shivani & Sh. Deepak Dhar.  
Sh. Anuj Dhar  
Sh. Abhigyan Dhar  
Great Grand Kids: Master Arav Dhar, Miss Aariana Dhar  
Ravinder Dhar: +91-9810066727  
R.K. Dhar: +91-9419194515

## KRIYA/UTHALA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SMT NIRMALA SHARMA** W/O NAND KISHORE SHARMA R/O H.NO. 161/9 NANAK NAGAR JAMMU.

KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE NANAK NAGAR AT 12 NOON ON 8TH OF MAY (WEDNESDAY).  
UTHALA WILL BE PERFORMED AT RAM MANDIR (SHASTRI NAGAR) ON 8TH OF MAY AT 4 PM TO 5 PM.



SMT NIRMALA SHARMA

**Grief Stricken**  
Sh. Nand Kishore Sharma - Husband  
Lt. Sh. Jugal Kishore Sharma H/o Smt Chanchal Sharma - Chacha & Chachi  
Sh. Sat Dev Sharma H/o Smt Rama Devi - Fufad & Bua Ji  
Sons & Daughters-in-law  
Sh. Sham Sunder Sharma & Smt Shiksha Sharma  
Sh. Sourab Sharma & Smt Palak Sharma  
Sh. Kuldip Sharma (Son)  
Sh. Sandeep Sharma (Son)  
Sh. Sanjay Sharma & Smt Anila Rani  
Grand Children: Kayya, Adhav  
And Samast Nagar Family  
(M): 9419135824, 9886150006

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the untimely sad demise of our beloved Karamyogi SMT. MOHINI DHAR w/o Lt. Makhan Lal Dhar original resident of Syed Ali Akbar, Raghunath Mandir, Srinagar presently at H.No. 353 Sector 3, Gangyal Garden, Near St. Paul Convent High School.

TENTH DAY KRIYA shall be performed on 15th May 2024 (Wednesday) at Mutthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education, Jammu.

**Grief Stricken**  
Smt. Santosh & Sh. O.N. Dhar (Devar & Devrani)  
Smt. Kalpana & Sh. R. K Dhar (Devar & Devrani)  
Smt. Geeta & Sh. Ramesh Pandita (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
Smt. Reeta & Sh. Rajinder Mahalder (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
Smt. Anju Kaloo (Daughter)  
**Mob: 9149470679, 9419243449, 8825036833**



KARAMYOGI SMT. MOHINI DHAR

## TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA (RASAM PAGRI)

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Girdhari Lal Sharma (Hotel Asia Shripati Katra) S/o Late Sh. Waryam Dass R/o 75/5 Nanak Nagar Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 28th April 2024 (Sunday).

'Tenth Day' will be performed on 7-05-2024 (Tuesday) at our residence, 75/5 Nanak Nagar Jammu at 11:00 A.M.  
'Kriya' on 08-05-2024 (Wednesday) at our residence at 12:00 Noon.  
'UTHALA (Rasam Pagri)' on 10-05-2024 (Friday) at Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Gandhi Nagar Jammu from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM.



Sh Girdhari Lal Sharma  
Founder Hotel Asia Shripati, Katra

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt Manju Sharma (Wife)  
(Brother & Sister-in-law)  
Sh. C. L. Sharma & Smt Anuradha Sharma  
Smt Santosh & Sh. Ranj (Bhat & Brother-in-law)  
Rahul Dev Sharma & Pooja Sharma (Son & Daughter-in-law)  
Rohan Sharma (Son)  
Pankaj Sharma & Rajan Sharma (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
Payal Sharma & Kunal Khajuria (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
Rishi Sharma & Dr. Priyanka Jaiswal (Nephew & Daughter-in-law)  
Pallavi Sharma & Sonam Sharma (Niece & Son-in-law)  
Palak Sharma & Sali Mahajan (Niece & Son-in-law)  
Vedanya, Ryan, Vedarth, Ritaban, Aavya (Grand Children)

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## Apni Party gets support in door-to-door campaign at Jagti Camp

Migrants extend support to new narrative for J&K led by Bukhari, says Pavneet

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: Apni Party today got support from the migrant Kashmiri Pandits following its door-to-door campaign at Jagti camp in Nagrota area of District Jammu.

The campaign was launched in favour of the Party candidates contesting on three Parliamentary seats of Kashmir Valley i.e., Rajouri - Anantnag, Srinagar, and Baramulla. The campaign was led by Provincial President, Women Wing, Jammu, Pavneet Kour whereas the program was organized by District President of the Women Wing, Jammu, Ritu Pandita.

During the door-to-door campaign, she was accompanied by other Party leaders including



ing Provincial President Transport Wing, Jammu, Trith Singh, Provincial President Minority Wing, Balbir Singh, Vice President Transport, Devindar Singh Gill, General Secretary, Yash Choudhary, District President Minority Wing Inderpal Singh, and

others. The Party leaders met the migrant Kashmiri Pandits in the Jagti camp and educated them about the Party's policy and agenda. Meanwhile, the meetings with the migrant Kashmiri Pandits were also held in which the KPs extended

their support to the Party candidates fielded in three Parliamentary seats in Kashmir.

Extending their support to the Party candidates in three Parliamentary seats, the KPs were satisfied with the policy of equitable development, and

unity among the people that would help to promote an atmosphere of peace, and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir.

They agreed to be the part of progress, and an equality-based movement that has been started by the Party under the leadership of Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari.

In her speech, the Provincial President of the Women Wing, Jammu, Pavneet Kour said that "The migrants are ready to support the new narrative for Jammu and Kashmir led by Altaf Bukhari sahab, and the Party."

She said that the Party will work for the upliftment of the living standard of the Kashmiri Pandits and will work for their rehabilitation in Kashmir in a peaceful and smooth manner.

## NC nominated Vikram Puri as Chairman Traders and Industries (JKNC Wing) Jammu Province

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President Jammu Province has nominated Vikram Puri as Chairman Traders and Industrialists (JKNC wing) Jammu Province today with the approval of the Party High Command.

Gupta hoped that Puri will ensure close coordination with the Traders and Industrialists to highlight their general issues and strengthen the party.

Vikram Puri thanked Party High Command and Provincial President Jammu Province Rattan Lal Gupta for the new assignment and responsibility as chairman of the Traders and Industrialists (JKNC wing) Jammu Province and ensured that he will work hard with great dedication and cooperation for the development of Trades and Industries in



J&K.

Vikram Puri appealed to the Traders and Industrialists of Jammu and Kashmir to strengthen the hands of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah by supporting and voting all three candidates of the National Conference from the

Kashmir valley, Omar Abdullah from Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency, Syed Rahullah Mehdi from Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency and Mian Altaf Ahmed from Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency in the ensuing Lok Sabha polls in Kashmir.

## INDI Alliance will be formed Govt on June 4, wave of change across the country: Sahni



### Top News Report

MUMBAI/JAMMU, May 7: In the first three phases of the Lok Sabha elections, a wave of saving democracy, constitution and getting rid of the politics of hatred and arrogance has been seen among the people, there are signs of it being at its peak in Maharashtra.

It is certain that the INDI Alliance government will be formed on June 4, stated by Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit chief Manish Sahni, under whose leadership a team of the party Jammu-Kashmir unit has been engaged in campaigning in favor of INDI Alliance, Shiv Sena

(UBT) leaders for the last three days.

Sahni said that BJP could not muster the courage to field even a single candidate Kashmir, in the name of which it has been baking its political bread in the entire country, which proves that BJP has been completely rejected in Kashmir. Sahni said that during the door-to-door campaign in Mumbai, Maharashtra, the people have shown signs of resentment and change.

He said that during his campaign, they are exposing the lies being spread by BJP about Jammu and Kashmir. Both the states have fallen prey to BJP's conspiracies.

Jammu and Kashmir, which is called the crown of the country, was divided into two parts and its statehood was taken away. All the claims of development, employment and peace have proven to be hollow. Political instability was also created in Maharashtra. Shiv Sena and NCP were divided into two parts. Industries of Maharashtra are being shifted.

Sahni further said that a lot of anger has been seen against NDA in Maharashtra. BJP which is dreaming of sailing its boat with the help of traitor groups of Shiv Sena and NCP, is sure to be shattered.

Today, these leaders campaigned in favor of party candidate and Rajya Sabha MP Anil Desai from Mumbai South Central. Along with this, they met party candidate and Rajya Sabha MP Anil Desai at Sena Bhavan and presented him with the best wishes of victory and presented him with the Prasad and Chunari of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi.

## Parra 'symbol' of challenges faced by Kashmiri youth after 2019: Mehbooba Mufti

### Top News Report

PULWAMA, May 7: PDP president and former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti Tuesday urged youth to vote and tell New Delhi that decisions taken in August 2019 are unacceptable to people of Jammu and Kashmir.

While campaigning in favor of party youth leader Waheed Parra who is contesting Lok Sabha elections from Srinagar Parliamentary seat said "He has been the symbol of challenges faced by Kashmiri youth after August 2019".

Addressing people during a road show in southern Pulwama Mehbooba urged people of Jammu and Kashmir to respond to New Delhi through voting for its actions in Jammu and Kashmir it resorted after August 2019.

She appealed youth to support PDP's candidate for Srinagar Parliament Constituency and stated their voice will be addressed in an appropriate manner.

She said that the ongoing Lok Sabha elections



are not for bringing electricity or advancing its infrastructure, or a run for becoming MLA to be in power, rather it is a chance to reply to New Delhi through votes and tell them their decisions taken in August 2019 are unacceptable to people of Jammu and Kashmir, which need to be reversed.

She said post August 2019 the entire Jammu and Kashmir has been turned into a jail and youth are the worst sufferers. "Our youth are being summoned to police stations and subsequently detained in jails outside Jammu and Kashmir. This is all unacceptable for us. We have to respond this outlook through votes so that our representative will reach to Parliament and flag up our genuine concerns," she said.

## Burns Awareness Prevention, First Aid Program enlightens students at UIPS

AIIMS Vijaypur Jammu leads educational initiative

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: AIIMS Vijaypur Jammu, in collaboration with a dedicated team of doctors and professionals, conducted an impactful Burns Awareness Prevention and First Aid Program at Unique International Public School.

The event, spearheaded by Dr. Gorkha, Dr. Parvez M. Dar, Dr. Abhinav Mani, Yunus Khan, Manisha, Stenzen Dolker, and Varsha, aimed to educate and equip school children with essential knowledge and skills to prevent burn injuries and administer first aid effectively.

The program, hosted at Unique International Public School, engaged students through interactive sessions, practical demonstrations, and insightful discussions.

Dr. Gorkha emphasized the importance of pro-

active prevention measures, stating, "Empowering young minds with awareness is crucial in reducing the incidence of burn injuries."

Dr. Parvez M. Dar, highlighting the collaborative effort, said, "Partnering with educational institutions like Unique International Public School allows us to reach a wider audience and create a culture of safety and preparedness."

The program covered various aspects including identifying burn hazards, practicing fire safety protocols, recognizing different types of burns, and administering basic first aid techniques. Students actively participated in role-playing exercises, gaining hands-on experience in assessing burn severity and providing immediate aid.

Dr. Abhinav Mani expressed his appre-

ciation for the students' enthusiasm, stating, "Their eagerness to learn and apply first aid skills shows their commitment to creating safer environments for themselves and others."

The event concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony, recognizing the students' active participation and dedication to promoting safety within their communities.

Jasbir Singh Chairperson of Unique International Public School appreciation AIIMS Vijaypur Jammu remains steadfast in its commitment to community welfare and education. The Burns Awareness Prevention and First Aid Program at Unique International Public School exemplifies the organization's dedication to empowering young minds and fostering a culture of safety and well-being.

## Baba Farid Group of Institutions launches Rs. 5 Cr Scholarship Scheme for J&K students



### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: Baba Farid Group of Institutions (BFGI), Bathinda, renowned for its commitment to quality education and innovation, has taken a significant step towards empowering the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

In line with its vision of inclusive and accessible education, BFGI today during a Press Conference held at Press Club Jammu has launched a Scholarship Scheme worth Rs. 5 Crore for the students of Jammu and Kashmir.

Under the dynamic leadership of Dr. M. P. Poonia, former Vice Chairman of

AICTE, serving as the Campus Director, BFGI has been at the forefront of pioneering initiatives aimed at transforming the educational landscape. The recent accreditation of NAAC A+ grade further underscores BFGI's dedication to excellence in education.

Dr. Rajinder Singh Dhanoa, Assistant Director (Admin.), highlighted BFGI's collaboration with CIIT, Jammu, aimed at enhancing the technical skills and employability of engineering students. Additionally, BFGI aims to create an ecosystem conducive to start-up and entrepreneurship development in Jammu

and Kashmir. With a steadfast commitment to equipping students with the skills needed to thrive in the dynamic landscape of the industry, we have established Centers of Excellence in collaboration with industry leaders such as Intel and Festo for providing exposure to cutting-edge technologies. In addition he announced the establishment of a Drone Center and a Center of Excellence in collaboration with Schneider Electric, with many more such initiatives in the pipeline.

Amandeep Singh Dean Admissions in his address said that Scholarship Scheme aims to

make quality education more accessible to students from Jammu and Kashmir, enabling them to pursue their academic aspirations without financial constraints. Driven by the belief in the transformative power of technical education, BFGI has launched the initiative "Youth Empowerment through Technical Education." This initiative seeks to equip the youth with the necessary skills and knowledge to eradicate poverty through employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

In the past year, BFGI has awarded scholarships worth Rs. 3 crore, and this year, the institution aims to distribute scholarships worth Rs. 5 crore, further demonstrating its commitment to supporting the educational aspirations of deserving students. Dr. Gurmeet Singh Dhaliwal, Chairman, and Dr. M. P. Poonia, Campus Director, BFGI, express their unwavering commitment to contributing towards the holistic development of the youth of Jammu and Kashmir, ensuring they have access to quality education and opportunities for personal and professional growth.

## Zorawar releases Dogri album showcasing ill effects of drug abuse "Sherni-2"

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: Chairman, Team Jammu and BJP leader, Zorawar Singh Jamwal released Dogri Video Album "Sherni-2" sung by popular singer Sandhya Sharma, during a function organized at Press Club, here today. It showcases ill effects of drug abuse.

Mrs India 2016, Meenu Mahajan, first from J&K and Poonam were the Guests of Honour while Raman Slatia, Nirbhay Slatia, Pankaj Khajuria and Parveen Sharma were special guests on the occasion.

While speaking on the occasion, Team Jammu Chief Zorawar Singh Jamwal congratulated Sandhya Sharma for producing a video track that contains a strong message on ill-effects of Drug Abuse and need of the hour for civil society to rise, awake and unitedly fight against drug mafia that is spoiling our younger generation.

He appreciated the tireless working of young artists of Jammu, which is acting as a great boon in promoting Dogri language and culture not



just in Jammu and Kashmir but in neighbouring states like Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and New Delhi as well. He informed the gathering that every volunteer of Team Jammu is under oath to promote mother tongue Dogri, Art, Culture and Folk.

Zorawar Singh Jamwal also said that youth of Jammu and Kashmir and particularly Jammu region is full of talent and the only need is to channelize their positive energies in different fields. He hoped that the Dogri album would not just stand in J&K and but in the entire country. While congratulat-

ing star cast including famous local artists director Irfan Choudhary, Musical Mafia, Naresh NB, Rapper Nagar Singh, Editor Prashant Singh, lyricist RKT and actors Shaazi, Mahi Khan, Chaahat, Vidushi, Kamakshya Dogra and Vikrant for exhibiting their best performance in Dogri Video Album "Sherni-2", Chairman Team Jammu, Zorawar Singh Jamwal also urged the Jammu and Kashmir UT administration to provide a platform in the shape of specific policy for local artists so that their talent, caliber and capacity could be showcased in rest of the

country. Speaking on the occasion, Sandhya Sharma informed that the song is available at YouTube channel Voice of Dugger Sandhya Sharma. She requested that the people of Jammu should support and encourage the Dogri language and local artists so that they can also grow and reach new heights in their respective industries as it will make every citizen of J&K proud. Among others present on the occasion included Aditya Bhanu, Jayesh Gupta, Parveen Sharma, Sushil Sharma, Sumit Thappa and Vinay Daggur.

