

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Rusted mortar shell destroyed in Jammu

JAMMU, May 11 (Agencies): A rusted mortar shell was found in an open field here and subsequently destroyed in a controlled explosion by the bomb disposal squad, officials said on Saturday.

The 82-mm mortar shell was noticed by some farmers near Ratnal village Friday evening, the officials said.

They said the farmers informed the police station Bishnah and a police team was rushed to secure the area.

Later, a bomb disposal squad destroyed the explosive substance in a controlled explosion without causing any damage, the officials said.

Two terrorist associates held in Shopian

SHOPIAN, May 11 (Agencies): Two terrorist associates have been apprehended along with incriminating material in Jammu and Kashmir's Shopian district, police said on Saturday.

During joint Naka checking by Shopian Police, 44RR & 14BN CRPF at Malik Chek crossing 02 terrorist associates apprehended along with incriminating material. FIR 14/2024 under relevant sections of law registered at PS Heerpora & investigation taken up. @JmuKmrPolice @IPS_Tanushree pic.twitter.com/pqES8ZVjYd

DISTRICT POLICE SHOPIAN (@ShopianPolice) May 11, 2024 "During joint Naka checking by Shopian Police, 44RR & 14BN CRPF at Malik Chek crossing 02 terrorist associates apprehended along with incriminating material." District Police Shopian said in a post on X.

A First Information Report under relevant sections of law has been registered at Heerpora police station, police added.

An investigation has been started, they added.

Girl dies after being hit by shooting stone in Rajouri

RAJOURI, May 11 (Agencies): A 13-year-old girl was killed after being hit by a shooting stone in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri

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Controversy brews as J&K Bank issues caveat notices to employees

SRINAGAR, May 11 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Bank finds itself embroiled in controversy following the issuance of caveat notices to a significant number of its officers.

The move comes on the heels of the Bank reporting its highest profit in its 85-year history, sparking questions and concerns among its workforce.

The caveat notices, issued in light of a newly approved promotion policy and subsequent career progression notification, have raised eyebrows among



employees who allege favouritism and discrimination. "That the applicants/

caveator Bank apprehends and has a reasonable belief that the non-caveators may chal-

lenge the said promotion/career progression process of its employees from Manager to Senior

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All opposition leaders will be in jail if BJP wins Lok Sabha Polls: Kejriwal

NEW DELHI, May 11 (Agencies): Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday said that all opposition leaders, including his West Bengal counterpart Mamata Banerjee, Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray and RJD leader Tejashvi Yadav, will be in jail if the BJP wins the Lok Sabha polls.

Addressing his party workers at the AAP headquarters here, Kejriwal asserted the BJP will not return to power and said the INDIA bloc will form the



government on June 4. "In last 20 hours after release from jail, I talked to poll experts and people and got to know the BJP is not going to form the government," said Kejriwal.

"The AAP will be part

of the government at the Centre. We will get full statehood for Delhi," he added.

Kejriwal charged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is asking for votes for Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

"These people ask INDIA bloc about their face. I ask BJP who will be their PM? Modi ji is turning 75 on September 17 next year. He had made the rule that people aged 75 will be retired. They retired LK Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi, Sumitra

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BSF opens fire on Pakistani Drone along IB in Samba

SAMBA/JAMMU, May 11 (Agencies): BSF personnel opened fire on Friday night to shoot down a Pakistani drone near the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district, officials said.

Troops of the Border Security Force (BSF) detected the movement of the drone from the Pakistan side late in the night and fired nearly two dozen rounds, they said on Saturday.

The drone, however, was flown back to the Pakistani side, the officials said.

They said a search

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J&K Admin revoked our rally permission in Dal Lake to favour BJP-Aligned Party: National Conference

SRINAGAR, May 11 (Agencies): The National Conference (NC) on Saturday accused the administration in Jammu and Kashmir of revoking permission for the party's boat rally and roadshow in the interior area of Dal Lake here on "flimsy reasons" to allow "a BJP-aligned proxy party" to campaign in the same location.

The party's chief spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq said the NC had applied for permission for a boat campaign rally and roadshow in Mir Behri Dal Lake interiors for Srinagar Lok Sabha candidate Aga Syed



Ruhullah Mehdi.

Sadiq said permission for the rally was first granted by the administration, but then revoked.

The administration, however, said the Apni Party, led by Altaf Bukhari, had sought permission for a rally in the same location and date before the NC.

It said the permission given to NC for the rally and roadshow was withdrawn to avoid a clash between the parties.

"If you're seeking evidence of bias toward us look no further than this striking example. Permission granted to @JKNC_ and its party candidate @Ruhullah-Mehdi for a boat rally and road show in Mir Behri Dal Lake interiors today was swiftly revoked in the middle of the night, citing flimsy reasons," Sadiq said in a post on X.

He said while the party was barred from

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Gangster Gataru, accomplice detained under PSA

SAMBA, May 11 (Agencies): In a significant move to crack down on criminal gangs operating in Samba district, the police have detained and imprisoned two notorious criminals, including the leader of the Gataru gang, Sumit Jandyal, alias Gataru, under the Jammu & Kashmir Public Safety Act (PSA).

The detained individuals, Sumit Jandyal, famously known as Gataru, and Sourav Gupta, both sons of Om Parkash from Vijaypur district in Samba, have

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Mehbooba Mufti accuses J&K administration of trying to 'Fix' Lok Sabha Elections



SRINAGAR, May 11 (Agencies): PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday accused the Jammu and Kashmir administration of trying to "fix" the Lok Sabha elections by "selectively targeting and harassing" her party and its supporters.

Addressing a press conference at the PDP headquarters here,

Mufti also alleged that the authorities have imposed restrictions for 48 hours from 6:30 pm on Saturday under Section 144 in Pulwama, which is part of the Srinagar Lok Sabha seat going to polls on Monday.

"From 6:30 pm today, Section 144 has been imposed in Pulwama district which is unprecedented. It has not happened before that restrictions are imposed where the elections are to take place and that too till the time of the conclusion of the elections," she said.

The PDP president said they were trying to "harass" the people so

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Sajad Lone gets ECI notice for violation of MCC

SRINAGAR, May 11 (Agencies): People's Conference (PC) Chairman and party candidate for Baramulla Lok Sabha constituency in J&K, Sajad Gani Lone has received an ECI notice for violating MCC.

The ECI notice has been issued over the posting of a video by Lone on his X handle.

In the notice, the DEO Kupwara has asked him to explain why he uploaded a video on his X handle without prior clearance/pre-certification from Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC).

The notice said: "Sajad Gani Lone, candidate of Jammu & Kashmir Peoples Conference for 01 Baramulla, is hereby put on notice to explain why such violation has been made."