## EDITORIAL

WORLD  
ATHLETE DAY

In a world where athleticism transcends boundaries and inspires millions, World Athlete Day stands as a testament to the dedication, passion, and perseverance of athletes worldwide. It's a day not just to celebrate their physical prowess but also to acknowledge the values of sportsmanship, camaraderie, and fair play that define the essence of sports.

On this auspicious occasion, it's essential to reflect on the profound impact athletes have on society beyond the realm of competition. They serve as role models, instilling values of discipline, teamwork, and resilience in individuals of all ages. Whether on the grand stage of the Olympics or in local community leagues, athletes exemplify the power of human potential and the pursuit of excellence.

World Athlete Day is an opportunity to recognize the diverse tapestry of sports and the athletes who grace them. From track and field to basketball, soccer to swimming, athletes across various disciplines showcase their talents, each contributing to the rich tapestry of global sporting culture. Their dedication to mastering their craft and pushing the boundaries of human achievement inspires awe and admiration.

Moreover, athletes play a pivotal role in promoting inclusivity and diversity within sports. They break down barriers and challenge stereotypes, paving the way for greater representation and opportunities for underrepresented communities. Through their actions, athletes foster a sense of belonging and empowerment, creating spaces where everyone can thrive regardless of background or ability.

Beyond the accolades and triumphs, World Athlete Day is also a time to acknowledge the sacrifices and challenges athletes face on their journey to success. Behind every medal and record lies countless hours of training, moments of doubt, and setbacks overcome through sheer determination. Athletes exemplify resilience in the face of adversity, teaching us valuable lessons about perseverance and tenacity.

Moreover, athletes have a unique platform to drive positive change and advocate for social causes close to their hearts. Whether raising awareness about environmental conservation, promoting gender equality, or championing youth education, athletes leverage their influence to make a meaningful difference in the world. Their actions inspire others to stand up for what they believe in and work towards a better future for all.

As we celebrate World Athlete Day, let us not forget the importance of supporting and nurturing the next generation of athletes. Investing in grassroots sports programs, providing access to training facilities, and fostering a culture of inclusivity are essential steps towards empowering aspiring athletes to reach their full potential. By cultivating a supportive environment, we ensure that the spirit of athleticism continues to thrive for generations to come.

In conclusion, World Athlete Day serves as a reminder of the indomitable human spirit and the transformative power of sports. It is a day to honor the achievements of athletes past and present, celebrate the diversity of sporting culture, and reaffirm our commitment to upholding the values of sportsmanship, fair play, and inclusivity. So, whether you're a professional athlete or a weekend warrior, take a moment to appreciate the profound impact that sports and athletes have on our lives and our world.

## What kind of laws will our new MPs enact? Take a look over last 10 years

By: Aakar Patel

The primary function of Parliament is to legislate. When we elect people to the Lok Sabha, we are choosing who will write and pass our laws. In India, laws are now passed without debate, both at the Union and the state levels. This means that parties which have a majority and an ideology can legislate what they want without pushback.

As we elect MPs for the next five years, let us look at many of the laws and amendments that we have been given in the previous decade:

Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019

This amendment gives the Union the powers to set the salaries and service conditions of information commissioners at the Union as well as state levels. Instead of fixed terms, commissioners can be appointed on arbitrary conditions and salaries. India fell from second place in global RTI ratings in 2014 to ninth place.

The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2019

Before this amendment, UAPA only allowed organisations to be categorised as "terrorist". The State can now categorise any individual as a "terrorist". These individuals need not even have any affiliation with any of the 36 terrorist organisations mentioned in the law to be classified as terrorists and then jailed.

The Karnataka Education Act (1983) Order 2022

In 2022, Karnataka banned Muslim women and girls from covering their heads in schools and colleges that had uniforms.

Even in colleges which did not have a prescribed uniform, the covering of heads by Muslims was prohibited because "clothes which disturb equality, integrity and public law and order should not be worn". Sikhs were excluded from the order.

Maharashtra Animal Preservation (Amendment) Act, 2015

After the Prime Minister's speeches against what he called the "pink revolution", states began to criminalise the possession of beef. This began a series of violent attacks the media called "beef lyn-chings". Someone accused of having a beef sandwich can be jailed five years. This first law began a series of copycat laws in other BJP-ruled states.

The Haryana Gauvansh Sanrakshan and Gausamvardhan Act, 2015

Possession of beef is punishable by up to five years in jail. The burden of proof is on the accused.

The Gujarat Animal Preservation (Amendment) Act, 2017

This law extended the punishment for cow slaughter to life in prison. No other economic crime attracts life. Minister of state for home Pradipsinh Jadeja said the logic was to equal cow slaughter with murder.

Uttar Pradesh Recovery of Damage to Public and Private Property Act, 2020

Enacted after the UP Police shot dead 21 people protesting against the CAA, this law gives the government the power to set up tribunals to decide damage to any public or private property due to riots, hartals, bandhs, protests or public processions. All orders passed by the tribu-

nals will be final and cannot be appealed before any court, under the law's Section 22.

Uttarakhand Freedom of Religion Act, 2018

This is the first of seven state laws introduced and legislated by the BJP after the conspiracy theory of "love jihad" began to be circulated. It criminalises marriages between Hindus and Muslims if conversion is involved. However, "if any person comes back to his ancestral religion", then this shall not be deemed conversion. Those who change their faith without applying to the government "in the prescribed pro-forma" and without the consent of the government after the police inquiry face jail.

Himachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act, 2019

Similar to Uttarakhand's law, under this law the punishment for propagation (a fundamental right under Article 25) is seven years in jail.

Uttar Pradesh Vidhi Viruddh Dharma Samparivartan Pratishehdh Adhyadesh, 2020

Similar to the previous laws, this one prohibits conversion except with government permission and 60 days' notice. Similar laws were passed by BJP governments in MP (Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act, 2021), Gujarat (Gujarat Freedom of Religion (Amendment) Act, 2021), Karnataka (Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Act, 2022) and Haryana (Haryana Prevention of Unlawful Conversion of Religious Act, 2022).

Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017

This gives the Union and state governments the power to suspend, for any reason, mobile and Internet services. India is the world's leader in Internet shutdowns. Of 213 total global shutdowns in 2019, India accounted for 56 per cent (12 times more than the next nation, Venezuela). Of 155 global shutdowns in 2020, India accounted for 70 per cent.

Gujarat Prohibition of Transfer of Immovable Property and Provision for Protection of Tenants from Eviction from Premises in Disturbed Areas Act, 2019 Amendment

This law bans Hindus and Muslims from buying or renting properties from each other without the government's permission. The government will determine if the sale of a property would lead to the likelihood of "polarisation" or "improper clustering" of people from a particular religion. It also gives the government the power to undo transactions, even if the buyer and seller make no appeal. In effect, even foreigners can lease and buy property in those parts of Gujarat's cities where Indian Muslims cannot. It should be noted that some of these laws have remained even after the party that has legislated them in a state has been unseated. These laws have a long-term effect and have conditioned the police and bureaucrats and the judiciary to think of our society in a particular way.

They are a reflection of the sort of nation India has become and give us a glimpse into what more we can expect in the years to come after this election ends.

## How Digital Media Has Changed Communications

By: Vijay GarG

Today amidst the immense popularity and prevalence of electronic and digital media we find it difficult to imagine that there must have been a time when print media was invented. The earliest civilizations relied on oral communication. If there was a news to be told they ran to spread the word to others who did the same finally spreading the news to everyone. After that people began to write the news in picture form and in crude languages where symbols stood for words and letters. And then with the invention of paper and printing press print media came into existence. And after that there was no turning back.

Print media is the printed version of telling news primarily through newspapers and magazines. Before coming of the printing press, printed materials had to be written by hand. It was quite a long process which made mass distribution impossible.

Until a few years ago, print media (newspapers, magazines) was the main source of news and entertainment. But now digital media (websites, apps, social media) is giving a tough competition to print media resulting in debates on the importance of both of them.

ADVANTAGES OF PRINT MEDIA

1. Print media is more trustworthy because once the news is published, it cannot be modified and deleted. But in digital media, we can modify or delete the content. The newspapers and magazine publishers are extra careful when publishing news or articles. So print media is more trustworthy than digital media.

2. Reading print media can save a lot of time because all the content is compiled in a newspaper or magazine.

3. These days all the study and work involve screen time for many. In this situation print media is like a break and relief. Now more and more people want some Digital Detox time. And then print media is super useful for them.

4. When we read newspapers there will be no distractions and we can totally focus on it. It is an advantage of print

media over digital media.

5. In some remote areas in India internet access is still very limited. And then print media is a blessing for them to stay updated with the latest happenings around the world.

DISADVANTAGES OF PRINT MEDIA

1. It is just a one-way communication. It gives information to the public but consumers cannot share their opinions. It's in a way not user friendly.

2. To search for an old article in a newspaper or magazine archive is a very difficult task.

3. Print media cannot target a specific audience but digital media can show different ads to a different type of audience and thus generate more revenue.

4. Print media is not helpful for people with disabilities. For eg, digital media helps people with visual impairment by giving audio versions of the content.

ADVANTAGES OF DIGITAL MEDIA

1. Digital media gives fast updates and keeps us aware and abreast with latest happenings, while print media is a slower version than digital one. It makes digital media a more proper option to get news instantly, in a more hassle-free manner.

2. Digital media is two-way communication. Consumers can share their opinions, thoughts and feedback in an instant. It gives readers a sense of community.

3. It is eco-friendly while print media needs paper got from trees resulting in their destruction on a large-scale level.

4. The famous newspapers are also establishing their own online news portals. It is because of the growing importance of digital media.

5. Small companies can advertise easily on digital media platforms because it is less expensive than advertising on print media.

6. Digital media platforms can generate revenue from old contents too. So they will get more revenue and can invest more to update the quality of content.

7. Digital media is democratic unlike print media which is privatized and often run by big businesses.

8. Smartphone users are increasing rapidly and so many digital media platforms are offering content for free due to advertisements.

DISADVANTAGES OF DIGITAL MEDIA

1. As anyone can generate content easily for digital media, fake news is on the rise. So unless they are famous and have a good name digital media platforms are not trustworthy by the public.

2. Print media publishes only important news. But digital media platforms publish everything small to big so they contain a lot of unnecessary news.

3. Staring at the screen for a long time results in health problems too.

4. Many digital media publish content throughout the day. So people can check for new content always and so people are getting addicted to news and entertainment content a lot too much. It is causing 'Headline Stress Disorder' for most of them.

DIGITAL VS PRINT MEDIA

Today consumers are exposed to a lot of digital media as much as print. There is a growing prevalence of smartphones and tablets and the wireless networks that connect them mean that more and more people view digital devices. It also means more and more consumers view ads on digital devices. For marketing and advertising digital media has many benefits. It can be less expensive than print media depending on the details of each campaign. Digital campaigns can also be produced, launched and updated faster than print. Digital media is interactive in multiple ways. Promotion on social media allows marketers to communicate directly with consumers using messaging, commenting, tweeting, wall posting etc to answer questions and offer incentives. Users are able to search for a digital document. Digital ads allow for more control over who sees than print ads so marketers can target them more easily towards specific demographics. Many digital ads can generate consumer information as well offering insight over who exactly is viewing the ads. For e.g, Google AdWords and Facebook Ads offer anal-

ysis on user trends and successful referrals generated by the advertisements.

But yes there is a particular charm in print media which can never die out. It offers a more physical, tangible medium to consumers. It engages them on a more personal level and provides old-school charm which cannot be done by digital media. Print ads have a localized presence that's much harder to achieve by digital media. Signs and banners create attention and help consumers to physically find you. Posters, flyers and other print media can be distributed in a community to help generate exposure and direct consumers to you.

Now if we pop up a question which of the media is better, print or digital we can have a balanced and justified answer — it's both.

CONCLUSION

Each medium has unique advantages so a good campaign should incorporate both digital and print media. The best ad campaigns use the right combination of media, depending on market size and scope, demographic targets, products or services on offer, budgetary considerations and other factors. Certain consumers are best reached on digital media but others still prefer print. The right combination of media channels allows best communication with the entire consumer audience and also maximizes the campaign's return on investment.

Both print and digital media have their own advantages and disadvantages and have a solid user base. So if we consider the present trends the consumers of digital media are increasing at a rapid rate and the share of print media is going down. But it is not exactly dying. With the increasing literacy rates print too is having a stronghold. So we can say that print and digital media are co-existing quite happily.

(Vijay GarG  
Educational Columnist  
Malout Punjab)

## Meenakshi Jamwal from Jammu adjudged 1st Runner up in 'Haut Monde Mrs India Worldwide, Season 13'

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: In an International beauty pageant for the married women 'Haut Monde Mrs India Worldwide, Season 13' organized at Dubai, Meenakshi Jamwal hailing from Jammu has been adjudged with Title- Mrs Energetic and & Mrs India - 1st Runner up- UAE Middle East.

In a press note issued, it said that more than 110 contestants from over the world participated in the event which is being organized for celebrating and empowering Womanhood and Beauty since 2008. It said that 'Haut Monde Mrs India Worldwide' is one of the longest running pageant and is the pioneer in the category of Indian married women of substance worldwide. Khaleej Times was



official media partner, Big106.2 was official Radio partner and Filmfare was official magazine partner of the beauty pageant.

After the event Meenakshi Jamwal said that it was a proud moment and

she was confident enough to perform to best of her capabilities. Although she missed the title from a very short margin but coming second is also a satisfying experience. She was of the view that such events and appreci-

ations are very helpful in confidence building measures thus helping to see the world with even more broader prospectus.

She said that it was a dream come true and she was excited to represent Jammu, her birth place and home town at such a prestigious beauty pageant. I am a woman who believes in the power of simplicity and inner strength, she asserted. It is pertinent to add here that in a world of glamour, she brings the grace of authenticity. With a Masters in Sales & Marketing, she has built a successful career as a Director in a real estate development company. She is also a proud founder of her own company, a testament to my entrepreneurial spirit and dedication.

Beyond her professional life, she is an avid

learner, always seeking new experiences and knowledge. Whether she is running, reading, or singing, she embraces every opportunity to grow and expand her horizons. As the first single woman in her family to have traveled the world and made a life outside her home country, she embodies independence and resilience.

She walked the path of glamour not just as a beauty pageant contestant, but as a woman on a mission. Through this platform, she aims to make a bigger impact and contribute to making the world a better place for all. With her natural charm, simplicity, and unwavering strength, she hopes to inspire others to embrace their authentic selves and chase their dreams fearlessly.

## CMO Doda conducts surprise inspection of Clinical establishments in Doda Town

### Top News Report

DODA, May 7: A team headed by Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Doda Dr Om Kumar on Monday evening undertook a surprise inspection of various clinical establishments operating in the Doda Town in order to ensure proper regulation and operationalization of Clinical Establishments in Doda District.

The inspection was carried out on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh.

The purpose of surprise visit was to stop mushrooming growth of ill equipped pathological/microbiological laboratories and other clinical establishments lacking in infrastructure and technical expertise.



The inspection team headed by CMO Doda Dr Om Kumar accompanied by other members undertook a thorough inspection of various clinics in Doda during which the inspection teams found infirmities and deficiencies in some centres.

Speaking regarding the drive, the CMO Doda informed that on the directions of worthy DC Doda, we have intensifying such inspections of the clinical establishments in the District to ensure that all such establishments are run-

ning according to laid down guidelines and regulations to the best satisfaction of the patients.

The CMO Doda urged the medical practitioners in the private sector, chemists, and drug-gists to strictly follow the guidelines, norms and medical ethics while discharging their professional duties and responsibilities, added that such frequent inspections shall continue to ensure that the rules in vogue are followed in letter and spirit by these medical establishments.