"The response must

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EDITORIAL

NATIONAL
TECHNOLOGY

National Technology Day in India is celebrated on May 11th every year to commemorate the successful test-firing of the Shakti-I nuclear missile at the Indian Army's Pokhran Test Range in Rajasthan in 1998. This significant achievement marked India's emergence as a nuclear power and highlighted the country's prowess in science and technology. The day serves as a reminder of India's advancements in technology and innovation, as well as the importance of technological development for national progress.

The Pokhran-II nuclear tests conducted on May 11th and May 13th, 1998, under the leadership of then-Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, showcased India's indigenous technological capabilities in nuclear science and missile technology. The successful tests demonstrated India's self-reliance in defense technology and bolstered its strategic deterrence capabilities.

National Technology Day is not only a celebration of past achievements but also a platform to encourage and inspire future generations to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. It serves as a reminder of the critical role that technology plays in driving economic growth, enhancing national security, and improving the quality of life for citizens.

On this day, various events and activities are organized across the country to promote awareness about the importance of technology and innovation. These may include seminars, workshops, exhibitions, technology fairs, and competitions aimed at showcasing cutting-edge research, breakthrough inventions, and emerging trends in technology.

Moreover, National Technology Day serves as an occasion for policymakers, scientists, technocrats, industry leaders, and academia to come together to discuss strategies for harnessing technology for national development. It provides a platform for dialogue on issues such as research funding, technology transfer, intellectual property rights, innovation ecosystems, and skill development.

In recent years, the focus of National Technology Day celebrations has expanded to encompass a wide range of technological advancements beyond nuclear and missile technology. It highlights achievements in areas such as information technology, biotechnology, aerospace, healthcare, renewable energy, nanotechnology, and artificial intelligence.

India's thriving startup ecosystem and its emergence as a global hub for technology and innovation are also celebrated on this day. The contributions of entrepreneurs, innovators, and disruptors in driving technological innovation and entrepreneurship are recognized and applauded.

Furthermore, National Technology Day serves as a reminder of the need for continued investment in research and development (R&D) to stay at the forefront of technological innovation. It underscores the importance of creating an enabling environment that fosters collaboration between industry, academia, and government to promote innovation-led growth.

In conclusion, National Technology Day in India is a day of celebration, reflection, and inspiration. It commemorates India's achievements in science and technology while also serving as a catalyst for future progress. By promoting a culture of innovation, entrepreneurship, and scientific inquiry, India can continue to harness the power of technology to address pressing challenges and improve the lives of its citizens.

Overarching Indianness transcends differences among groups

By: M Rajivlochan

(Historian)

As electioneering in India becomes more strident and voters are wooed by a focus on the faultlines in society, it would do us good to recall the nature of our nationhood. Countries come into existence because we focus on what is common among us rather than what is different. The 'moral spirit of combination' holds a nation together, wrote Rabindranath Tagore in 1917, when he was worried about the war that was going on in Europe and soldiers being pulled from all over the world into the battleground. In an essay on India's nationhood, he said it was quite evident that this was a war of nations rather than that of tribes or religions. After all, Tagore wondered, being a nation was a much more evolved state for a society, since it enabled a much larger number of people to come together and harmonise their actions for the common good. Then, he penned down his thoughts on how different nations had been formed and the positive and negative consequences of it. The most visible negative consequence was that since 1914, European nations had been at war with one another, and millions of young men from India and Africa had been sent to Europe to fight. On the positive side, nations had ensured that people from diverse backgrounds — different from each other in language, religion and ethnicity — had come together and created a society and polity that benefited everyone.

Tagore noted that nations were the highest form of social evolution. Thereby lies a very important insight for us to understand our

own existence in the present times.

Overcoming the natural differences of ethnicity, language and religion, nations came into being when their people wished to live together. Diversity, faultlines due to ethnicity, religion and language — all these come with birth. The desire to live together does not; it is crafted by human beings. What makes India unique in the comity of nations is the perpetual desire of people to live together, which is manifested in the fact that not only do we survive, we also make constant efforts to stay together.

This has been so throughout history. There are ancient texts in which we referred to ourselves as the people of Jambudwipa, the land of the jamun tree. In the Kusa Jataka from the fourth century BC, Sakra, the king of the gods, gave the ugly Prince Kusha a necklace of pearls and told him to wear it, saying, "Tie this on you, then there will not be your equal for beauty in all Jambudwipa." In later times, with an increasing contact with the outside world, those across the Sindhu river were referred to as Al-hind. Later, various East India companies came into being, not 'South Asia companies'. India has been a singular civilisation in history.

This continues to be the case even today. Statements made by leaders of various groups that have taken up arms against the Indian state in modern times are interesting.

Eno Rh Raising, the self-styled 'home minister of the Government of the People's Republic of Nagalim', said in 2015 that the Nagas were a separate people with a history different from that of Indians. The occasion was the signing of a peace accord with the Indian Union. On August 3,

2015, the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN)-IM, the largest of the seven Naga insurgent groups, announced a historic peace agreement with the Centre, agreeing to create mechanisms for greater autonomy for Naga tribes living in Manipur and decommissioning of arms held by the NSCN (IM). Neither the Nagas nor the media reporting these twin statements saw anything contradictory in the spectacle of the leader of a people with a history different from that of India signing a peace accord with the very entity they were fighting against, while at the same time asserting their separate identity.

Over the decades, Gorkhas, Sikhs, Nagas, Manipuris and Kashmiris — to name only the most well-known — have declared their disaffection with the Indian state to be such as to merit breaking away. No one ever followed up on this intention. India is one of the few nations in the world that has successfully resolved the problem of separatism in so many states.

Speaking at a public forum last year, Bipul Kalita, an ex-member of the ULFA (United Liberation Front of Asom), said they laid down arms when they realised that 98 per cent of the people of Assam did not support militancy.

The more simple-minded among intellectuals writing on India take these assertions of separateness literally to be a sign that the Indian Union barely exists, that it was brought into existence by the British; the presumption being that there was no entity called India before that.

For Westerners to see us like that makes sense to them. Perhaps they see nations as monolithic entities. For Indians to imbibe and regur-

gitate this merely shows a people unaware of their own strengths and their long civilisational memories. Abrahamic benchmarks of nation and religion are of little use to us. Unlike Europe — which was troubled by religious wars from the times of the Crusades right up to the 19th century, marked by mass killings every few years — Indians did not carry out large-scale slayings.

Exceptions prove the rule. The one fault line that resulted in the partition of the country expressed the one conflict that Indians were unable to resolve amicably. About this, the Congress Report on Communalism, published in 1931, mentioned that the so-called Muslim problem in India was entirely the creation of the British administration trying to divide India and Indians in ways that were not natural to the country. Subsequent events only substantiated the findings of the report. Even after Pakistan had been created as a country for Muslims, millions of them continued to live in India of their own volition. As a recent study by economist Shamika Ravi says, Muslims flourished in India. Their numbers went up from about 8 per cent in 1950 to around 14 per cent in the present times, even as the number of Hindus in Pakistan went down from 25 per cent to about 2 per cent in the same period.