## NSS unit of GDC Thathri holds cleanliness drive

### Top News Report

KISHTWAR, May 7: NSS unit GDC Thathri in collaboration with the beautification committee of college conducted Cleanliness Drive.

The initiative aimed to reinforce the instructions commitment to maintain a clean, green campus and surroundings.

Under the guidance of Dr Javed Zargar Principal of the college students and staff came together with dedication and participated in the Cleanliness campaign. The Volunteers equipped with cleaning tools and a sense of responsibility.

The principal expressed his appreciation for the whole hearted involvement of students and faculty. He also emphasized the importance and role of NSS in shaping responsi-



ble citizens and fostering a sense of duty towards society.

Addressing the participants Dr. Sanjay Kumar NSS Programme Officer expressed his appreciation for the overwhelming response and commitment displayed by the NSS volunteers.

The event witnessed

the support of esteemed faculty members including Dr. Javed Iqbal, Dr. Muzaffar Ahmed, Dr. Nursing Das, Prof. Arshad Ayoub, Prof. Saleem and Prof. Priyanka Sharma.

The Cleanliness Drive exemplified the dedication of NSS unit towards community welfare and environmental conservation.

## GGM Science College organizes seminar, poster making competition

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: GGM Science College, Jammu, under the patronage of the Principal, Prof. Rajesh Kumar Gupta and guidance of Dr. Vandana Khajuria, HoD English and Convener, on Tuesday organised a seminar and poster making competition on the theme 'Impact of Fast Fashion on the Environment: Exploring Sustainable Alternatives'.

The events were collaboratively organized by the Women's Studies Centre, the Literary Committee, and the PG Department of English, focusing on raising awareness and proposing solutions regarding the environmental challenges posed by the fast fashion industry.

The competitions were judged by Dr. Seema Rani Minhas and Dr. Preeti Gupta.

Contestants were evaluated based on their creativity, content accuracy, and presentation skills.

The seminar provided a platform for an enlightening discussion on the detrimental effects of fast fashion on the environment and explored various sustainable alter-

natives. The speakers touched on issues such as ethical fashion, recycling in textile production, and consumer responsibility in sustainability.

On the other hand, the Poster Making Competition was a display of creativity and insight, with participants delivering powerful visual messages about sustainability in fashion. The events not only highlighted the talents of the students but also encouraged a more conscious approach towards fashion consumption and production.

Maitihly, Sumeet Kumar and Chakshu Sharma, all from Sem IV, secured first, second and third place in the Seminar, respectively, while Zaigham Salaria of Sem II bagged the first prize in the Poster Making Competition.

Supriya Choudhary and Simran Jamwal, students of Sem IV, secured second and third prize, respectively.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. Shalini Sharma, Prof. Akanksha Parihar and Prof. Varun Arya and adeptly conducted by Mohd. Ayoub Jan of Semester IV.

## JKAP delegation meets PM Package employees at Vessu & Mattan



### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 7: A delegation of Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party on Monday visited the PM-Package employees at Vessu and Mattan in Anantnag.

The delegation was led by Jammu and Kashmir

Apni Party District President Anantnag Abdul Rahim Rather in company of prominent Minority Community leader and Social worker M.K Yogi besides Apni Party Provincial Secretary Minority Wing Nanna Wattal and others.

The visiting delegation

on the occasion enquired into the well-being of the employees residing at Vessu and Mattan. Upon giving a patient hearing to the grievances highlighted by the employees, the visiting delegation assured of taking up the issues with the higher authorities for an early redressal.

## Director Panchayati Raj reviews progress of various schemes being implemented in Ramban

### Top News Report

RAMBAN, May 7: Director Panchayati Raj, Jammu & Kashmir, Sham Lal, on Tuesday visited Ramban and convened a meeting with officers to review the progress of various schemes being implemented across the district.

Assistant Commissioner Development, Shrinath Suman, Assistant Commissioner of Panchayat, Ashfaq Kanji, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat Udhampur Tanvir-Ul-Majeed, District Information Officer, Ashraf Wani, Block Development Officer, Ramban Yasir wani, and various other senior officers and officials of RDD were present on the occasion.

During the meeting, it was informed that construction is underway for 16 Panchayat Ghars as part of the Rashtriya Grameen Swaraj Abhiyan across different blocks. The Director instructed ACP to expedite the construction efforts on all sites, aiming for completion by June 2024. In case of any land disputes or obstacles, he directed ACP to seek assistance from the district and local administration for early resolution.

Emphasis was placed on the Panchayat Development Index (PDI), with an immediate call to convene meetings of relevant line departments to authenticate submitted data for further submission at the Union Territory level. This step aims to ensure data accuracy at the nodal point. Additionally, prompt completion of uploading the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GDDP) on the e-Gram Swaraj Portal for the financial year 2024-25 was urged.

Furthermore, the Director also reviewed the progress on construction of an additional room as a Common Service Centre within existing Panchayat Ghars. Out of the targeted 13, eight rooms have been completed to date. The executing agency was instructed to maintain strict quality control over ongoing developmental works.

Following the meeting, the Director also inspected the ongoing work at Panchayat Ghar Chanderkot and directed the contractor to complete the project by June 15th.

## JKBS members pay obeisance to Peer Parwan Shah

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha members on Tuesday paid obeisance to Peer Parwan Shah at his Mazaar in Chuhala and prayed for well being of all.

R.L. Kaith mentioned to members that this great saint taught the people: love towards all and malice towards none. His disciples and successors held this message of their mentor by tooth and their hospices became the center for spreading universal love and affinity.



Kaith further mentioned that if we ask any manna here it fulfills.

Others who spoke about Peer Saheb were Messrs Subedar Major

Thoru Ram Mandi (Retd), Havildar Des Raj Kaith (Retd), Hans Raj Loria, Jagdish Raj Kaith, Bachan Lal Targotra, Sohan Lal and Sukhdev.

## GDC Udhampur welcomes Brig Cheema's insightful maiden visit



### Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, May 7: Brigadier PS Cheema, SM, VSM, Group Commander NCC HQ Jammu, paid a mesmerizing and insightful visit to interact with the NCC Cadets at GDC Udhampur.

The interactive session started with the formal welcome with a bouquet presented by principal of the college Prof (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta, principal of the college.

The event was organized under the able guidance of Prof (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta. During his welcome note, the principal paid his heartfelt gratitude for visiting the college. The principal, while briefly acquainting brigadier Cheema with the achievements of the college, laid emphasis on the leading role of NCC in academic as well as extra and extra-curricular activities of the college.

During his interactive-lecture session with

the cadets, Brig. Cheema appreciated and lauded the inquisitive and receptive attitude of the cadets and asked everyone to follow their passion with attitude and determination because it is your attitude which decides your altitude.

He further advised the cadets, and everyone present there, to lead a disciplinary life, as life without discipline is meaningless and unworthy.

While responding to the questions and queries of the cadets and his successful carrier as an Army Officer, Brig Cheem's response was thought provoking and insightful.

He said always consider myself as a successful man and behind my success and achievements there lies a ting of self-discipline, attitude, and energy.

Towards the end of his interaction, he guided the cadets to be united, irrespective of religion, region and other ethnic

identities, as "Unity and Discipline" is the motto of the NCC.

After his interaction with the cadets, Brig Cheema, along with Col Rajesh Jasrotia and Col Munish Jasrotia, confer the ranks to Suo's and Jus to J&K 2 Boys and J&K 2 Girls Battalion. In J&K 2 Boys Wing, Vinesh Kumar of Sem. 4th received SUO's rank whereas Asish Singh and Vinay Kumar of Sem.4th received JUO's rank.

In J&K 2 Girls Wing, Swati Thakur of Sem-4th got the SUO rank and Kriti and Rita of Sem. 4th got JUO's rank. The whole event was organized under the supervision of Prof. (Capt.) Shivani Sharma, ANO J&K 2 Girls Battalion, Lt Dr. Revika Arora, Prof. Jasmeet Kour and others.

In the concluding remarks, Prof Vijay Kumar, ANO J&K 2 Boys Battalion, paid his heartfelt thanks to the chief guest and everyone presented on the occasion.

## NMC demands release of DA

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: Expressing deep concern over incessant delay in releasing DA installment, President of National Mazdoor Conference (NMC) Subash Shastri on Tuesday appealed the Lieutenant Governor and Chief Secretary of JKUT to release pending installment of 4% DA due from January this year in favour of JKUT employees and pensioners as approval regarding this is given by Election Commission of India.

Addressing a meeting of NMC activists, Shastri said "We demand release of 4 per cent DA in favour

of JKUT employees and pensioners. DA is the part of salary and routine financial matter and as such there should be no hitch in releasing it."

He also demanded exemption of DA from ambit of Income Tax as it is linked with price index and setting up of 8th pay Commission beside restoring of Old Pension Scheme.

Shastri further demanded separate wage head for regularly disbursement of monthly salary of daily rated workers till their regularization, enhancement of their wages to Rs 600 per day, regularizing their services under SRO 64, setting up Labour Welfare

Board, implementation of all Central laws in the UT besides granting medical allowance of pensioners to Rs 1000 per month at par with Central Government beside releasing 18% DA arrears to employees working in both Central/ UT Governments.

Among others present on the occasion were Sahib Khajuria (General Secretary NMC), Raman Sharma, Birbal, Ram Singh, Rajan Babu Khajuria, B.S Jamwal, Surinder Kumar, Ramesh Sharma, Chaman Lal, Vinod Kumar, Ex Sarpanch Sukhdev Singh, Mohammad Sadiq, Mushtaq Ahmed, Tarsem Sharma and JP Sharma.

## Alia Bhatt shines at Met Gala 2024 in stunning floral Sabyasachi saree

It's that time of the year again when the world's most elite gather to celebrate fashion's most prestigious event - the Met Gala. As the clock ticks towards the first Monday of May (early Tuesday in India), the anticipation reaches a fever pitch, and this year's gala promises to be nothing short of spectacular.

Amidst the flurry of excitement, early A-listers including party czar Anna Wintour, the dazzling Jennifer Lopez, and Bollywood's very own Alia Bhatt graced the green-tinged carpet, setting the stage for an unforgettable evening.

Alia Bhatt, no stranger to the Met Gala spotlight, made a grand entrance in a breathtaking floral Sabyasachi saree, marking her second appearance at the prestigious event.

With a train that practically engulfed the red carpet, Bhatt's ensemble was nothing short of show-stopping, capturing the attention of onlookers and photog-

raphers alike.

Alia Bhatt marked her Met Gala debut in 2023 with a breathtaking ensemble crafted by Prabal Gurung. Her homage to Karl Lagerfeld in a bespoke white gown, adorned with delicate pearls, captured timeless elegance and garnered widespread acclaim.

But the Met Gala isn't just about fashion; it's also about the iconic moments and traditions that make the event truly legendary.

Just a stone's throw away from the Metropolitan Museum of Art lies the Mark Hotel, the quintessential starting point for many celebrities' Met Gala preparations, reported People magazine.

From hair and makeup to final fittings, the Mark Hotel buzzes with excitement as stars gear up for the main event.

This year's Met Gala, themed 'Sleeping Beauties: Reawakening Fashion', pays homage to centuries of style evolution while celebrating



the delicate pieces often overlooked in the fast-paced world of fashion.

With iconic designers like Elsa Schiaparelli and Christian Dior taking centre stage, the gala promises a journey through fashion history like never before.

Zendaya, Jennifer

Time', the official dress theme of the evening.

In a departure from previous years, this year's gala focuses on reviving unique garments from various centuries, offering a fresh perspective on fashion's ever-evolving landscape. From intricate lace to delicate embroidery, the 'sleeping beauties' of fashion take centre stage, proving that true style knows no bounds.

As the night unfolds and the stars align, the Met Gala 2024 promises to be a celebration of fashion, art, and culture like never before. With each step on the green-tinged carpet, celebrities pay homage to the past while embracing the future, creating moments that will be etched in the annals of fashion history for years to come.

As the world eagerly awaits the unveiling of this year's Met Gala looks, one thing is certain - Fashion's Biggest Night is back, and it's more spectacular than ever before.

As celebrities descend upon the Metropolitan Museum of Art, all eyes are on the 'Garden of

## Met Gala: Isha Ambani's 'floral' touch sari gown took over 10,000 hours to complete



Isha Ambani made heads turn with her presence at the Met Gala 2024.

For the biggest fashion night at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, the Reliance Industries Limited Director opted for Indian designer Rahul Mishra's couture sari gown, featuring a long floral train.

Anaita Shroff Adajania styled her for the gala. "Isha is wearing a bespoke hand-embroidered couture sari gown from Indian designer Rahul Mishra. For this year's Met Gala theme of 'The Garden of

Time', Rahul and I set out to depict nature's glorious and bountiful lifecycle in this custom look for Isha, which took over 10,000 hours to complete. This look embraces sustainability by incorporating elements from Rahul's past collections. Delicate samples of flowers, butterflies, and dragonflies were meticulously integrated from the archives into the design, via distinct applique and embroidery techniques, such as Faresha, Zardozi, Nakshi, and Dabka, as well as French knots.

Together, all of these elements carry a powerful narrative about the state of the planet and offer a message of hope and rebirth. The magnificent look was intricately hand-embroidered at Rahul Mishra's ateliers across several Indian villages, supporting hundreds of local craftspeople and weavers. Complementing her gown is a clutch crafted by Swadesh using the ancient Indian art forms of Nakashi and Miniature Painting. The exquisite Jade clutch bag features an Indian Miniature Painting created by Jaipur artisan Hari Narain Marotia, a traditional art form that has been practiced in India for centuries. Despite its small scale, the painting is highly detailed and expressive, featuring India's national bird, the Mayura.

Actress Janhvi Kapoor commented, "Insane insane insane" "Wow... love it," a social media user commented.

She also attended the Met Gala in 2017, 2019 and 2023.

## Manoj Bajpayee starts shooting for The Family Man Season 3

Acclaimed actor Manoj Bajpayee has started shooting for the third season of The Family Man under the direction of the duo Raj & DK. Streaming giant Prime Video took to Instagram and shared a picture of the clapboard alongside an image of the cast. It was captioned, "#TFM3W us - shoot begins, drop your excitement."

In Season 3, currently in production, Manoj will reprise the character of Srikant Tiwari, a middle-class man and a spy. The first season, which premiered in 2019, starred Priyamani, Sharad Kelkar, Neeraj Madhav, Sharib Hashmi, Dalip Tahil, Sunny Hinduja, and Shreya Dhanwanthary. Actress Samantha Ruth



Prabhu joined the cast in the second season. Created and directed

by Raj & DK, the show is written by Suman Kumar and Raj & DK.

## Actress Emily Blunt has talked about how she felt sick after kissing certain co-stars, despite having a chemistry with them!

Actress Emily Blunt has talked about how she felt sick after kissing certain co-stars, despite having a chemistry with them! "I've had chemistry with people I haven't liked," Blunt said during an appearance on The Howard Stern Show.

When asked, "Who?" she simply replied, "I'm not gonna tell you. I have had chemistry with people who... I have not had a good time working with them," she said.

"Sometimes it's a strange thing. Sometimes you could have a rapport that's really effortless, but it doesn't translate on screen," she said. "Chemistry is this strange thing. It's an



ethereal thing that you can't really bottle up, and buy or sell. It's like there or it's not. It's just easier when you have a natural rapport with someone," she added.

Blunt also spoke about some methods she used to find chemistry with a co-star when there wasn't any. "I've got to find something I love about everybody. I have to find something... Even if it's one thing," she said. "It might be that they have a nice laugh, or I like how they speak to people. They're polite. I mean, it might be something random. But find something you love about that person or something you love

about them as a character, and then kind of lean into that." Blunt shared that some moments on the sets have been downright 'gross'.

When discussing onscreen kisses with a co-actor, the host asked, "Have you wanted to throw up?" To which she responded, "Absolutely. Absolutely." "I wouldn't say it's sort of extreme loathing, but I've definitely not enjoyed some of it," added the actress, who has collaborated with figures such as Dwayne Johnson in Jungle Cruise, her husband John Krasinski in A Quiet Place, and Cillian Murphy in Oppenheimer.

## Punjabi singer Ammy Virk has come up with a new party track titled Darshan



Punjabi singer Ammy Virk has come up with a new party track titled Darshan. He has collaborated with Sukhe Muzical Doctorz for the song. Ammy said, "It was great creating this party anthem and collaborating with this incredible team. The vibe of the track is all of us having a good time and creating this electrifying party track for the audience. This incredible Darshan is both visually and sonically captivating for the audience."

Meanwhile, on the acting front, Ammy will be seen sharing screen space with Akshay Kumar, Taapsee Pannu, Vaani Kapoor, Fardeen Khan and Aditya Seal in Khel Khel Mein. The film is set to release on September 6. The makers recently took to official Instagram account to announce the release date.

## Whoopi Goldberg prefers being single because she 'sparkles' when not in love



Renowned actress Whoopi Goldberg has said she 'sparkles' when she is not in love and cannot see herself ever getting into a relationship again.

During the 1970s, the actress was married to Alvin Martin. Later, she was married to David Claessen in the late 1980s, and finally to Lyle Trachtenberg from 1994 until 1995. "I think other people seem to sparkle when they're in love, and I like to see that. But for me, I sparkle when I'm not in love, which is kind of okay. And the older I get, the happier I am," Goldberg said.

The actress added: "So, just in case — and I'm directing this to folks who may want to write me on the Internet — here's the deal. I know how cute I am, so you don't have to tell me how I'm not attractive enough to have a boyfriend because, shockingly, I've had many."

Goldberg served as the host of The View for nearly 20 years.

## Mannara Chopra loves Indian wear during summer because it feels so comfortable

Actress Mannara Chopra likes to keep her fashion choices "easy" and opts for Indian wear over western outfits because she finds it comfortable.

Talking about her preference between Indian and western attire, Mannara said, "I prefer Indian (wear) because it is comfortable for the summers. Just wear a nice Lucknowi kurti with jeans and juttis. I love it."

Mannara likes to keep her fashion "easy and cool".

"(I) Just keep it easy, breezy and cool. Don't overdo it. Just keep it minimalistic," she said.

The actress, who gained the spotlight with the 17th season of 'Bigg Boss', does not follow a complex beauty regimen.

"My go-to beauty regime is simple. I apply a basic rose face wash and use this cream which my mother and grandmother have been



using. "It's an oily cream. Just apply it all over your face, switch on the AC, and sleep, and then the next day, you're all fresh and rejuvenated," said the actress, who walked the runway for designer Sandhya Shah at the

Bombay Times Fashion Week.

The actress also shared that on a lazy day, if she goes out, she styles herself in a bun, sneakers, track pants, and a shirt with the sleeves rolled up.

# People have to decide if 'vote jihad' will work or Ram Rajya: PM Modi

For the opposition INDIA alliance partners, their dynasty is more important than the country and they can go to any extent to save their power, PM Modi said.

KHARGONE, May 7 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the country has reached a turning point in history and the people have to decide whether it will be run by "vote jihad" or Ram Rajya.

Addressing a rally in Madhya Pradesh's Khargone district, Modi hit out at the opposition Congress, saying its intent is very dangerous and it calls for "vote jihad" against him.

"India is at a turning point in history; you have to decide if vote jihad will work or Ram Rajya," he said.

"INDI alliance partners are not bothered about the fate of masses. They are fighting elections to save their dynasty," Modi said targeting the opposition bloc.

For the opposition INDIA alliance partners, their "viraasat" (dynasty) is more important than the country and they can go to any extent to save their power, he said.

The PM asked the people whether they have heard the popular saying "Apna kaam banta..." (to be concerned only about own work), to which members of the gathering added "bhaad me jaaye janata" (not concerned about others).

"Terrorists in Pakistan are threatening jihad against India. And here, those in the Congress have also announced to do vote jihad against Modi...that means people of a particular religion are being asked to vote unitedly against Modi. Imagine what level the Congress has stooped to," he said.

The prime minister said the Congress had terrible intentions and its conspiracies were dangerous.

"To understand this, you will



have to listen to those people who have been Congress workers and leaders for 20-25 years and these people are now leaving the party," he said.

"Now listen to them, a woman said when she went to the Ram temple, she was harassed so much that she had to leave the Congress," Modi said.

Another person who left the Congress said the party has been "captured by the Muslim League and Maoists," he stated.

"Another leader who left the Congress exposed another deep conspiracy, saying the shehzade (prince) of Congress intends to overturn the Supreme Court's decision on the Ram Temple like his father did in the Shah Bano case," he said.

In 1985, the Supreme Court ruled in favour of Shah Bano, a Muslim woman from Indore who had sought maintenance from her husband after divorce, but the then-Congress government under PM Rajiv Gandhi overturned the judgement through an Act.

Modi alleged the Congress and the INDIA alliance neither care about our faith nor the national interest.

"There is a competition among the Congress people over (making) anti-national state-

ments," he said.

The prime minister said the Congress' "love for Pakistan" is reaching its peak after every phase of voting.

"A former Congress CM said our army carries out terrorist attacks, Pakistan is innocent," he pointed out.

Look at the shamelessness of another big Congress leader, who said Pakistan had no role in the Mumbai terror attack, he mentioned.

A leader of another Congress ally threatens India, saying Pakistan is not wearing bangles, he further said.

"I ask the prince of Congress, what is the intention of your colleagues who are speaking (like that)? Why so much love for Pakistan and so much hatred for our army? That's why people say - Congress ka haath (Congress' hand)...," he said to which members of the gathering added "Pakistan ke saath" (with Pakistan).

Further targeting his political opponents, Modi said as he has exposed their agenda, they have emptied their entire "dictionary of abuses" against him.

"Your vote has made India fifth largest economy in the world, led to the abrogation of Article 370 (which granted special

status to Jammu and Kashmir) and made a tribal woman president of the country. Your vote has lifted 25 crore people in India out of poverty," Modi said addressing the gathering.

"Your vote has ended the wait of 500 years to make the grand temple of Lord Ram in Ayodhya," he said.

The country is marching ahead because of the efforts of the people, Modi said.

The PM also expressed satisfaction over the pace of polling in the first two hours of the third phase of Lok Sabha elections underway on Tuesday.

Polling in Khargone will be held in the fourth phase on May 13.

Before reaching Khargone, PM Modi met 30 booth-level workers of the BJP at the Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport in Indore, a party spokesperson said.

These included BJP workers from the polling stations in Indore district where the party had got maximum votes in the state assembly elections last year, the spokesperson said.

Indore city BJP president Gaurav Ranadive said this time, instead of big leaders, the party's booth level workers were introduced to the prime minister so that they could be encouraged to facilitate increased voting percentage in the Lok Sabha elections.

Notably, Congress candidate from Indore, Akshay Kanti Bam, withdrew his nomination on April 29 and joined the BJP.

Following this, the Congress has been appealing to voters to press the NOTA (none of the above) option on the electronic voting machines "to teach the BJP a lesson".

Indore will go to polls on May 13.

# Would Be Showering Blessings: PM's Brother Remembers Mother On Polling Day

PM Narendra Modi used to meet his mother at her residence in Gandhinagar in Gujarat and take her blessings before voting.



AHMEDABAD, May 7 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi's elder brother Somabhai Modi on Tuesday turned emotional while remembering their mother late Hiraba and said she would be showering her blessings on the PM from heaven. Somabhai Modi said just like the people, he also wants his brother to become the Prime

Minister for the third time.

PM Modi used to meet his mother at her residence in Gandhinagar in Gujarat and take her blessings before coming here to cast his vote.

Hiraba passed away in December 2022.

"My mother is no more. But she must be giving her blessings to Narendra from heaven right now," said a teary-

eyed Somabhai outside a polling booth in Ranip locality here under the Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency where PM Modi cast his vote in the morning.

Somabhai Modi met PM Narendra Modi outside the polling booth in Ranip.

He said both of them enquired about each other's well-being and health.

"Just like people of this area, I also want Narendra Modi to become the PM for the third time after this election," he said.

He also appealed to the people to exercise their franchise and not miss this opportunity, and choose the right person and the right party.

# Kerala man kills wife, daughter before attempting to end own life

KOLLAM (KERALA), May 7 (Agencies): A man allegedly killed his wife and daughter by slitting their throats before attempting to kill himself in Paravur, in Kerala's southern district of Kollam on Tuesday.

The accused, Sreeju, a 46-year-old man from Poothakkulam, is suspected to have given them poison before cutting their throats, police

said.

His wife Preetha (39) and Sreenandha (12) were found dead in their house this morning.

Though Sreeju also tried to kill his elder son Sreerag (17) and later himself, both of them were found in critical condition, Paravur police added.

A police officer said financial difficulties were suspected to be behind the killings and attempt-

ed suicide.

Sreeju is a mason by profession.

"Both the man and his son are under treatment.

The son has been admitted to a nearby hospital, and the man was taken to the Thiruvananthapuram Medical College," he said.

Further details can be divulged only after a detailed investigation, the police added.

# Former Congress leader Radhika Khera, actor Shekhar Suman join BJP

Khera resigned from party's primary membership on Sunday, days after her altercation with another leader at Congress' Chhattisgarh office

NEW DELHI, May 7 (Agencies): Former Congress leader Radhika Khera and actor Shekhar Suman joined the BJP here on Tuesday amid the ongoing Lok Sabha election.

Khera, the former national coordinator of the Congress's media department, resigned from the party's primary membership on Sunday, days after her altercation with another leader at the party's Chhattisgarh office.

In her resignation



letter to Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, Khera also said she was facing opposition in the party for her visit to the Ram temple in Ayodhya. Both Khera and Suman joined the saf-

ron at its headquarters here in the presence of senior leaders, including BJP national general secretary Vinod Tawde and national media department in-charge Anil Baluni.

# Jobs used to be on sale during Congress rule in Haryana: Manohar Lal Khattar

CHANDIGARH, May 7 (Agencies): Former Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar alleged on Tuesday that jobs used to be on sale during the Congress rule in the state and said the BJP has set the system right and given jobs on the basis of merit.

Khattar said the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) governments at the Centre and in the state have undertaken development work in various spheres.

He alleged that there was favouritism in giving jobs during the previous Congress-led regime in the state.

"Jobs used to be on sale. During the Congress rule, be it the job of a peon, clerk, super-



intendent, HCS, class 1, class 2 -- rates were fixed.

"We set the system right and deserving candidates got jobs on merit. We have given 1.3 lakh jobs purely on the basis of merit," the BJP leader said while addressing a gathering during his roadshow in Samalkha, which falls under the Karnal parliamentary constituency.

Khattar is the saffron

party's candidate from Karnal in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls.

"We will win all the 10 Lok Sabha seats in Haryana as well as the Karnal Assembly seat (for which bypolls will be held along with the 10 parliamentary seats on May 25)," he said.

Khattar said the BJP will retain power at the Centre because people have seen the work the party did over the last 10

years.

He asserted that the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) will win more than 400 Lok Sabha seats in the ongoing polls, including the 10 seats from Haryana.

The people of the country want to see Narendra Modi as the prime minister for a third consecutive time, Khattar said.

He said the BJP governments at the Centre as well as in Haryana took several steps and introduced many schemes for the farmers' welfare. Referring to Haryana, the former chief minister said fourteen crops are procured at the minimum support price (MSP).

After the crops are purchased from farmers, the government transfers money directly into their accounts, he said.

Earlier, the money first used to go to the accounts of "arthtiyas (commission agents)," he said.

For weddings and other functions in farmers' families, they had to approach the "arthtiyas" for money, Khattar said.

Now, farmers can withdraw money from their bank accounts, he added. Polling for all the 10 Lok Sabha seats in Haryana will be held in the sixth phase of the seven-phase election on May 25 and the counting of votes will be taken up on June 4.

# Jharkhand minister's aide, help arrested after Rs 34 crore cash recovered

RANCHI, May 7 (Agencies): The Enforcement Directorate on Tuesday arrested Jharkhand Minister Alamgir Alam's personal secretary Sanjiv Lal and the latter's house help Jahangir after it recovered "unaccounted cash" worth Rs 34.23 crore during a raid on Monday.

The news agency said the two men were arrested under provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) after they were questioned overnight.

A video shared by news agency showed Sanjiv Lal and Jahangir Alam being brought to the court before their arrest.

On Tuesday, Lal and Jahangir will be produced before a court, following which the Enforcement Directorate will take them on remand.

On his part, Alam, the 70-year-old Con-



gress leader and Jharkhand's Rural Development Minister, has denied any wrongdoing. On Monday, the Enforcement Directorate conducted multiple raids in Ranchi, including a flat occupied by Lal's house help, in connection to a money laundering case against Virendra K Ram, a former chief engineer of the Jharkhand Rural Development Depart-

ment, who was arrested in February 2023.

The case is linked to alleged irregularities in the implementation of some schemes in the department.

Besides the huge amount of cash, jewellery and a luxury SUV recovered from Jahangir's premises, the probe agency also found Rs 3 crore at another location that belonged to builder Munna Singh, who used to work as a contractor in the Jharkhand Rural Development Department.

The money laundering case against Virendra K Ram stems from a complaint by the Jharkhand Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB).

The Enforcement Directorate had alleged in a statement last year that he had "generated proceeds of crime in the name of commission from contractors in lieu of allotment of tenders to them".

# 103-Year-Old Woman Votes In Assam's Dhubri



GUWAHATI, May 7 (Agencies): A 103-year-old woman cast her vote in Assam's Dhubri today in the third phase of the Lok Sabha elections. Video footage from Birsing Aminerchar village shows the woman being escorted to a polling station by a relative before she enters the booth and casts her vote.

According to election commission data, approximately 10.12 per cent of the 81.49 lakh eligible voters cast their votes during the initial two hours of poll-

ing in four Lok Sabha constituencies in Assam today. Among these, Dhubri saw the highest turnout with 10.75 per cent, followed by Guwahati at 10.38 per cent, Kokrajhar at 9.77 per cent, and Barpeta at 9.26 per cent by 9 am.

Sparse queues marked the early hours of voting at the 9,516 polling stations, likely due to heavy rainfall the night before. However, authorities anticipate an increase in voter participation as the day progresses.

A total of 81,49,091 voters, including 41,00,544 men, 40,48,436 women, and 111 individuals belonging to the third gender, are eligible to exercise their voting rights. They will determine the fate of 47 candidates contesting in the third and final phase of polling in Assam. Polling began at 7 am and is scheduled to continue until 5 pm.

## China hospital attack leaves more than 10 dead or wounded

Mass violent crime is rare in China, which strictly prohibits citizens from owning firearms, but there has been a spate of stabbings in recent years.

BEIJING, May 7 (Agencies): An attack at a hospital in southwest China left more than 10 people dead or wounded on Tuesday, according to state media, which did not specify the nature of the attack.

"The incident occurred at a local hospital and as of 1:20 pm (0520 GMT)... more than 10 people have been wounded or killed," state news agency Xinhua said.

The attack took place in Zhenxiang County in southwestern Yunnan province and authorities were investigating, it added.

Images published by the state-run news site The Paper appeared to show a man pointing a knife at another man



wielding a stick in a hospital lobby, as well as police officers arriving at the scene.

"It happened around 11 in the morning... it's still a bit chaotic, they're still determining the numbers," a local resident told agency.

Mass violent crime is rare in China, which strictly prohibits citizens from owning firearms, but there has been a spate of stabbings in recent years.

Last August in Yunnan,

two people died and seven others were wounded after a man with a history of mental illness attacked people with a knife.

The month before that, six people were killed and one wounded in a kindergarten stabbing in southern China's Guangdong province.

And in August 2022, three people were killed and six wounded in a knife attack at a kindergarten in southeast China's Jiangxi province.

## Israeli forces take control of the Gaza side of the Rafah crossing with Egypt



JERUSALEM, May 7 (Agencies): An Israeli tank brigade seized control Tuesday of the Gaza Strip side of the Rafah border crossing with Egypt, authorities said, moving forward with an offensive in the southern city even as cease-fire negotiations with Hamas remain on a knife's edge.