Indians call themselves — and quite assertively — Bengali, Tamil, Punjabi, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Jain, Parsi, Buddhist, etc. But from this, it does not follow that there is no such thing as India. Those are ascriptive identities that do not rule out the overarching identity of being Indian.

Life not Marks

By: Vijay Garg

This year once again the results of board examinations were in the headlines. In today's generation, which considers marks and 'rank' as everything in life, in parallel with things that seem good and pleasant, there is a fear of failure in exams, low grades or rank, and expectations from parents and teachers. There were also reports of people committing suicide after failing to prove their worth. This is certainly a matter of great concern. Incidents of suicide among children are commonly seen every year after the results of the examinations are declared. But parents, teachers and administration are not able to find any solution to it, nor is such a situation created that today's children consider that if success is good then low marks or failure is an opportunity to improve themselves and achieve next success. is the way. Why can't it be explained to children that the goal of life is only to pass exams? Life is not over if marks are low or results are bad. Happens. The goals of life can also be achieved by doing something else. But the future seems to be at the most in school exams. It is captured within the scope of numbers and everyone from parents to students concentrate their

thinking and understanding in this cycle. Its psychological effects are bound to emerge. If we look at the entire structure of today's school education, from studies to exams and results, in the culture of show off, it is the parents of the children who are seen to be more responsible, who, due to their hunger for unfulfilled ambitions, put pressure on the children to achieve. Or do not score 100 percent marks. Come first. At the same time, children in schools also Pressure is created. In such a situation, apart from school classes, children trapped in the maze of internet and TV along with the stress and burden of tuition, coaching, exams, become confused. Whereas from the point of view of making a better future after studies, there is no assessment of marks in it. Due to increasing ambition, children are not able to properly demonstrate their entire year's studies and their abilities in a three-hour examination. The complexity of this situation can be gauged from where to become a complete personality. A. Children start their life journey and get trapped in the competition to score maximum marks and come first. the result of this competition This is that many of the children who were supposed to study, play, jump and enjoy, are not shying away from committing sui-

cide due to the stress and frustration arising from studies. The illusion of show-off marks is continuously attracting the child's mind. Children have considered the results of board examinations as the foundation stone of their life, the ultimate truth, everything about their career. Whereas this is not the final truth. The truth is that numbers have no value in life. No, because no one's ability can be properly evaluated through marks or degrees. There are many IAS, collectors, players, actors, singers, businessmen, artists, writers, litterateurs, scientists etc. who were very ordinary students. They did not top the class in their studies, even failed, did not even take graduation or post-graduation degree, yet by going ahead they are bringing glory to the country by achieving a new position in their respective fields. If today's generation learns from them then they too will forget the victory and defeat of life in terms of numbers. According to one's talent, ability and interest, apart from studies one can achieve success in sports, music, painting, business, acting or any other field. Children should also learn from failures. Try to become a better and better person. It needs to be kept in mind that success can be achieved with continuous hard work, patience,

confidence and determination. Even if you do not get success, you should not lose courage. Should try again. If children laugh, laugh and remain focused towards the goal like Arjun, then Success will definitely come sooner or later. All such figures show what kind of ambition today's children have become victims of. His dreams are big and if they are not fulfilled, he does not hesitate to embrace death. The question is, where do they 'learn' to embrace this kind of thinking at the society or school level? If they are given timely counselling, advice, teachers and family members explain something to them, then the children may not reach the decision of committing suicide. Whereas the disintegration of joint families, busyness of working Parents Children are becoming lonely and neglected due to the routine of life. In the desire to move ahead in the competitive era, today the game of numbers and ranks has become the game of life. Who is ultimately responsible for the increasing graph of these suicides? Today's education system, administration, parents, social environment or modern culture. We will definitely have to think seriously about this.

(Vijay Garg Educational Columnist Malout Punjab)

Scam mastermind Kejriwal will be back in Jail: Rajesh Gupta

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: The Bahujan Samaj Party General Secretary and Media head, Rajesh Gupta on Saturday called Arvind Kejriwal a member of the "jail return club," a day after the Supreme Court granted interim bail to the Delhi chief minister, who was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in March in the liquor policy case.

Attempting to pour cold water over the Aam Aadmi Party and other INDIA bloc parties' happiness over the interim bail granted to Kejriwal, Rajesh Gupta has reminded them that the Delhi



Chief Minister will be out only for a short period and will have to return to Tihar Jail, where he was being kept in judicial custody. Dubbing Kejriwal "the master-

mind of the liquor scam", the J&K unit of the BSP general secretary said the court has evidence against the AAP chief and that he wouldn't have been asked to surrender on June 2 a day after the final phase of the Lok Sabha elections ends - and nor would so many conditions be imposed on him if it didn't.

BSP leader compared the AAP national convenor to a few other politicians who were jailed and came out on bail. They also recalled how he used to give statements against Congress leaders, including Sonia Gandhi and ex-Delhi chief minister Sheila Dikshit.

He has finally become a part of the 'jail return club' like Lalu Prasad Yadav, Jayalalitha, and Shibhu Soren, Gupta said adding that he used to say that he would send Sheila Dikshit and Sonia Gandhi to jail, is now a part of the INDI alliance.

In a statement Gupta said, "Today, after the Supreme Court decision, the Aam Aadmi Party and its leaders are saying Satyamev Jayate (truth only triumphs). Perhaps they have not read that decision completely? It is clear in the decision that Kejriwal has got interim bail only till June 1 and that he will return to Tihar."

Vicky opens Kaith Music Factory in Bhagwati Nagar

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: Song album builder Vicky hailing from R.S.Pura's Village Dablehar, has opened 'Kaith Music Factory' in Bhagwati Nagar with an object to provide all latest musical facilities to locals here at Jammu.

R.L Kaith said, Vicky is a composer and musician, who has completely changed, enhanced and revolutionized music. His fusion of classical music with contemporary sounds has garnered him recognition, and has also established him as an innovative man who



brought fame to a rather regional and underrated musical equipments.

Kaith further said, Vicky creates timeless melodies that entertain audience

and forces them to dance to the mesmerizing tones. He compares music across various genres, infusing each composition with his unique style.

Unique International Public School celebrates Mother's Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: Unique International Public School celebrated Mother's Day with an event filled with joy, love, and appreciation for all the mothers in attendance. The event, held on Saturday, was a resounding success, leaving mothers brimming with happiness and gratitude.