The Israeli 401st Brigade entered the Rafah crossing early Tuesday morning, the Israeli mili-

tary said, taking "operational control" of the crucial crossing for both aid and those able to flee into Egypt.

Footage released by the Israeli military showed a tank entering the crossing. Details of the video matched known features of the crossing and showed Israeli flags flying from tanks that seized the area.

The Israeli military claimed it seized the

crossing after receiving intelligence it was "being used for terrorist purposes." The military did not provide evidence to immediately support the assertion, though it alleged the area around the crossing had been used to launch a mortar attack that killed four Israeli troops and wounded others near the Kerem Shalom Crossing.

The military also said that ground troops and airstrikes targeted suspected Hamas positions in Rafah.

Wael Abu Omar, a spokesman for the Palestinian Crossings Authority, acknowledged Israeli forces had seized the crossing and had closed the facility for the time being. He said strikes had targeted the area around the crossing since Monday.

## Putin is starting his fifth term as president, more in control of Russia than ever

Already in office for nearly a quarter-century and the longest-serving Kremlin leader since Josef Stalin, Putin's new term doesn't expire until 2030.

MOSCOW, May 7 (Agencies): Vladimir Putin begins his fifth term as Russian president in an opulent Kremlin inauguration Tuesday, after destroying his political opponents, launching a devastating war in Ukraine and consolidating all power in his hands.

Already in office for nearly a quarter-century and the longest-serving Kremlin leader since Josef Stalin, Putin's new term doesn't expire until 2030, when he is constitutionally eligible to run for another six years.

He has transformed Russia from a country emerging from economic collapse to a pariah state that threatens global security. Following the 2022 invasion of Ukraine that has become Europe's biggest conflict since World War II, Russia has been heavily sanctioned by the West and is turning other regimes like China, Iran and North Korea for support.

The question now is what the 71-year-old Putin will do over the course of another six years, both at home and abroad.

Russian forces are gaining ground in Ukraine, deploying scorched-earth tactics as Kyiv grapples with shortages of men and ammunition. Both sides are taking heavy casualties.

Ukraine has brought the battle to Russian soil through drone



and missile attacks, especially in border regions. In a speech in February, Putin vowed to fulfill Moscow's goals in Ukraine, and do what is needed to "defend our sovereignty and security of our citizens."

Shortly after his orchestrated reelection in March, Putin suggested that a confrontation between NATO and Russia is possible, and he declared he wanted to carve out a buffer zone in Ukraine to protect his country from cross-border attacks.

At home, Putin's popularity is closely tied to improving living standards for ordinary Russians.

He began his term in 2018 by promising to get Russia into the top five global economies, vowing it should be "modern and dynamic." Instead, Russia's economy has pivoted to a war footing, and authorities are

spending record amounts on defense.

Analysts say now that Putin has secured another six years in power, the government could take the unpopular steps of raising taxes to fund the war and pressure more men to join the military.

At the start of a new term, the Russian government is routinely dissolved so that Putin can name a new prime minister and Cabinet.

One key area to watch is the Defense Ministry.

Last year, Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu came under pressure over his conduct of the war, with mercenary leader Yevgeny Prigozhin launching withering criticism against him for shortages of ammunition for his private contractors fighting in Ukraine. Prigozhin's brief uprising in June against the Defense Ministry represented the biggest

threat to Putin's rule.

After Prigozhin was killed two months later in a mysterious plane crash, Shoigu appeared to have survived the infighting. But last month, his protégé, Deputy Defense Minister Timur Ivanov, was detained on charges of bribery amid reports of rampant corruption.

Some analysts have suggested Shoigu could become a victim of the government reshuffle but that would be a bold move as the war is still raging in Ukraine.

In the years following the invasion, authorities have cracked down on any form of dissent with a ferocity not seen since Soviet times. There is no sign that this repression will ease in Putin's new term.

His greatest political foe, opposition leader Alexei Navalny, died in an Arctic penal colony in February. Other prominent critics have either been imprisoned or have fled the country, and even some of his opponents abroad fear for their security.

Laws have been enacted that threaten long prison terms for anyone who discredits the military. The Kremlin also targets independent media, rights groups, LGBTQ+ activists and others who don't hew to what Putin has emphasized as Russia's "traditional family values."

## Malaysian government defends presence of companies that supply weapons to Israel at defense show



KUALA LUMPUR, May 7 (Agencies): Malaysia will not interfere in business relations between arms manufacturers and other countries, its defense minister said Tuesday, after protesters demanded that the government expel companies that supply weapons to Israel from an international exhibition.

More than 1,300 companies from 60 nations are participating in Defense Services Asia and the concurrent National Security

Asia exhibitions that started Monday. The events are hosted and co-organized by Malaysia's Defense Ministry and Home Affairs Ministry.

The Solidarity for Palestinian coalition held a brief rally outside the exhibition center on Tuesday to protest the presence of U.S. weapons maker Lockheed Martin, European missile manufacturer MBDA and others that provide arms to Israel. The coalition accused the manufacturers of being complicit in Israel's offensive in Gaza.

They said the companies' presence was inconsistent with the Malaysian government's support of Palestinian statehood and insensitive to the many Malaysians who oppose Israel's actions in the Palestinian territories. Muslims account for two-thirds of Malaysia's 34 million people.

"We urge the Malaysian government to take a firm and consistent stand. Do not allow these murderous arm dealers to par-

ticipate and prevent their war mongering," coalition spokesperson Tian Chua said.

Defense Minister Khaled Nordin said Malaysia opposes all forms of injustice against the Palestinian people but is also a "free trade country." He said the exhibition is a space for the defense industry to display its latest technology and help countries strengthen their defense preparedness.

"This exhibition does not favor or give advantage to any particular country or company," Khaled said in a statement. "The relationship of some global defense companies with certain countries is a business matter that Malaysia will not interfere with."

He noted that many Islamic countries are participating in the exhibition, including Turkey, Indonesia, the United Arab Emirates, Iran and Pakistan.

Former Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad has also called for the arms suppliers to be expelled from the country.

## Pro-Palestinian protesters retake Massachusetts institute's encampment, occupy building at Rhode Island School of Design

NEW YORK, May 7 (Agencies): A Monday deadline for pro-Palestinian protesters to leave an encampment at Massachusetts Institute of Technology cleared many demonstrators only to have the site retaken while protesters at the Rhode Island School of Design began occupying a building in the ongoing protest movement connected to the Israel-Hamas war.

At MIT, protesters were given an afternoon deadline in which to voluntarily leave the protest site or face suspension. Many left, according to an MIT spokesperson, who said protesters breached fencing after the arrival of demonstrators from outside the university.

On Monday night, dozens of protesters remained at the encampment in a calmer atmosphere, listening to speakers and chanting before taking a pizza dinner break.

Sam Ilns, a graduate student at MIT studying mechanical engineering and a member of MIT Jews for a Ceasefire, said the group has been at the encampment for the past two weeks and that they were calling for an end to the killing in Gaza.

"Specifically, our encampment is protesting MIT's direct research ties to the Israeli Ministry of Defence," he said.

Earlier in the day Erica Caple James, a professor of medical anthropology and urban studies

at MIT, attended the protests as a faculty observer and an adviser to the Alliance of Concerned Faculty.

"My hope is that the day ends without harm befalling anyone, without there being physical violence and hopefully with space to open negotiations again between the administration and students, faculty and staff who are concerned about MIT's global influence," she said.

No arrests had been made as of Monday night, according to the MIT spokesperson.

At the Rhode Island School of Design, where students started occupying a building Monday, a spokesperson said the school affirms students' rights to freedom of speech and peaceful assembly and that they support all members of their community. The RISD president and provost were on site meeting with the demonstrators, the spokesperson said.

Demonstrations at Columbia University, where the protest movement began about three weeks ago, have roiled its campus. Officials on Monday cancelled its large main ceremony, but said students will be able to celebrate at a series of smaller, school-based ceremonies this week and next.

The decision comes as universities around the country wrangle with how to handle commencements for students whose high school graduations were derailed

by COVID-19 in 2020.

Another campus shaken by protests, Emory University, announced Monday that it would move its commencement from its Atlanta campus to a suburban arena. Others, including the University of Michigan, Indiana University and Northeastern, have pulled off ceremonies with few disruptions.

Columbia's decision to cancel its main ceremonies scheduled for May 15 saves its president, Minouche Shafiq, from having to deliver a commencement address in the same part of campus where police dismantled a protest encampment last week. The Ivy League school in upper Manhattan said it made the decision after discussions with students.

Columbia had already cancelled in-person classes. More than 200 pro-Palestinian demonstrators who had camped out on Columbia's green or occupied an academic building were arrested in recent weeks.

Similar encampments sprouted up elsewhere as universities struggled with where to draw the line between allowing free expression while maintaining safe and inclusive campuses.

The University of Southern California earlier cancelled its main graduation ceremony. Students abandoned their camp at USC on Sunday after being surrounded by

police and threatened with arrest.

Other universities have held graduation ceremonies with beefed-up security. The University of Michigan's ceremony was interrupted by chanting a few times Saturday.

Emory's ceremonies scheduled for May 13 will be held almost 20 miles (30 kilometers) northeast of the university's Atlanta campus, President Gregory Fennes said in an open letter.

"Please know that this decision was not taken lightly," Fennes wrote. "It was made in close consultation with the Emory Police Department, security advisors and other agencies — each of which advised against holding commencement events on our campuses."

The 16,000-student university is one of many that has seen repeated protests stemming from the conflict that started October 7 when Hamas militants attacked southern Israel, killing about 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and taking roughly 250 hostages.

Student protesters are calling on their schools to divest from companies that do business with Israel or otherwise contribute to the war effort.

Vowing to destroy Hamas, Israel launched an offensive in Gaza that has killed more than 34,500 Palestinians, about two-thirds of them women and children, according to

the Health Ministry in the Hamas-ruled territory. Israeli strikes have devastated the enclave and displaced most of its inhabitants.

Hamas on Monday announced its acceptance of an Egyptian-Qatari cease-fire proposal, but Israel said the deal did not meet its "core demands" and that it was pushing ahead with an assault on the southern Gaza town of Rafah.

"Cease-fires are temporary," said Selina Al-Shihabi, a Georgetown University sophomore who was taking part in a protest at George Washington. "There can be a cease-fire, but the US government will continue to arm the Israeli military. We plan to be here until the university divests or until they drag us out of here."

At the University of California, San Diego, police cleared an encampment and arrested more than 64 people, including 40 students.

The University of California, Los Angeles, moved all classes online for the week due to ongoing disruptions following the dismantling of an encampment last week which resulted in 44 reported arrests.

Chancellor Gene Block said Monday night that UCLA's newly appointed chief safety officer would lead an investigation to identify and prosecute the "group of instigators" who led a violent attack on pro-Palestinian demonstrators on April

30. The university has asked Los Angeles police, the FBI and the district attorney's office for assistance, Block said.

Schools are trying various tactics from appeasement to threats of disciplinary action to get protesters to take down encampments or move to other areas of campus.

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago said in a Facebook post Sunday that it offered protesters "amnesty from academic sanction and trespassing charges" if they moved and that many protesters voluntarily left.

"Those that remained were arrested," the school said.

A group of faculty and staff members at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill asked the administration for amnesty for student protesters who were recently arrested and suspended. UNC Faculty and Staff for Justice in Palestine said in a media advisory that it would deliver a letter on behalf of more than 500 faculty who support the student activists.

Harvard University's interim president, Alan Garber, warned students that those participating in a pro-Palestinian encampment in Harvard Yard could face "involuntary leave." That means they would not be allowed on campus, could lose their student housing and may not be able to take exams, Garber said.

## Dimple holds protest against malpractices within PDD

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: Sunil Dimple, the president of the Mission Statehood Jammu Kashmir, led a protest on the Janipur High Court road in response to the perceived injustices and malpractices within the Jammu & Kashmir Power Development Department (PDD).

The protest was triggered by several grievances, including the curtailment of electricity, improper billing practices, and alleged theft by departmental officers.

One of the key points of contention was the privatization of the J&K electricity department, which Dimple argued had led to



increased hardships for the populace.

He highlighted the plight of the poor who were facing exorbitant bills after the installation of pre-paid recharge smart meters, suggesting that privatization had not alleviated the issues but exacerbated them.

During the protest rally, Dimple vehemently

exposed what he termed as "big scams" within the PDD.

He alleged that department officials were involved in bypassing residential electricity from smart meters, thereby evading proper billing procedures.

This revelation underscored the need for a thorough investigation

into the practices of the department.

Furthermore, Dimple demanded a CBI inquiry into the actions of PDD officials and urged for the cessation of their salaries until they could prove that their electricity was not being bypassed through smart meters. This demand for accountability sought to root out corruption and restore trust in the functioning of the department.

Dimple also directed his demands towards the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, calling for an inquiry into the residences of all PDD officers across the region and insisting on the suspension of their salaries

until they could provide proof of legitimate electricity usage. These measures were proposed to ensure that officers were held accountable for their actions and to deter future misconduct.

Dimple advocated for the return of power projects in Jammu & Kashmir, such as Salal, Uri, and Ratil, to the region's control. He argued that this would enable the provision of free electricity to the people, addressing the issue of unscheduled power cuts and alleviating the burden on residents.

The protest garnered support from various leaders including Vijay Sharma, Partap Singh, and others.

## SKUAST-Jammu organizes Awareness Programme on Mission LIFE

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: All India Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture Rakh Dhiansar under the aegis of SKUAST-Jammu organized an awareness programme on "Creating Awareness for rain-water harvesting and its efficient use (Catch the Rain)" on Mission LIFE (Life Style for Environment) with an apparent objective, as envisaged by the Prime Minister, to mobilize the Global community to adopt LIFE as a mass movement towards "Minded and deliberated utilization, instead of mindless and destructive consumption" to protect and preserve the environment.

In this awareness programme, more than 50 farmers from various villages namely Khaner, Khara, Madana, Kartholi and other adjoining areas participated and interacted with experts of relevant field.

During the event, deliberations were made by the scientists to sensitize the farmers on importance of rainwater harvesting and its efficient use along with various other agro-techniques for enhancing the production and productivity of different rainfed crops under changing climatic conditions.

At the outset, Dr. A. P. Singh, Chief scientist and Incharge, All India Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture Rakh Dhiansar briefed about the awareness campaign under Mission LIFE and deliberated on in-situ and ex-situ moisture conservation techniques.

Dr. R. K. Srivastava, Head, Division of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering, SKUAST-Jammu discussed in detail the importance of water harvesting along with recharging structures for rainfed areas to conserve the moisture for its efficient utilization during critical stages of crop and also to recharge the soil water for sustained availability of water in tube wells and ponds.

He also shared various success stories wherein he had demonstrated the use of harvested water from the poly-lined water harvesting tank for field crops as well as for round the year vegetables production to fetch higher income.

Dr. Meenakshi Gupta, Professor Agronomy deliberated on various moisture conservation techniques in kandi belt of Jammu region. Dr. Jai Kumar, Chief Scientist (Agronomy) briefed about the Contingent Crop Planning for various rain-

fed crops under aberrant weather conditions and also discussed in detail various real time interventions to overcome the prolonged drought situations like early season drought, mid season drought and terminal drought situations for higher productivity. Rohit Sharma, Scientist (Agronomy) discussed in detail about various resource conservation technologies for moisture conservation. Dr. Brinder Singh briefed about various organic sources for enhancing the water holding capacity of soils of rainfed areas.

Er. Sunny Raina discussed about the catchment-storage-command relationship to increase the production and productivity in maize-wheat cropping system. During the event, farmers also made a visit to various water harvesting structures for practical demonstration.

Dr. Sonika Jamwal, Chief Scientist and Dr. A.C. Jha Chief Scientist also participated in the said awareness programme.

The awareness programme ended up with a formal vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Jai Kumar, Chief Scientist (Agronomy) to the farmers, experts and the persons involved in the training programme.

## Connecting with AWAAM at Poonch, Rajouri and Reasi

Top News Report

POONCH/RAJOURI, REASI, May 7: Indian Army conducted Awaam meets at Poonch, Rajouri and Reasi. The meets were conducted wherein Ex Sarpanch, Panches, ESM and other influential persons participated. During the Awam meets awareness lectures were also conducted on Various Welfare Schemes launched by Government for spreading awareness amongst resident populace for self-employment and better job opportunity. Information was given and awareness was created amongst the populace about the employment campaign/ various initiatives for employment by State



and Central Govt, particularly for youth and for women. They were informed of various initiatives launched to boost employment including skill development programmes, job fair and entrepreneurship with the schemes

like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIU-PEP) etc.

## Beauty Parlor management programme concludes at SBI RSETI Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: A Beauty Parlor Management training Programme conducted by SBI Rural Self Employment Training Institute (SBI-RSETI) Jammu concluded at Roop Nagar, Jammu, in which 33 candidates from different parts of Jammu District participated.

Assessment of the batch also carried out by the EDP Assessor Arun Khajuria and Domain Assessor Namita Devi from National Academy of RUDSETI (NAR).

On this occasion, a small but impressive function was organized in which certificates of participation were distributed by Romesh Chander, Director SBI RSETI Jammu. Director RSETI interacted with all the candidates and guided

them to take full advantages of the skill acquired at SBI RSETI Jammu.

He also motivated the candidates to stand on their own by using the skill acquired at SBI RSETI.

Romesh Chander also guided the candidates about Social Security Schemes like PMJJBY, PMSBY, APY etc. He also guided them about various loan schemes which are beneficial for candidates to open their self employment ventures.

Director RSETI, assured every possible help in opening their ventures and to get credit linked by the banks under different loan schemes.

At the end of the program, vote of thanks was delivered by Deepu Bala and Mrs. Shalun Sharma, Faculties, SBI RSETI Jammu.

## Indian Army Conducts Fire Fighting Practice at Village Chas, Kishtwar



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, May 7: The Indian Army demonstrated its commitment to community safety and disaster preparedness by organising a fire fighting practice at Chas village of Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir. The event aimed to empower residents with essential fire fighting skills and knowl-

edge, equipping them to respond effectively to fire emergencies. Participants were trained in fire prevention strategies, fire fighting techniques and the proper use of fire fighting equipment under the guidance of experienced Army personnel. The event witnessed 62 participants from village Chas and nearby areas. Such initiatives not only enhances public safety

but also fosters a sense of empowerment and self-reliance among communities. The Indian Army remains committed to strengthening civil-military cooperation and supporting civilian authorities in disaster response efforts. By imparting essential skills and knowledge, the Army contributes significantly to building a safer and more resilient society.

## Woman attacked, gang-raped in Rajasthan's Banswara, 2 held

JAIPUR, May 7 (Agencies): A woman was allegedly attacked and raped by two people in Rajasthan's Banswara, police said on Tuesday. The incident occurred on May 5 when the 19-year-old woman was returning home after attending a wedding function, police said.

According to the complaint registered by the woman, Kalu along with another man stopped her mid-way when she was returning home. They forcefully took her to an isolated place and

allegedly gang-raped her, Deputy Superintendent of Police Banswara Suryaveer Singh said.

"They forced her to go with them but when she refused, Kalu hit her with a sword due to which she received head injuries and two fingers of her right hand were cut," he said.

The victim was referred to a hospital in Udaipur where she is undergoing treatment.

The accused were detained and further investigation is underway, he added.

## BRO celebrates its 65th Raising Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is celebrating its 65th Raising Day on May 07, 2024. To mark the day, an event was organised in New Delhi, which was presided over by Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane.

In his address, the Defence Secretary lauded the BRO for fulfilling its responsibilities successfully in inhospitable terrain and tough weather conditions. He termed the BRO an extremely crucial organisation which, through its infrastructure projects in border areas, is playing a major role in the security of the country, besides ensuring the socio-economic progress of far-flung areas.

Shri Giridhar Aramane commended the BRO for completing the projects in a time-bound manner, exuding confidence that the Karmayogis will continue to ensure border infrastructure development in a record time.

He urged the BRO to infuse latest technology and techniques for faster completion of projects, through which human

efforts will be reduced & utilised more efficiently. Automation and mechanisation will be key for the BRO in the future, he said.

The Defence Secretary also recalled the valuable contribution of the BRO personnel in the relief and rescue efforts during the Silkyara Tunnel Collapse and the Sikkim Floods. He added that the Organisation will play an important role in the Vibrant Villages Programme which envisages comprehensive development of select border villages.

Speaking on the occasion, Director General, Border Roads Lt Gen Raghunath Srinivasan extended greetings to all ranks of the BRO. He stated that the pan-India presence of the BRO reflects its commitment to national security, connectivity and development. He added that the tagline 'In the Silence of Our Great Mountains - Work Speaks' speaks volumes of the Organisation's dedication, perseverance and impact on the lives of the people residing in the remotest corners of the country. He exhorted all ranks to

renew the pledge to continue 'Connecting Places Connecting People' and leaving a lasting legacy of progress, prosperity and unity.

The event also witnessed the unveiling of a compendium on Sela Tunnel as well as some books including 'Oonchin Sadaken', 'Path Pradarshak' and 'Path Vikas' by the Defence Secretary. He gave away Excellence Awards to the BRO personnel for the year 2023-24 and felicitated the women achievers of the Organisation. The Casual Paid Labourers who worked in various projects such as Sela Tunnel, as well as during Sikkim floods were also felicitated.

Raised with just two projects in 1960 - Project Tusker (now Vartak) in the East and Project Beacon in the North, the BRO has today become a vibrant organisation with 18 projects operating in 11 States and three

Union Territories. It has now established its credentials as the leading infra construction agency in the high-altitude and difficult snow-bound areas.

### FROM PAGE 1

#### ECI directs ethical Social Media use by political parties

1950 and 1951 and the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct. In view of the existing legal provisions, amongst other directions, the parties have been specifically directed to refrain from publishing and circulating deep fake audios/videos, disseminate any misinformation or information which is patently false, untrue or misleading in nature, to refrain from posting derogatory content towards women, to abstain from using children in campaigns, to avoid depicting violence or harm to animals. The parties have been directed to promptly remove any such content within three hours of bringing it to their notice, warn the person responsible in their party, reporting unlawful information and fake user accounts to respective platforms, and escalate persistent issues to the Grievance Appellate Committee under Rule 3A of the Information Technology (Intermedi-

ary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.

#### 2 terrorists killed in encounter in Kulgam, Search operation underway

shall follow," the Kashmir Zone Police said in a post on X.

#### Man killed over land dispute; Police conduct multiple raids

around the crime spot and digitally picked up relevant evidence, he said.

Police remain committed to solving the crime and attacking its root causes, he said.

Eight people have been detained in connection with the case so far, he said.

Two police officials were suspended in connection with the murder and a departmental inquiry was ordered.

#### ACB arrests Naib Tehsildar, Khrew for accepting bribe

The team laid a successful trap and caught the accused Maqbool Hussain Dar R/o Nooripor, Pattan presently posted as Naib Tehsildar, Khrew, District Pulwama red handed while demanding and accepting bribe amount of Rs 10,000 from the complainant and the Sg Constable Ajaz Ahmad, attached with the Naib Tehsildar was also arrested for facilitating the commission of offence, the statement said, adding that further investigation into the case is going on.

#### Hajj 2024: First flight with 320 pilgrims to take off from Srinagar airport on May 9

will commence from May 09 and in the first batch there will be 320 Haj pilgrims",

he said. Dr Quershi said that 37 women pilgrims will also undertake the sacred journey without a Mahram, with the majority embarking from Srinagar, and that the boarding passes to custom clearance, have been meticulously coordinated to ensure a hassle-free experience for the pilgrims and their families. He said that the Haj House will serve as a focal point for all formalities, streamlining the process for the pilgrims' convenience. Dr Quershi said that the collaborative efforts across various departments, including health, security, and emergency services, will be in place and that the training sessions have also been conducted twice to equip pilgrims with essential information and guidance for their pilgrimage. He added that this year's pilgrimage will commence with a visit to Madina, with all pilgrims accommodated in Markaziya. He said enhancements have been made in Minha, with tents now strategically positioned in zones 2, 3, and 4, elevating the overall experience for the pilgrims.

#### Police attach

#### properties of 7 pak based terror handlers in Baramulla

terror handlers during the course of the investigation and inquiry conducted by the police. The alleged Pakistan-based handlers have been identified as Shabir Ahmad Sofi, a resident of Sheikhpora; Ghulam Nabi Alaie of Waripora Payeen; Ghulam Nabi Sheikh of Warpora Bala; Sharief ud din Chopan, Gulla Sheikh of Reshipora Authoora, Mohammad Rafiq Khan of Saloosa & Abdul Hameed Parray of Frasthar Tilgam. "The operation reaffirms the commitment of Police to combat the terror activities", they added.

#### MeT forecasts mainly dry, 'Hot' weather in J&K

on the previous night and it was below normal by 0.9°C for the winter capital of J&K. Banihal recorded a low of 11.8°C, Batote 15.0°C and Bhadernah 11.6°C, he said.

## GreenCell Mobility secures Rs 3 Billion Green Financing from Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation

Top News Report

MUMBAI/JAMMU, May 7: GreenCell Mobility, a pioneer in Electric Mass Mobility sector, has secured Green Financing from leading Japanese financial institution Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) for its transformative Electric Bus project in Uttar Pradesh. This transaction not only marks the 1st Project Finance by a Japanese bank in the Electric Mobility domain in India but is also SMBC's 1st Project Finance transaction in E-Mobility in Asia Pacific.

According to the terms of the agreement, SMBC has extended a long-term Project Finance facility to GreenCell Mobility for its 350 Electric Buses project in Uttar Pradesh.

This Rs 3.07 billion Project Finance facility represents a pivotal step in both low carbon transportation and financial innovation in India. The project is



expected to reduce approximately 2.35 lakh tonnes of gross CO2 emissions over its contract lifespan, by facilitating the deployment of 9 metres fully built pure AC Electric Buses across 8 cities in Uttar Pradesh.

Devendra Chawla, MD & CEO of GreenCell Mobility, commented, "Our historic partnership with Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation demonstrates GreenCell Mobility's unwavering dedication towards sustainable mass mobility. The

Green Financing is a significant milestone to step up our efforts towards transforming India's electric transportation landscape. GreenCell Mobility has become the first Indian company to secure Green Financing from global banks Standard Chartered and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation."

The Project Finance facility will help with the procurement, operation, and maintenance of electric buses under the FAME II Scheme, which is administered by the

Uttar Pradesh government's Directorate of Urban Transport. Operating under a 10-year concession agreement, the project guarantees a fixed per-kilometer fee, mitigating traffic risk and ensuring a consistent revenue stream similar to an annuity.

Tomofumi Watanabe and Luca Tonello, co-General Managers of Structured Finance Asia Pacific at Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, stated, "We are proud to facilitate this groundbreaking financing deal with GreenCell

Mobility, further reinforcing our commitment to advancing sustainable initiatives in India and the Asia Pacific region. By aligning the transaction with the Green Loan Principles, we are setting new benchmarks for responsible financing and environmental stewardship."

Commenting on the transaction, Hiroyuki Mesaki, Country Head of SMBC India, stated "We are excited to initiate our journey into India's e-mobility sector through our collaboration with GreenCell Mobility. This transaction exemplifies our dedication to fostering sustainable practices and underscores our commitment to supporting innovative projects that drive positive environmental impact. By leveraging our financial expertise and global network, we aim to help the transition towards cleaner transportation solutions, paving the way for a more sustainable future"

## Awareness Programme organized by Civil Defence Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: One day awareness programme was held at Border Memorial Presentation Convent Public School Makwal, Jammu which was organized by Civil Defence, Jammu under the supervision of I/C Dy. Contoller Civil Defence Jammu.

Awareness about the basic knowledge of First Aid, Fire fighting especially as per the advisory

from NDMA for heat wave 2024, the students/teachers were made aware about heat wave risk and reduction. Students/teachers were also made aware of all possible ways to avoid heatstroke during summer season.

The main aim of the awareness programme was to educate students with regard to preventive measures during summer season.

On the occasion Rakesh Sharma, Chairman of the

Convent School appreciated and thanked the Civil Defence team for organizing such programme.

Paramjit Kumar, Chief Warden Civil Defence, Jammu, R. Vijay Magotra, Dy. Chief Warden Civil Defence, Jammu, Yash Paul, Vice-Principal of the School, Raj Kumar, Post Warden Civil Defence, Jammu and Sahil Sharma, representative of the DC office, Jammu present on the occasion.

## We have succeeded in reviving Sufi Spiritual traditions at our shrines: Darakhshan



Top News Report

NOWSHERA, May 7: Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Tuesday visited Nowshera and Rajouri on her official tour.

She visited many Waqf Campuses in Nowshera and Rajouri and took stock of the ongoing developmental works and also took stock of the required works to be undertaken by the Board in coming days.

Dr Andrabi was accompanied by senior Waqf Officers and Administrator for Rajouri Abdul Qayoom Mir.

Dr Andrabi discussed future plans of the Board

related to Rajouri district. Earlier Andrabi was accorded warm reception by the people and Board authorities on her arrival at Nowshera and Rajouri. She also met many public delegations and interacted with the people from different walks of life.

Dr Darakhshan also spoke to media at Rajouri later and said that J&K was now a transformed territory as the law and order situation in the UT has improved miraculously after 2019.

"Whole of J&K now talks about the development and progress in place of day to day shutdown calendars, stone pelting incidents, violence and fears. We have trav-

elled from the era of the destruction to the development and peace", said Dr Andrabi. She took a strong dig on the dynasts who were instrumental in supporting separatism and the violence by saying that they want the bleeding J&K back and on listening to them one can simply gather their sinister political agendas.

Dr Andrabi said that like in all other sectors, Waqf Board in J&K has registered remarkable achievement in streamlining the Waqf management system and making it vibrant and transparent. This Board has succeeded in reviving the Sufi Spiritual Centers in whole of the UT.

## Khatana meets family members of slain Avtar Singh, assures justice

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: Senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Gulam Ali Khatana on Tuesday visited the family members of deceased S. Avtar Singh who was recently killed in a land dispute case at Greater Kailash area of Jammu.

Expressing deep grief over the killing, Khatana prayed for peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

He assured justice to the victim family and said that the guilty will definitely get exemplary punishment for the heinous crime and confidence of the public over the law enforcing Police will be maintained.

The BJP leader also said that Police should

work hard to ensure that no such incident may take place in future and the mafia of land grabbers should be dealt sternly along with other criminals.

He said that Police in J&K is known for professionalism and these cops have done a lot in combatting terrorism in the State apart from eradicating the crime from our soil.

"Killing of a human being puts all his dependants into uncalled troubles and miseries," Khatana further said expressing his condolences with the family members of slain Avtar Singh.

Prominent among those present on the occasion were former Mayor of Jammu city, Rajinder Sharma, JMC Councillor, Anil Kumar and Jagjit Singh, social activist.

## GDC Budhal commemorates World Athletics Day 2024

Top News Report

BUDHAL, May 7: The NSS Unit of Government Degree College (GDC) Budhal celebrated World Athletics Day, 2024, with great enthusiasm by organizing a series of diverse activities. The event aimed to provide a platform for students to showcase their talents, besides promoting the values of sportsmanship, fitness and teamwork among them.

The event was marked by enthusiastic participation from students and staff.

The day commenced with an address by Prof. Tahir Nadeem, the NSS Programme Officer of the College, emphasizing the significance of the occasion.

The highlight of the day's festivities was an inspiring slogan-writing competition, which served as a platform for participants to express their creativity and passion for athletics. The competition witnessed impressive and thought-provoking slogans that encapsulated the essence of athleticism and its significance in promoting a healthy lifestyle.