The school, known for its commitment to holistic education and fostering strong bonds within the community, organized a series of heartwarming activities to honour mothers and express gratitude for their invaluable contributions.

The festivities began with a touching tribute where students shared heartfelt messages and poems dedicated to their mothers. The emotional connection was palpable

as tears of joy and laughter filled the auditorium.

The celebration continued with a special musical performance by the school choir, showcasing songs that celebrated the selfless love and sacrifices of mothers. The melodious tunes resonated with the audience, further enhancing the celebratory atmosphere.

One of the highlights of the event was the "Mother-Child Duo Contest," where mothers and their children participated in fun-filled games and activities, strengthening their bond through laughter and camaraderie. The infectious energy of the participants was a testament to the strong sense of community fostered by Unique International Public School.

"We wanted to create a memorable experience that would not only honor

our mothers but also bring joy and togetherness to our school community," said Chairperson Nirlep Kour.

"The love and support of mothers are the pillars of our society, and it was heartening to see everyone come together to celebrate this special day," she added.

The event concluded with a sumptuous brunch, allowing mothers, students, and staff to mingle and share cherished moments. Each mother was also presented with a token of appreciation as a symbol of gratitude for their unwavering love and support.

Unique International Public School's Mother's Day celebration was a testament to the school's commitment to nurturing strong family bonds and fostering a culture of appreciation and gratitude.

CEO UT Ladakh visits Nubra Valley to ensure smooth Lok Sabha election preparedness

Top News Report

LEH, May 11: The Chief Electoral Officer UT Ladakh, Yetindra M. Maralkar visited Nubra Valley to oversee the preparations for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. The visit included a review meeting at Sumoor Tehsil and on-site inspections of several polling stations.

During the review meeting, the CEO emphasized the importance of flawless execution and adherence to electoral guidelines. Discussions were held with local officials and stakeholders to

address any potential challenges and ensure a seamless electoral process.

As part of the tour, the CEO also visited 35-Warshi Polling Station in the Nubra Valley which is the Polling Station with the lowest number of registered voters (only five voters) in the 1-Ladakh Parliamentary Constituency.

The CEO expressed satisfaction with the level of preparedness observed but reiterated the need for continued vigilance and adherence to protocols to ensure free, fair, and transparent elections in the whole of Ladakh.

GDC Udhampur celebrates Mother's Day with fervour



Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, May 11: To celebrate Mother's Day, an event was organized at GDC Udhampur on Saturday by the Women Development/Empowerment Cell in collaboration with the Department of English, to celebrate the unconditional sacrifices of the mothers and to show that without women, the very structure of the society

cannot stand.

Under the guidance of Principal, a poster-making competition was organized on the related theme. Around 12 students participated in the competition and gave a free vent to their expressions by depicting multi-faceted contribution and sacrifices a mother make for her children and family. The Principal of the College, Prof. (Dr). Romesh Gupta

addressed the students and expressed his views regarding the role of women as a mother and the sacrifices they make on each stage of their lives.

The event was concluded by a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Anita Sharma (Convener, Women Development Cell). The members of the Cell and other staff members were also present and graced the event.

RGCN celebrates International Nurses Day

Top News Report

JAMMU May 11: Rajiv Gandhi College of Nursing celebrated International Nurses Day on the theme "Our Nurses, Our Future-The Economic Power of Care".

On this auspicious day to mark the birth remembrance of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern Nursing profession, the students of the college performed various cultural and literary activities, a week-long celebration comprising of sports events, cultural activities like folk dance, skits etc. and literary activities like Seminars, Workshops, debates etc.

The activities concluded on Saturday in the college campus where Lt Col. Manju V Nair (Deputy Principal Matron) Military Hospital, Satwari graced the occasion as Chief



Guest whereas awardee Kaur (Chief Matron, SMGS Hospital) was the guest of Honor.

Lt. Col Manju V Nair while delivering her speech appreciated the efforts of the students for various performances, she also emphasized on the broader scope of the Nursing Profession, asked students to work hard and excel in the field

of nursing as there is a tremendous demand across the globe, further she also appreciated enrollment of male students in nursing profession while interacting with the students. She discussed future prospects in Army Hospitals and various other merging openings in the Healthcare sector.

Pawandeep Kaur (Chief Matron, SMGS Hospital)

laid down the importance on the Nursing Profession by explaining that it is the need of the hour and students must not choose this profession as an option but by choice.

Further she congratulated all the members of Rajiv Gandhi College of Nursing for conducting such effective and informative event. M S Katoch (Chairman,

RGCN) highlighted his views regarding facilities provided by the college for imparting quality education, he also appreciated the efforts of staff members and students for organizing a week-long activity to celebrate International Nurses Day.

Prof. Rafiq Bashir (Principal) consenting the chairman's view congratulated the different teams for their dedication and extra ordinary work done in order to conduct the event.

The other prominent members who witnessed the program were Abhimanyu Katoch (MD), Anjana Bavouria (Director, RGCN) along with all the faculty members of RGCN.

The event was concluded with mementos distribution to the guests of the occasion followed by vote of thanks.

District Hub For Empowerment of Women sponsors girls in Taekwondo

Top News Report

POONCH, May 11: On the direction of District Social Welfare Officer Poonch Abdul Raheem, a team of Sankalp hub for Empowerment of Women enrolled 13 girls in Taekwondo Sports under the scheme Khelo Beti at Sports Stadium Poonch.

Noreen Akhter, Gender Specialist and Taranpreet Kaur, Specialist in Finance Literacy DHEW visit Sports Stadium Poonch along with 13 young girls who recent-

ly joined Taekwondo Sport's through Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of Women.

Speaking on the occasion, Taranpreet Kaur and Noreen Akhter highlighted that how the district hub for empowerment of women encourage girl child for their compulsory participation both from rural and urban areas of Poonch in sports activities under Khelo Beti scheme. During their visit, they meet with all the young girls practising Taekwondo at Sports

Stadium Poonch.

On the occasion they also distributed uniforms to girls to encourage them for their maximum participation in Sports.

Rajinder Singh Taekwondo Coach Department of Youth Services and Sports thanked Social Welfare Department Poonch for encouraging girls in sports through Khelo Beti scheme and applauded the efforts of Sankalp hub for empowerment of women for excellent work.

Crescent Public School commemorates 20th Founder's Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: Crescent Public School proudly announces its dual celebration of receiving the Excellence Award 2022-23 and commemorating its 20th Founder's Day with a series of remarkable events.

The ceremony, held on Saturday, was graced by the esteemed presence of Seerat Bajji, IAS Officer, as the Guest of Honour, alongside the Management, the Principal, Headmistress, and Coordinators.

The event commenced with a graceful bouquet ceremony, followed by

the solemn lighting of the lamp, symbolizing the enlightenment and progress of the institution.

The school's anthem echoed through the hall, instilling a sense of pride and unity among the attendees. A serene session of Yoga and Vandana further enriched the spiritual ambiance of the gathering.

Principal Dr. Bhavna Kaushal extended a warm welcome, acknowledging the distinguished guests and expressing gratitude for the milestones achieved by the school.

Seerat Bajji and the Management adorned the occasion with their

felicitations, recognizing the relentless efforts and dedication of the school community towards academic and holistic excellence.

Adding cultural vibrancy, a captivating Haryani dance and energetic Bhangra performances enthralled the audience, showcasing the diversity and talent nurtured at Crescent Public School.

The Management further honored achievers for their remarkable accomplishment in Academics and SOF (Science Olympiad Foundation) in different categories i.e. IMO, NSO and IEO.

The event culminated with a vote of thanks by the Academic Director Mobeem Sayeed extending appreciation to all participants, sponsors, and well-wishers for their invaluable contributions towards the success of the celebration.

Crescent Public School continues its journey of excellence, guided by a vision of fostering holistic development and nurturing future leaders. The school expresses heartfelt gratitude to all who have been part of its remarkable journey and looks forward to continuing its legacy of excellence.

J&K EJCC congratulates Abdul Tak on assuming charge of Director Fisheries J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: Aijaz Ahmad Khan Chairman, Khalid Mehmood Khan Chief Spokesperson and Naresh Kumar Bhagat Media Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir Employees Joint Consultative Committee in a statement congratulating Abdul Majid Tak on assuming the charge of Director Fisheries J&K.

They also congratulate Gopal Krishan on assuming the charge of Joint Director Fisheries (Chenab Valley) Jammu and Masood Hussain Sheikh on assuming the charge of Joint Direc-



tor Fisheries (Central) Jammu and CPO RFFDA Jammu.

Khalid Mehmood Khan has expressed joy and satisfaction on the appointment of Abdul Majeed Tak as Director Fisheries Jammu and

Kashmir and new dedicated Joint Directors. He lauded the acumen and stewardship of the new incumbent and promised the new Director that Fisheries Employees will provide their full cooperation to take the department to

new heights. Aijaz Ahmad Khan requested the new Director Fisheries about the languishing issues of the employees and to get the grievances redressed. The leadership of EJCC assured all support and cooperation.

Office bearers of J&K EJCC present while issuing the statement were Aijaz Ahmad Khan Chairman, Javed Ahmed General Secretary, Khalid Mehmood Khan Chief Spokesperson, Naresh Kumar Bhagat Media Secretary, Shabir Ahmad, Abid Hussain, Faroz Ahmad Bhat, Gh Mustafa Khan and others.

Meet actors, including Ayushmann Khurrana and Alia Bhatt, who are endowed with musical talents on and off screen

In the glitzy realms of Bollywood and Hollywood, where stars shine bright and dreams are woven into reality, there exists performers who transcend the boundaries of traditional acting. These individuals not only mesmerise audiences with their onscreen charisma but also enthral them with their vocal prowess. Let's take a look...

Emotional appeal
Anne Hathaway
From the hallowed halls of Broadway to the glitzy streets of Hollywood, Anne Hathaway's journey to stardom has been nothing short of awe-inspiring. With her classical training as a soprano, she captivates audiences with her angelic voice and unparalleled stage presence. Anne Hathaway's Oscar-winning



performance in *Les Misérables* stands as a testament to her musical prowess, showcasing her ability to seamlessly blend acting and singing.

Symphony of emotions
Ayushmann Khurrana
With an innate ability to strike a chord with audiences, Ayushmann Khurrana has carved a niche for himself in Bollywood. However, his journey to stardom isn't limited to acting alone.



Ayushmann's love for music runs deep, with his soul-stirring tracks like *Paani Da Rang* and *Mitti Di Khushboo* capturing the essence of raw emotions. A true artiste at heart, he not only lends his voice to his songs, but also pens down heartfelt lyrics.

Meet The enchantress
Alia Bhatt
As the epitome of grace and talent in Bollywood, Alia Bhatt's journey from actor to singer



has been nothing short of enchanting. Trained under the tutelage of musical maestro AR Rahman, Bhatt's ethereal voice brings a unique charm to every melody she touches. Whether it's her soul-stirring rendition of *Samjhawan* or her captivating performances on screen, Alia Bhatt's artistic prowess knows no bounds.

Screen presence
Bradley Cooper
With his chiselled looks



and commanding screen presence, Bradley Cooper has cemented his status as one of Hollywood's leading men. However, what sets him apart is his remarkable talent as a singer. Cooper's dedication to his craft is evident in his portrayal of a struggling musician in *A Star Is Born*, where he not only delivered a stirring performance but also showcased his musical prowess.



Classical note
Adarsh Gourav

Hailing from the heart of Bollywood, Adarsh Gourav emerged as a revelation with his BAFTA-nominated performance in *The White Tiger*. However, what many may not know is that his journey into the world of entertainment began with the harmonious notes of Hindustani classical music. His recent foray into the world of music with



singles like *Bechani* and *Kho Gaye* has left listeners spellbound, cementing his status as a multifaceted talent to watch out for.

Sing & play: Ryan Gosling

Actor Ryan Gosling has captured the hearts of audiences worldwide. However, what sets him apart is his lesser-known talent as a musician. From his early days as a child performer to his Oscar-nominated role in

La La Land, Ryan Gosling's musical journey has been phenomenal. Whether he's crooning alongside Emma Stone or mesmerising audiences with his piano skills, Gosling's musical talent is admirable.

Musical roots
Zendaya
From the glittering lights of Disney to the grandeur of Hollywood, Zendaya's meteoric rise to fame has been nothing short of spectacular. While she may be best known for her acting prowess, her musical talents are equally mesmerising. Zendaya's debut single *Replay* catapulted her into the spotlight, showcasing her enchanting vocals and magnetic stage presence. Despite her focus on acting, her musical roots continue to thrive.

Abhishek Nigam to play the lead in 'Pukaar - Dil Se Dil Tak'

The dashing Abhishek Nigam has been roped in to play the role of Sagar Maheshwari in *Pukaar — Dil Se Dil Tak*. Abhishek shares, "I'm really thrilled about being a part of *Pukaar — Dil Se Dil Tak* as it's a gripping story.

Playing Sagar's character is going to be quite an adventure as he has multiple layers, fueled by his fears and motivations.

He is a confident and intelligent young man who doesn't believe in love but from within, he is battling his own emotions and conflicts that have stemmed from his past.

He masks his pain with sarcasm and a superiority complex, but beneath that façade lies a vulnerable side that becomes more apparent with time."