NSS Volunteers Mehak Naseer and Sanam Kouser shared the 1st position in this competition. The 2nd position was jointly secured

by Mahar Naseer and Gurmeet Kour whereas Sonam Malha and Nasreen Akhter tied for the 3rd position.

The jury for the event included Prof. Ishfaq Ahmed Bhat, HOD Kashmiri, Prof. Qumar Rabani Chowdhary, HOD History, Dr. Altaf Hussain, HOD Chemistry, Prof. Tahir Mahmood, HOD English and Alyas Hussain Shah, Lecturer, Department of Urdu. The jury meticulously evaluated the entries based on criteria such as relevance, originality, and effectiveness of communication.

In addition to the slogan writing competition, the World Athletics Day celebration also featured a plethora of engaging activities, including an interactive session on the importance of physical fitness and friendly sports matches among students. These activities not only provided a platform for physical exertion but also facilitated social interaction among participants.

The Principal of the College Prof. (Dr.) Mohd Mazammal Hussain appreciated the efforts of NSS Unit of the College in organizing such an event. He said that this event is a testament to the college's commitment to all-round development of its students.

## New all-in-one vaccine may prove effective against all coronaviruses



NEW DELHI, May 7 (Agencies): A team of scientists from the world's leading universities have developed a new all-in-one vaccine that they hope can protect humans against a broad range of coronaviruses, including ones that are yet to emerge.

The research published in Nature Nanotechnology on Monday is based on a new approach to vaccine development called proactive vaccinology, where scientists build a vaccine before the disease-causing pathogen even emerges, which has shown promising results in mice.

The study by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge in the UK and Caltech in the US says the vaccine works by training the body's immune system to recognise specific regions of eight different coronaviruses, including SARS-CoV-2 which caused the COVID-19 outbreak, and several that are currently circulating in bats and have potential to jump to humans and cause a pandemic.

Our focus is to create a vaccine that will protect us against the next coronavirus pandemic, and have it ready before the pandemic has even started, said Rory Hills, a graduate researcher in the University of Cambridge's Department of Pharmacology and first author of the report.

For example, the new vaccine does not include the SARS-CoV-1 coronavirus, which caused the 2003 SARS outbreak, yet it still induces an immune

response to that virus.

We've created a vaccine that provides protection against a broad range of different coronaviruses including ones we don't even know about yet, said Hills.

Key to its effectiveness is that the specific virus regions the vaccine targets also appear in many related coronaviruses. By training the immune system to attack these regions, it gives protection against other coronaviruses not represented in the vaccine, including ones that haven't even been identified yet.

We don't have to wait for new coronaviruses to emerge. We know enough about coronaviruses, and different immune responses to them, that we can get going with building protective vaccines against unknown coronaviruses now, said Professor Mark Howarth in the University of Cambridge's Department of Pharmacology, senior author of the report.

Scientists did a great job in quickly producing an extremely effective COVID vaccine during the last pandemic, but the world still had a massive crisis with a huge number of deaths. We need to work out how we can do even better than that in the future, and a powerful component of that is starting to build the vaccines in advance, he said.

The new Quartet Nanocage vaccine is based on a structure called a nanoparticle a ball of proteins held

together by incredibly strong interactions. Chains of different viral antigens are attached to this nanoparticle using a novel "protein superglue". Multiple antigens are included in these chains, which trains the immune system to target specific regions shared across a broad range of coronaviruses.

The latest study demonstrated that the new vaccine raises a broad immune response, even in mice that were pre-immunised with SARS-CoV-2.

The new vaccine is much simpler in design than other broadly protective vaccines currently in development, which the researchers believe should accelerate its route into clinical trials.

The underlying technology that the scientific collaboration has developed also has potential for use in vaccine development to protect against many other health challenges. It is said to improve on previous work, by the Oxford and Caltech groups, to develop a novel all-in-one vaccine against coronavirus threats.

According to experts, conventional vaccines include a single antigen to train the immune system to target a single specific virus, which may not protect against a diverse range of existing coronaviruses or against pathogens that are newly emerging.

The latest research was funded by the UK's Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council.

## India exported half its pharma produce last year

NEW DELHI, May 7 (Agencies): India exported half of its pharmaceutical produce last year, marking a significant rise since the Covid-19 pandemic. The country's drugs and pharmaceuticals exports increased 9.67 per cent year-on-year to \$27.9 billion in 2023-24, even as the total exports dipped by 3 per cent in the last fiscal. In 2022-23, the exports stood at \$25.4 billion.

"During Covid-19, the need to reduce our dependency on other countries for pharmaceutical drugs was strongly felt. Therefore, Performance-linked Incentives (PLI) scheme was introduced in the pharmaceutical and bulk drugs sector and we found good success," said Dr Arunish Chawla, secretary, department of pharmaceuticals. "Nearly 50 bulk drugs were identified out of which open offers were given for the production of 34 drugs. We achieved success in producing 30 drugs and as per last year's figures,

India exported 50 per cent of its produce showing that the pharma industry in the country is now export-oriented and it is a big success."

Dr Chawla, who was speaking at a one-day workshop, 'Meditech Stackathon 2024', organised by the department of pharmaceuticals, ministry of chemicals and fertilizers and Confederation of India Industries (CII), emphasised on the need to replicate the pharma success in medical device industry as well. "This workshop has been organised so that stakeholders, especially the domestic and multinational industries can sit together and map their value chain on the basis of which a policy stack will be prepared. This will show gaps in policy, processes and incentives and lead to adequate policy nudge or arbitrage," Dr. Chawla said.

"The policy stack will be built up in four stages. First is value chain mapping, second is economic

classification for the value chains to be integrated with the policy and data framework. Third, tariffs and taxes and how they move and evolve across value chains in both industrial space and time and fourth, identifying various elements of policy, price, scheme and regulatory arbitrage to finally facilitate policy nudge which will have both financial and institutional (built bottom up) elements."

Dr Chawla added that atmanirbharta in medical devices is their mission and is guided by world class quality (zero defect full effect) statement. "We will build world class product and will reduce our import dependence from 75-80 per cent to 50 per cent over the next five years in medical devices industry," said Dr Chawla. "The idea is to evolve a dynamic world class competitive medical device industry where healthcare does not suffer, patients get top class treatment at par with the world."

## No plans to rest Jasprit Bumrah yet, says Mumbai Indians batting coach Pollard

SRH's assistant coach doffs his hat to Suryakumar Yadav

MUMBAI, May 7 (Agencies): Mumbai Indians have no plans to rest ace India pacer Jasprit Bumrah ahead of the T20 World Cup even though they are out of contention for the IPL playoffs, said batting coach Kieron Pollard.

MI defeated Sunrisers Hyderabad by seven wickets here on Monday after Suryakumar Yadav (102 not out) struck his second IPL century to help his team chase down a target of 174 with 16 balls to spare.

The win helped MI end their four-match losing streak and record only their fourth win in 12 matches.

"I certainly haven't had any discussions about that," Pollard told media after the game when asked if there are any plans to rest Bumrah from MI's remaining two matches keeping in mind the upcoming T20 World Cup.

"I don't think that's my role and function at this point in time. But let's see what happens. We are all here to play an entire IPL. Sometimes when we think too far ahead of different things, thinking about World Cups, all these things could affect performances even from before the team was selected.

"For us and in our camp, the most important thing is finishing off the IPL and let's see what happens after that. When he



leaves the IPL and he goes into the Indian team, I think that's where that concession will take place."

MI's last IPL game is against Lucknow Super Giants at home on May 17. The T20 World Cup, to be co-hosted by USA and the West Indies, will begin on June 1.

Pollard said as a batting coach the most difficult aspect of coaching an all-round batter like Suryakumar is to curb his attacking instinct.

"He's one, who, by nature, instinctively, is very aggressive. He wants to take the bowler's on more often than not. At times it's just a matter of understanding the situation and respecting the new ball when it's moving around," Pollard said.

"If the conditions are not suitable for a certain amount of shot making, having that discipline

in order to be there for a period of time and they'll get into your work.

"I think that would be the hardest thing — to try to curb the attacking instinct. But it's not something you want to curb too much and get them in a defensive frame of mind because of the direction the sport is heading now in terms of the amount of runs being scored."

SRH's assistant coach doffs his hat to Suryakumar Yadav

SRH's assistant coach Simon Helmot said Suryakumar played an exceptional innings to take the game away from his side and the world No 1 T20I batter will have a lot of influence in the T20 World Cup.

"On some days you just have to take your hat off and say well played and well played to him. He's an exceptional cricketer and he's always going to

demand a spot in the Indian team and I'm sure he'll have an influence in the World Cup," he said.

"It's very difficult (to bowl at Suryakumar) and you guys have seen him close up for many years as I have. He's a very difficult batsman to match up with when he's in that sort of frame of mind, that sort of mood."

Helmot said the conditions assisted swing bowling with the new ball in both the innings which forced the batters to adjust their game.

"Travis (Head) has been one of our best players this season at the top of the order. But even he found it difficult at times to time the ball out in the middle on this particular track and that will happen at different times during the season," he said.

Helmot said not losing their fourth spot in the IPL points table was the biggest positive for SRH in a resounding defeat.

"The positives are that we're still fourth in the ladder. It's a really tight competition; one of the tightest competitions we've had in IPL for years that I can remember," he said.

"For us, we've got our very first fly today (Tuesday) and then play the next day against Lucknow (on Wednesday). For us, it's (about) very quickly get through over this game," he added.

## Mohammed Siraj 'manifesting' lifting T20 World Cup trophy every morning



NEW DELHI, May 7 (Agencies): RCB pacer Mohammed Siraj has said that he is trying to manifest India winning the T20 World Cup. Speaking in a RCB podcast, Siraj has said that every day after he wakes up, he tries to visualise the moment of lifting the T20 World Cup 2024 trophy. The pacer is going to pair Jasprit Bumrah in India's bowling attack.

Siraj said in the podcast that playing for India was the biggest honour and that he would really like to win an ICC trophy for India. Asked if he has the same thoughts about RCB as well, Siraj laughed out loud and said that RCB will win the Indian Premier League in time and that the fans need to keep supporting the franchise.

"It is your blessings that I have been named in the T20 World Cup squad. It is every player's dream that they want to play for their country, especially in the World Cup. Every morning I wake up, I manifest that I am lifting the World Cup trophy," Mohammed Siraj said in the podcast.

India have selected a spin-heavy side for the T20 World Cup 2024 set to be played in June in the United States of America and West Indies. India have opted to keep Kuldeep Yadav, Yuzvendra Chahal, Ravindra Jadeja and Axar Patel in the India 15.

India's T20 World Cup Squad  
Rohit Sharma will lead a 15-man T20 World Cup squad and Hardik Pandya will be its vice-captain, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) said in a statement on Tuesday, April 30. Sanju Samson and Yuzvendra Chahal were rewarded for their stellar IPL performances while Rinku Singh and KL Rahul were two of the biggest misses.

Virat Kohli, as expected, made the 15-man squad along with young opener Yashasvi Jaiswal. Wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant was named in the T20I squad after his heroic return to competitive action in the IPL. Pant was not a regular in the T20I mix even before he suffered the car crash in December 2022. However, his stellar show with both bat and gloves, scoring 398 runs in 11 matches. Meanwhile, Sanju Samson, who missed the ODI World Cup squad last year, was rewarded for his stellar run in IPL 2024. The Rajasthan captain has been picked ahead of KL Rahul, who was also in contention.

Hardik Pandya, who has had a tough run in IPL 2024 as MI captain, has been backed to do the job as Rohit Sharma's deputy. Hardik led India in 16 matches when Rohit Sharma was not playing T20Is to focus on the build-up to the ODI World Cup last year. India also have picked seam-bowling all-rounder Shivam Dube, who has been in blistering six-hitting form for CSK in IPL 2024.

## Australia coach McDonald backs captain Mitchell Marsh to be fit ahead of T20 World Cup

NEW DELHI, May 7 (Agencies): Australia coach Andrew McDonald has backed captain Mitchell Marsh to be back to full fitness before the start of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024. Marsh was pulled out of the IPL early last month due to a hamstring rupture, and his recovery has been far slower than planned since returning from India. Marsh joined a cohort of Australia's squad members, not engaged in the IPL, for the initial three-day pre-tournament training camp in Brisbane. Another such camp is scheduled over the next two weeks before the squad leaves for the Caribbean on May 25th. Initially, Marsh wasn't slated to attend the first camp due to his hamstring injury. However, his recovery allowed him to participate and bat in the nets over the last couple of days. Nonetheless, McDonald reiterated that Marsh's bowling fitness would only be nearing completion closer to the tournament.

"You probably won't see him bowl in the next couple of weeks here," McDonald told reporters at Allan Border Field on Tuesday. "It'll probably happen the week before we leave. And then he'll be able to ramp that up when we're over there. We'll be able to cherry-pick the moments during the tournament where he'll be useful with the ball. We've got some all-round depth in the squad, which gives us good coverage anyway.



"[His recovery was] probably a little slower than expected on the back of the hamstring. But we've got plenty of time now that he has been ruled out of the IPL. The first game is just short of a month away now. So ample time for him to get ready. But really positive to see the skipper on the park."

McDonald said there was no concern about Marsh's lack of match practice over the last two months, given that Australia will play some practice games before their debut match against Oman. "No real concern about match fitness," McDonald said. "We've got a couple of practice games when we get to Trinidad in the support period. So he'll likely get plenty of match opportunities. And if not, we'll be able to simulate those through practice, which our coaching staff are pretty good at."

## Pant vs Samson as DC hope to stay alive in playoff race

NEW DELHI, May 7 (Agencies): DC will take on RR in another IPL 2024 match that carries immense weight in the race to the playoffs at the business end of the tournament. Points are prized possessions, especially for mid-table teams caught in a frenetic chase. For the Royals, the goal is clear: secure a spot in the playoffs. On the other hand, the Capitals are fighting to stay alive in the tournament. Adding to the spectacle is the showdown between the two skippers, Rishabh Pant and Sanju Samson. Both have earned spots in India's squad for the upcoming T20 World Cup, intensifying their duel to claim the mantle of the team's premier wicketkeeper-batsman.

The contest at the Arun Jaitley Stadium promises to test every facet of the game — wicketkeeping, batting, and leadership. Thus far, both captains have exhibited commendable leadership. Sanju's Rajasthan Royals, bolstered by an astute captaincy, sit deservedly in second place in the points table with four games in hand, including Tuesday's clash. Pant, leading the Capitals, faces a different challenge. Despite grappling with injuries that sidelined key players like Harry Brook, Lungi Ngidi, and Mitchell Marsh, Pant has rallied



his squad admirably. His performance with the bat has been stellar, amassing 398 runs at an average of 44.22 and a remarkable strike rate of 158.56 in the tournament. Sanju, meanwhile, has been equally impressive, tallying 385 runs at an average of 64.16 and a strike rate of 159.09. With the T20 World Cup looming, this match offers a glimpse into which captain might hold the edge heading into the prestigious tournament.

DC vs RR: Head-to-Head  
In their head-to-head encounters, Rajasthan holds a slight advantage over Delhi, with 15 wins in 28 matches, compared to Delhi's 13 victories. There have been no instances of no results or abandoned matches amongst the total played

encounters, which stands at 28.  
DC vs RR: Team news  
Ishant Sharma is fit again, while David Warner's availability remains uncertain until match day. Capitals face a decision between Prithvi Shaw and Kumar Kushagra, with the latter likely to be favored due to Shaw's recent struggles against swinging deliveries, averaging 11.75 in his last four outings. Fast bowler Rasikh Salam is anticipated to make an impact. The Royals are expected to field an unchanged lineup, with no injury worries. The potential swap of Jos Buttler for Yuzvendra Chahal stands out as the likeliest Impact Player change.  
DC vs RR: Delhi pitch report  
Anticipate another high-scoring encounter on a surface

conducive to batting, with dew unlikely to significantly impact play. Conditions are expected to remain consistent throughout both innings, with hot and dry weather prevailing in the evening. Historically, the Arun Jaitley Stadium has favored batsmen, evident from the lowest first-innings score of 223 in Delhi during this tournament. With a gap of 10 days since the last match at the venue and rising temperatures in the capital, the pitches are likely to be slightly drier, potentially offering more turn and grip for the bowlers, similar to conditions seen elsewhere in the country.