27 emails, 10 bank accounts: Mystery of missing Taarak Mehta actor Sodhi deepens

The mystery of missing actor Gurucharan Singh, who played Roshan Singh Sodhi's character in TV serial *'Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah'*, has become deeper as the Delhi Police have found that the actor was using 27 separate email accounts in the fear of being "surveilled" by someone.

According to a police officer, who is privy to the investigation, the actor was having a suspicion of being "surveilled" for which he would often change his email accounts.

The 51-year-old actor was supposed to board a flight from here to Mumbai on April 22 evening but never reached his destination. His father, who lives in Palam, informed the local police after his phone was found unreachable.

A police officer said a



case under Section 365 (kidnapping or abducting with intent to convey out of India or secretly confine person) of the IPC was registered at Palam police station on April 26.

A police team has

been tasked to trace his location from the mobile phone which he was carrying, a police officer said.

The officer said Singh's mobile phone is switched off since 9.22 pm on April 22. On the

basis of a CCTV footage, his last location was tracked to Dabri in southwest Delhi where he reached in an e-rickshaw, hired from near the IGI airport.

The actor used to carry two mobile phones. But he left one of them at his home in Delhi. He made the last call to his friend, who was supposed to pick him at the Mumbai airport, another officer said.

The police teams have scanned his financial transactions from his bank accounts and credit cards. They show that the last transaction was of Rs 14,000, which he withdrew from one of his bank accounts on the day he went missing.

The police officer said Singh's financial condition was not sound, as he had several loans and dues on him.

At least a dozen police teams, including the

Crime Branch and Special Cell, are working to locate him, the officer said.

Another officer said Singh is a follower of a sect for which he used to visit a meditation centre in Delhi's Chatrapur. The police have taken the statements of the sect's followers who are known to him.

The officer further said the actor had once showed his interest in going to the Himalayas for meditation. The teams of Delhi Police have taken the statements of over 50 people in Delhi and Mumbai.

The police teams have also visited some states like Haryana, Punjab and Uttarakhand to get any lead in connection with the case, the officer said.

Singh's father, relatives and friends are praying for his well-being.

Cardi B addresses backlash over Met Gala designer's identity



Rapper Cardi B found herself at the centre of controversy following her appearance at the Met Gala, where she faced backlash for referring to her designer simply as 'Asian', instead of using his name. Her comments

during an interview sparked criticism on social media. During the interview, Cardi B, adorned in a stunning black gown that commanded attention, was asked about the designer behind her extravagant ensemble.

While she expressed excitement about the dress, she struggled to recall the designer's name, leading to speculation that she was disrespecting the designer, Sensen Li. In response to the backlash, Cardi B took to Instagram Story to address the situation, explaining the circumstances that led to her forgetting the designer's name.

She admitted feeling nervous and rushed on the red carpet, which contributed to her memory lapse.

Cardi B clarified that she referred to the designer as 'Asian' because she knew his ethnicity, but couldn't recall his nationality. The WAP artist defended herself, emphasising the hard work of her designer and stylist. Despite the criticism, Cardi B remained unapologetic and dismissed speculation that her forgetfulness would affect her future invitations to the Met Gala, confidently declaring, "Baby, I'm Cardi B."

Arjit Taneja loves action scenes



Arjit Taneja, who plays the character of Virat in *Kaise Mujhe Tum Mil Gaye*, says though shooting for a fight scene is a challenging task, he finds it quite thrilling. His willingness to embrace such stunts on screen underscores his versatility as an actor, showcasing his ability to excel in both emotive and action-packed moments.

Arjit says, "Action is one of my favourite genres. Shooting for a fight sequence helps me push my boundaries. Along with physical strength, it requires mental strength to shoot for such tracks. From training with the stunt master to performing in front of the camera, it's a different thrill altogether. I never say no to such tracks."

Angelina Jolie accused of steering kids away from Brad Pitt

In the ongoing legal battle between Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt, new allegations have emerged that the former may have influenced her children to 'avoid' spending time with their father during visits. These claims were detailed in court documents filed by Tony Webb, a security guard who previously worked for the former couple. Webb, who worked for Jolie from 2000 to 2020, alleged that he was contacted by a Jolie aide named Michael Vieira, who attempted to prevent two bodyguards from testifying in Jolie's custody battle with Pitt.

Vieira asked him to dissuade the bodyguards from testifying, emphasising that they had signed non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) with Jolie. Despite the NDAs, one of the bodyguards, Ross Foster, expressed his intention to testify about statements he allegedly overheard from Jolie, encouraging the children to avoid



spending time with Pitt during custody visits.

Meanwhile, Paul Murphy, an attorney for Angelina Jolie, dismissed Pitt's attempts to equate common NDAs with an attempt to cover up his actions. Murphy emphasised that the case was about control, with Jolie seek-

ing separation for the family. In their defence, Pitt's lawyers submitted Webb's declaration to illustrate that Jolie herself had utilised NDAs in the past, undermining her objections to signing them in the context of their legal dispute over their French winery, Chateau Miraval.

Congress won't win even 50 LS seats, will not get opposition party status after polls: PM Modi

The prime minister also brought up the issue of the missing keys of Ratnabhandar temple trove and questioned the ineffectiveness of BJD in resolving the issue.

BHUBANESWAR, May 11 (Agencies): The missing keys of Ratnabhandar, the treasure trove of Puri Srimandir, and the BJD government's reluctance for reinventorisation of the valuables stored in it has once again come to the centre stage of electoral politics with Prime Minister Narendra Modi questioning the silence of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on the issue.

Addressing an election rally at Phulbani, the Prime Minister launched a scathing attack on the Naveen Patnaik government for running away from the issue when Jagannath devotees are agog to know the condition of the Ratnabhandar of which the last inventory was done 45 years ago.

"It is a matter of grave concern that the keys of the Ratnabhandar has been missing for the last 6 years and the state government kept telling people of recovering the duplicate keys. What kind of a government is it if it could not keep the keys of the temple trove safe," the PM remarked.

"Missing of the Ratnabhandar keys is a serious issue, what is more serious and dangerous is the existence of duplicate keys," he said.

Modi sought to know, "What was the purpose of the duplicate keys? Who was the custo-



dian of it and was the treasure trove opened slyly in night? Are the valuables of the deities safe or is everything stolen?"

"The people have the right to know," Modi said.

Chiding the state government for not making the report of the (Justice Raghubir Das) commission that probed into the issue of missing keys public, the Prime Minister said, "I promise that honour and sanctity of Ratnabhandar will be restored. This is Modi guarantee."

The prime minister further claimed that the Congress will not win even 50 seats in the Lok Sabha elections and will not be able to get opposition party status after the polls.

He asserted that a "double engine" government will be formed in the state and "a son or daughter of the soil who

understands Odia language and culture" will be made the chief minister of the BJP government.

Lambasting the Congress and BJD governments which ruled the state for about 75 years for keeping the state poor and Kandhamal backward, Modi said, "BJD and Congress had declared Kandhamal as a backward district. I decided to turn such backward districts into aspirational districts of the country. I monitor the work being done in these districts regularly and am happy to know that Kandhamal is making rapid progress."

Stating that Naveen Patnaik has no political will for economic progress of Odisha despite its huge potential, the PM said Gujarat has no mineral resources but it is now at the pinnacle of progress.

"I throw a challenge to Naveen Babu to name the districts and the district headquarters without looking at a written paper. If a CM does not know about his state and the problems of the people what good he will do for you," Modi asked.

"You have given nearly 25 years to BJD. Give BJP a chance. It is my guarantee that I will make Odisha prosperous within 5 years," he said.

He said Kandhamal has enough tourism potential and Daringbadi is considered as the Kashmir of Odisha. Modi further promised to set up spices park in the tribal dominated district.

Expressing his gratitude to the people of the state for the love they have shown to him in Bhubaneswar, where he held a rally on Friday, he said, "I am hugely indebted to you for the love and blessings you showered on me. It is my promise to you that I will return your love by making your state a viksit Odisha."

Before addressing the rally, the Prime Minister took the blessing of Padma Shri Purnamasi Jani, poet and social activist, and Tula Behera, a beggar who donated Rs one lakh to Jagannath temple by touching their feet. In the second leg of campaigning in Odisha, the Prime Minister also addressed election rallies at Balangir and Bargarh.

PoK belongs to India, asserts Amit Shah



HYDERABAD, May 11 (Agencies): In a scathing attack on the Congress and its leaders, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said due to the fear of Pakistan having atom bomb, the grand old party wants to give up India's rights over Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir.

Addressing an election rally in Telangana, Shah alleged that Congress leader Mani Shankar Ayer said

Pakistan has an atom bomb and hence India should not talk about Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK).

"Due to fear of an atom bomb, they want to give up our rights over PoK. But you don't worry, Modi ji is going to be Prime Minister again and Pakistan's bullets will be replied to with cannon," Shah said.

Hitting out at Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy over

his remarks on "surgical strikes," Shah said Prime Minister Narendra Modi undertook strikes and finished terrorists.

Revanth Reddy on Friday claimed an intelligence failure in preventing the Pulwama incident.

"Modi ji tried to take political benefit from the surgical strike after Pulwama incident. My question to Modi ji is, what are you doing? Why did the Pulwama incident happen? Why did you let it happen? What are you doing about internal security? Why did you not use agencies like IB, RAW? It is your failure.

Nobody knows if a surgical strike actually took place or not," Revanth Reddy had said.

BJP leader who first flagged Prajwal Revanna sex video case arrested in molestation and rape case

CHITRADURGA, May 11 (Agencies): BJP leader and advocate G Devaraje Gowda, arrested for alleged molestation and rape, was on Saturday taken to Holenarasipura, where the incident had allegedly taken place, for questioning, police said.

An FIR was registered against Gowda on a complaint by a 36-year-old woman from Hassan district, who alleged that he molested and raped her on the pretext of helping her sell her property.

A case of molestation was registered against Gowda on April 1. On Friday, the woman once



again approached the police and alleged that she was also raped by him, a police officer told agency.

The BJP leader was arrested at the Gulihal toll gate by the Hiriya Police in Chitradurga district late Friday night. He was arrested on a tip-off by the Hassan Police.

The Holenarasipur

police arrived in Chitradurga on Saturday morning. After the legal process, the Hiriya police handed over Devaraje Gowda to Holenarasipura police.

Gowda had unsuccessfully contested the 2023 assembly election on the BJP ticket and was defeated by JD(S) MLA and former minister H D Revanna.

He had also claimed that he alerted the BJP leadership last year about Prajwal Revanna's alleged sexual abuse of several women, and cautioned the saffron party not to give a Lok Sabha ticket to the JD(S) MP from Hassan.

Suspected rhino poacher shot dead in Kaziranga National Park

GUAHATI, May 11 (Agencies): Suspected rhino poacher has been shot dead by forest guards in Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, officials said on Saturday.

Sonali Ghosh, Director of Kaziranga National Park said, "We received intelligence inputs about the movement of some

poachers and accordingly an ambush was set up in the Erailhool area of the park on Friday night."

According to her, during the wee hours, a team of three or four rhino poachers tried to enter the park.

"As the security team was already deployed in the area, they retali-

ated and one suspected rhino poacher died in the encounter," Ghosh said.

The incident occurred around 3 am. She also mentioned that the rest of the suspected poachers were successful in fleeing the area.

The Director further stated that they are investigating the inci-



dent and a drone party is sent to unearth shreds of evidence.

Meanwhile, the identity of the suspected poacher is still unknown.

Man commits suicide after killing mother, wife, children in Uttar Pradesh

SITAPUR, May 11 (Agencies): A man allegedly shot his mother, wife and three children dead before killing himself at Plahapur village in Sitapur district in Uttar Pradesh, police said on Saturday.

Anurag Singh, 45, was mentally unstable and this could have led to the incident, Sitapur Superintendent of Police Chakresh Mishra said.

"We are collecting evidence from the spot and



the bodies have been sent for postmortem," he said.

Singh allegedly shot his mother Savitri Singh, 62, wife Priyanka, 40, daughters Aasvi, 12,

and Aarna, 8, and son Advik, 4. He later shot himself dead, the official said.

Police units have been deployed to ensure law and order in the village.

Rs 7 crore cash seized after vehicle meets with accident in Andhra Pradesh

EAST GODAVARI, May 11 (Agencies): In yet another pre-poll cash haul in Andhra Pradesh, police in East Godavari seized Indian currency valued at Rs 7 crore, stuffed in seven boxes from a commercial vehicle.

The seizure was made after the vehicle the cash was being ferried from overturned as it was hit by a lorry at Anantapally in Nallajarla mandal.

Locals noticed that as many as seven cardboard boxes of cash were being moved from one sack to another in that vehicle and informed the police. The amount seized is reported to be



around Rs.7 crore.

The incident took place while the vehicle was en route to Visakhapatnam from Vijay-

awada.

The driver of the overturned vehicle sustained injuries and was shifted to Gopalapuram

Hospital for treatment.

Meanwhile, the police have launched an investigation and are trying to ascertain the source of the cash.

This came just two days after unaccounted cash worth Rs 8 crore was seized from a truck at a checkpoint in the state's NTR district on Thursday.

The police detained two people in connection to the cash seizure.

The cash was hidden in a secret compartment of the pipe-loaded truck.

This is the second big cash haul seizure in the state ahead of the May 13 polls.