DC vs RR: Predicted XIs  
DC Playing XI: Jake Fraser-McGurk, Abishek Porel, Shai Hope, Tristan Stubbs, Rishabh Pant (capt, wk), Axar Patel, Kumar Kushagra, Kuldeep Yadav, Khaleel Ahmed, Lizaad Williams, Mukesh Kumar.  
Impact Player: Rasikh Salam.  
Rajasthan Royals  
RR Playing XI: Jos Buttler, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Sanju Samson (capt & wk), Riyan Parag, Shimron Hetmyer, Rovman Powell, Dhruv Jurel, R Ashwin, Trent Boult, Avesh Khan, Yuzvendra Chahal.  
Impact Player: Sandeep Sharma.

## Funny guy, sensible captain: Yuvraj Singh praises 'closest friend' Rohit Sharma

Yuvraj Singh, the ambassador for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024, backed Rohit Sharma to do well as the captain of India in the upcoming tournament set to take place in the USA and West Indies.

NEW DELHI, May 7 (Agencies): Yuvraj Singh, the brand ambassador for the ICC T20 World Cup 2024, wants to witness his close friend, Rohit Sharma leading the Indian team to victory and winning the coveted World Cup medal as captain. Currently, in the US to promote the T20 World Cup and has also attended the Miami Formula One Grand Prix, Yuvraj played a pivotal role in India's triumphs in both T20Is

(2007) and ODIs (2011) World Cups. Notably, he was awarded the 'Player of the Tournament' in the 2011 ODI World Cup, which India won under the leadership of MS Dhoni. Yuvraj stresses the importance of having a captain who can make decisive calls under pressure, and he firmly believes Rohit is the ideal candidate for the role in the upcoming T20 World Cup.  
When asked about Rohit's significance in the upcoming tourna-

ment, Yuvraj expressed his unequivocal support for the Hitman to continue leading the side. "(Rohit's presence is going to be) very crucial. I think we need a really good captain, a sensible captain who takes decisions well under pressure. And he's the one to take them," T20 World Cup 2024 ambassador Yuvraj said. "He was the captain when we lost in the (Cricket World Cup) 50-over final (in 2023). He has won five IPL trophies as a captain.



I think we need somebody like him to captain India."  
YUVI-ROHIT BOND

The bond between Yuvraj and Rohit traces back to their early days in the Indian setup,

where Yuvraj stood as one of Rohit's closest companions within the team. Their connection deepened as Yuvraj was alongside Rohit when he made his debut for India. Young Hitman stepped onto the international cricket scene after Yuvraj's dismissal, marking his first appearance against Ireland in 2007.  
This bond reached its pinnacle in 2019 when Yuvraj, in his final season as an active cricketer, played under Rohit's

captaincy at Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League. Following the tournament, Yuvraj bid farewell to all forms of cricket in June 2019. Yuvraj reflected on his first impression of Rohit, who entered the Indian team at just 17 years old.  
He spoke highly of the Indian captain, highlighting his humility, camaraderie, and leadership qualities, both on and off the field.  
"Very poor English," Yuvraj said jokingly.

"Very funny guy. From the streets of Borivali (in Mumbai), we always tease him. But a great guy at heart.  
The more success he's had, he has never changed as a person. That's the beauty of Rohit Sharma. Fun-loving, always having fun with the guys. A great leader on the park and one of my closest friends from cricket. I really want to see Rohit Sharma with a World Cup trophy and a World Cup medal. He really deserves it."

## Interaction program organised by Education Deptt GDCW Kathua

### Top News Report

KATHUA, May 7: Department of Education, Government Degree College for Women (GDCW) Kathua, on Tuesday organized an enlightening and informative interaction program for the students of Education.

Bahadur, a differently-abled scholar of Central University of Haryana, was the main resource person.

He interacted with the students, discussed various issues which the disabled students are facing. He motivated the students towards research in social science and choosing education as



Major subject in college as per NEP 2020. He further said that in this NEP 2020, there is great scope for students to

excel in different areas of life in spite of their abilities and disabilities.

Principal of the College, Dr Savi Behl, appreci-

ated the initiative taken by education department for organising such a wonderful interaction program. She con-

gratulated the Research Scholar Bhadur for his courage and dedication. She mentioned that he is not only a role model but also an inspiration for the students.

Dr. Rachna Devi, HOD education said that Bhadur came in her contact in 2017 when he was a college student. He is a very dedicated and sincere student, despite his seeing difficulty, he reached the heights as a Ph.D scholar of Education. He is NET JRF. 50 students participated in this interactive session.

The program was organised under the supervision of Dr Rachna Devi, HOD education.

## PMJAY Scheme saves lives of millions: Keshav

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: Samvedna Society Chairman Keshav Chopra on Tuesday provided Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) free health insurance cards and Abha Cards to the needy people at Talab Tillo.

Speaking on the occasion, Keshav Chopra said that after a long exercise the government has crafted the Ayushman Bharat Scheme to bail out the poor and needy population medical expenses which earlier used to hit them hard leading to life full of miseries.

It is the largest health insurance scheme in the world which has provided free hospitalization benefits to more than 65 million people and similarly ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) Card helps individuals to access healthcare benefits and store their medical information digitally in one account.

Therefore, a ABHA ID card is one-stop identification for all healthcare-related



activities. It makes it easier for individuals to access and manage their overall wellness, Keshav said.

He added, "The motive of the Samvedna Society is to provide the benefits of Govt sponsored schemes to the needy people at their doorstep."

Manoj Tandon, Abhishek Gupta, Rohit Verma, Suraj Peer, Ambar, Divyansh Gupta and others were also present.

## NSF celebrates 163th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: National Secular Forum (NSF), University Unit on Tuesday organized a programmed in University Campus, and on the Birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore who laid his life for the country.

A programme in this connection was organized wherein Ankush Abrol Jammu Provincial Joint Secretary JKNC was the Chief Guest while Dr Vikas Sharma Coordinator Jammu District (Urban) and Zonal Secretary JKNC, Presided over the function. TR Sharma KAS (Retd) was the Guest of Honour.

The activists of NSF paid tributes to Rabindranath Tagore and garlanded the portraits of the son of soil. Speaking on the occasion Ankush Abrol threw light on the life history of Rabindranath Tagore and appreciated the efforts of NSF and appealed to the youth to come forward to eliminate all evils from the society.

Abrol expressed that present day youth was frustrated due to lack of job opportunities and neck deep corruption in the recruitment process being followed by the UT administration.

He mentioned that people have suffered a lot during the last five years especially after the abrogation of Article 370, bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir and downgraded of State to a Union Territory. He urged the young generation to strengthen the hands of J&K National Conference (JKNC) enabling it to redouble its efforts to get the status of Jammu and Kashmir statehood restored.

While Speaking Dr Vikas Sharma stressed upon the youth to shun their self-centered outlook and contribute in the development of the nation. He also threw light on the achievements of Rabindranath Tagore who was a Bengali poet, philosopher, artist, playwright, composer, novelist and India's first Nobel laureate.

TR Sharma, in his speech said that the sacrifices of such great people could not be ignored, which had secured freedom for the country and its people. Rabindranath Tagore was born on 7th May 1861 in Jorasanko Thakurbai in Kolkata. Rabindranath Tagore was born to mother Sarada Devi and Father Debendranath Tagore and he belonged to an affluent Brahmin family.

Mohd Umer Farooq President University Unit delivered the welcome address, Vineet GUPTA Chairman University Unit, was delivering the vote of thanks. Among those who were present on the occasion included, Roshan Sharma, Abhishek Uppal, Aditya Kargotra, Ishtyaq Ahmed, Atul sharma, Arun singh, Rooh Shah, Rashid husain, Babar sohil, Aamil Farooq, Abhishek Mehra, Suman Kumar, Gourav sharma, Gourav chibber, Yogesh kumar, Sidharth singh, Pankaj Sharma, Rohit Kotwal and others.

## Investiture Ceremony 2024 held at KC Public School

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: As the only Round Square school in J&K, KC Public School invests deep faith in the ideal of democracy and puts it into practice by holding elections for the positions of responsibility in the Students' Council of the school every year.

Elections are organized by students themselves, using electronic machines (EVMs) developed by them. Teachers perform the roles of polling officers in the conduct of the elections.

All elected members are administered oath of office at an investiture ceremony which was held today in the sports hall of KC Sports Club.

Parents of all elected and nominated members of the Students' Council for the year 2024-25 graced the occasion with their presence.

The ceremony commenced with the school choir group presenting the school song. It was followed by a ceremonial march-in of the

contingents of elected and nominated members of the Council led by the School Head Girl holding the school flag. After that, Principal of the school, Amarendra Kumar Mishra, administered a collective oath to office to all Council members.

In his address to the gathering, he congratulated them for being elected and wished them great success in carrying out their duties and responsibilities with dedication, fairness and courage.

Vice Principal Sanjay Pandey thanked the parents for gracing the ceremony with their presence and assured them that as a Round Square school.

KCPS would continue to inculcate among students of KCPS qualities of leadership and the sense of commitment to the cause of service to the deprived and marginalized segments of human society.

The ceremonial function concluded with the national anthem.

## MRM nominates Akhtar Mir as Co-Convenor, holds workers meeting

### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: Legal Advisor and Convenor 'Muslim Rashtriya Manch (MRM) Jammu and Kashmir Adv. Malikzada Mohd Shahzad has nominated Mohd Akhtar Mir as the Co-Convenor for Jammu province of MRM.

A workers meeting was also held to review the conduct of various programs being undertaken by the organisation.

A statement in this regard said that Mohd Akhtar Mir a renowned social worker and a prominent personality from Batote of district Ramban of Jammu and Kashmir.

Expressing his views in the meeting, Mir said that MRM is the sole organisation that has a vision and capability to bring about Social and Economic transformation in the country.

"The agenda of this organisation is to carry all the sections of the society together towards accomplishing equitable development of all the regions, religions and



castes," Mir claimed.

Speaking on the occasion, Adv. Malikzada Mohd Shahzad said that this nomination has been made with great consideration, taking into account Mohd Akhtar Mir's dedication, commitment and valuable contributions to the organization.

"We are confident that his involvement in this role will definitely strengthen our efforts and enhance our presence in Jammu Kashmir," he added.

Adv. Malikzada further stated that this position which Mir has occupied today is a testament to his hard work and dedi-

cation. "Muslim Rashtriya Manch acknowledges its responsibility to recognize the contributions of diligent and dynamic persons like him," Malik further asserted.

Meanwhile, MRM members have congratulated Mohd Akhtar Mir and welcomed him in the organizational fold.

Prominent among those who were present on the occasion included Fayaz Ahmed Wani (Co-Convenor Jammu Province), Shahid Kalas (Co-Convenor Jammu Province), Rayees Ahmed Sheikh (Secretary Jammu province), Amir Iqbal (Spokesperson) and others.

## LEAD, SKUAST-J join hands to foster growth in agriculture sector



### Top News Report

JAMMU, May 7: A delegation from the LJK Economic Growth and Development Dialogue-LEAD met the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. B.N Tripathi, of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), Jammu, to discuss future plans for collaboration. During the meeting, both parties agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in near future to facilitate joint initiatives aimed at promoting growth and development

in the agriculture and food processing sector of Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir.

On this occasion, LEAD also announced the second edition of SUYOG - LJK Opportunity Summit, focusing on highlighting employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for youth in the Agriculture and Food Processing Sector.

The event aims to bring together various stakeholders, including academicians, sector experts, policymakers, entrepreneurs, investors, and youth from Ladakh,

Jammu & Kashmir. It will provide a platform for meaningful dialogue on tapping employment opportunities in agriculture and food processing. Officials from LEAD expressed confidence that, with its rich research and academic prowess, SKUAST-Jammu is well-positioned to provide valuable insights and perspectives on the challenges and opportunities in the agriculture sector of the region. The SUYOG - LJK Opportunity Summit is scheduled to be held on May 10, 2024 at SKUAST-Jammu.

## GDC Vijaypur celebrates World Athletics Day

### Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, May 7: NSS Unit (KHIDMAT) of GDC Vijaypur and Department of Sports and Physical Education celebrated World Athletics Day by organizing a 100 mtrs sprint race in the college sports ground.

More than 10 athletes of the college participated in the run with great enthusiasm and fervor.

The day is celebrated by global athletics community to promote the sport and its values of participation, unity, peace, and fair play.

It's a day to inspire people of all ages and abilities to get involved in athletics, whether as athletes, coaches, officials, or simply fans. The program was attended by faculty members, college students and NSS volunteers of the college.

Gorav Sharma of semester II secured first position, Adarsh Sharma and Parb Malpotra both of semester II secured second position while Abhishek Sharma and Arfan Ali both of semester II secured third position.

Principal of the college, Prof. (Dr.) Vandana Gupta congratulated the winner athletes of the college and appreciated the efforts of the Sports committee and NSS Unit for organizing such an event.

The programme was organized with the full support and coordination of the senior faculty members of the college Prof. Anita Jamwal (HOD Political Science), Prof. Mamta Gupta (HOD Commerce) and Dr. Anoop Bhagat (HOD Sociology).

The event was coordinated by Prof. Ritu Bhagat (HOD Education and NSS Coordinator) and co-coordinated by Dr. Manoj Heer (HOD Dogri), Dr. Naseem Chowdhary (NSS PO), Prof. Poonam Kundan (HOD Environmental Sciences), Dr. Jan Mohd. Wani (Physical Training Instructor) and Dr. Priyanka Ganjoo (Lecturer Sociology), Dr. Radhika Rasyal (Lecture History), Prof. Sonia Devi (Lecturer Hindi), Prof Renuka Kundal (Lecturer Political Science).

## NSS unit of Dogra College of Education organizes seven-day NSS camp

### Top News Report

SAMBA, May 7: The NSS unit of Dogra College of Education under the guidance of Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the college organized a seven-day NSS camp from May 1 to 7, 2024 at Government High School, Bhatyari focusing on various activities.

Around 50 volunteers from B.Ed Program actively participated in the event aimed at fostering community engagement and environmental awareness.

The camp kicked off with a welcome song presented by NSS volunteers followed by the welcome address given by Arushi Sharma, President, Student Council, Dogra College of Education.

She also briefed the audience about the various activities performed by the NSS unit during the camp. The Inaugural Ceremony included the cultural activities like Saraswati Vandana, Patriotic Song and Poem etc. were presented. A Plantation Drive was conducted to

contribute towards environmental conservation and to instill a sense of responsibility towards our ecosystem. A Yoga Session was organized for the students and the focus was on nurturing the mind, body and soul. A Community Outreach Program was organized to highlight the importance of Save Bird Save Water.

A rally was also taken out to aware the community about the importance of preserving these invaluable resources. A Cleanliness Drive was conducted in which the NSS volunteers joined their hands to beautify the surroundings and foster a culture of cleanliness and hygiene, leaving a tangible impact on our community. An Awareness Program on water, hygiene and sanitation was conducted to equip the community with the knowledge and tools necessary for maintaining good health and sanitation practices. The Valedictory Function was organized to conclude the ongoing Seven Days NSS Camp.

The Chief Guest for the function was Surjeet Singh, Sarpanch, Bhatyari. The function was graced by Sham Lal Sharma, Principal, Govt. High School, Bhatyari. In his address he stressed upon the need to organize these types of camps and activities to promote social consciousness, a sense of responsibility and discipline among the masses. The aim of the camp was to spread awareness among the rural masses and make them understand the needs and problems of the community. A skit was also performed by the NSS volunteers on the theme 'Human Rights' in which various issues like child marriage, gender discrimination, child labour etc. were shown through the play. NSS pledge was also taken by the NSS volunteers to gain skills in mobilizing community participation and to practice national integration and social harmony. Shivangi Dhorra, NSS Program Officer, Dogra College of Education presented the formal vote of thanks. The event concluded with the National Anthem.