NDA Needs To Win 400 Seats To Implement Uniform Civil Code: Himanta Sarma

BEGUSARAI, May 11 (Agencies): Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Saturday said the NDA needs to win more than 400 seats in the Lok Sabha polls to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the country and to construct a grand temple at the Krishna Janmasthan in Mathura.

Addressing an election rally in favour of senior BJP leader and Union Minister Giriraj Singh in Begusarai, Sarma slammed the Congress and its allies for "raising question mark" on Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

He said, "... The NDA under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has to win 400 plus seats to implement the UCC in the country, for the construction a grand temple at Krishna Janmasthan in Mathura and also to ensure PoK, which is a part of India, returns to India."

The UCC means having a common law for all citizens of the country that is not based on religion. Personal laws and laws related to inheritance, adoption and succession are likely to be covered by a common code.

Hitting out at the Con-

gress and its allies, Sarma said, "Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and RJD supremo, Lalu Prasad, did not attend Pran Pratishtha of the Ram Lalla at Ayodhya. Let me make it very clear that neither Rahul nor Lalu will ever be able to visit Ram temple in Ayodhya ..." The Assam CM accused the Congress of giving religion-based reservation.

"They (INDIA alliance leaders) are indulging in politics of appeasement and raise issues that support Pakistan. Congress leader Mani Shankar Aiyar recently said that India should



not raise the PoK issue and respect Pakistan as it possesses an atom bomb. Even if Pakistan has a nuclear bomb, I am confident that it must

have passed its expiry date.

"Our government at the Centre has made it clear that PoK belongs to India and no force

can snatch it. We have to give a third term to Modi Ji to ensure that PoK returns to India. Since the NDA government has removed article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir, it will ensure PoK returns to India in the coming days," said Sarma.

The NDA needs to win more than 400 seats in the Lok Sabha elections to save the quota granted to the OBCs, SCs and STs, he said.

"The Congress gave reservation to Muslims by reducing the quota of OBCs/STs and SCs in Karnataka and other states and it now plans

to replicate this across the country. Mamata Banerjee... Congress and RJD are the biggest enemy of OBCs... Religion-based reservation should be given to Muslims in Pakistan, not in India. The NDA will not allow this at any cost," he said.

"In Assam, I have made it very clear that Muslims will have to forsake child marriage and polygamy, and encourage women's education. Marrying two or three times is not allowed in Assam. It's very simple...they (Muslims) cannot have three wives. Action has been taken against 6,000

people, belonging to a particular community, who indulged in child marriage. We believe in Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas," he said.

Union Minister Giriraj Singh is seeking re-election from Begusarai Lok Sabha seat as the NDA nominee. Singh is pitted against Communist Party of India (CPI) candidate Awadhesh Rai, who is Mahagathabandhan's nominee..

Elections will be held in Begusarai, Darbhanga, Ujiarpur, Samastipur, Begusarai, Munger Lok Sabha seats of Bihar in the fourth phase on May 13.

Strong solar storm hits earth; could disrupt communications; creates breathtaking auroras

The ongoing geomagnetic storm has escalated to an "extreme" level, rated 5 out of 5 by the Space Weather Prediction Center

BOULDER (COLORADO), May 11 (Agencies): A remarkable celestial event is underway as a series of solar flares and coronal mass ejections dazzle the skies, potentially extending the spectacle as far south as Alabama and Northern California. However, alongside the breathtaking auroras, concerns loom over potential disruptions to Earth's communications networks, tonight and into the weekend, agency reported.

The rarity of this solar storm harks back to October 2003, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Space Weather Prediction Center, marking a significant celestial occurrence not witnessed in many years.

Bill Nye, the Science Guy, voiced apprehension regarding the implications of the solar storm on our technologically reliant society. Drawing parallels to the Carrington Event of 1859, Nye emphasised the vulnerability posed by our heavy dependence on electricity and electronics, underscoring the potential ramifications should disruptions occur, as reported by agency.

Despite existing mitigation



measures, Nye cautioned that not all infrastructure, particularly transformers, may be adequately equipped to withstand the onslaught of such a solar event, leaving room for unforeseen complications.

Amidst an otherwise tranquil week, most regions of the Lower 48 States enjoy clear skies, offering prime viewing opportunities for the northern lights. However, some areas are less fortunate, with cloud cover obstructing the spectacle. From the Northeast to the Midwest, and parts of Texas and Louisiana, patches of clouds threaten to obscure the celestial display.

The ongoing geomagnetic storm has escalated to an "extreme" level, rated 5 out of 5 by the Space Weather Prediction Center, marking a significant escalation in solar activity not witnessed since 2003.

This surge in solar activity manifests in the form of mesmerising auroras, illuminating Earth's poles with vivid displays of colour. However, the heightened solar activity also poses risks to communication networks, satellite operations, and high-frequency radio communications, prompting vigilance from authorities, including the Biden administration, according

to agency.

Scientists caution that the surge in solar flares and coronal mass ejections emanating from the sun could disrupt communications on Earth well into the weekend. The sun, currently in a phase of heightened activity known as solar maximum, is expected to continue its robust performance through mid-to-late 2024.

Solar cycles, characterised by fluctuations in sunspot activity, dictate the sun's behaviour, transitioning from periods of relative calm to intense activity and back again. The current cycle, Solar Cycle 25, has exceeded expectations in terms of activity, with NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center noting an uptick in sunspot counts compared to the previous cycle's peak.

This heightened activity has been accompanied by potent solar flares and coronal mass ejections, phenomena that can disrupt Earth's ionosphere, impacting communications and GPS systems with immediate effect. Additionally, spacecraft and astronauts face risks from energetic particles released by the sun, necessitating robust protection measures, agency reported.

Over 200 Dead In Afghanistan Flash Floods In A Single Day



KABUL, May 11 (Agencies): Flash floods that have ripped through northern Afghanistan left more than 200 people dead in a single province, the United Nations said on Saturday.

More than 200 people were killed and thousands of houses were destroyed or damaged in Baghlan province when heavy rains on Friday sparked massive flooding, the UN's International Organization for Migration told agency.

In Baghlani Jadid district alone, up to 1,500

homes were damaged or destroyed and "more than 100 people died", an IOM emergency response lead said, citing figures from the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority.

Taliban government officials said 62 people had died as of Friday night.

Spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid said "hundreds of our fellow citizens have succumbed to these calamitous floods" in a statement on X, formerly Twitter, on Saturday, without differentiating

the numbers of dead and injured, though he told agency dozens had been killed.

Multiple provinces across Afghanistan saw flash flooding, with officials in northern Takhar province reporting 20 dead on Saturday.

Rains on Friday also caused heavy damage in northeastern Badakhshan province, central Ghor province and western Herat, officials said.

Emergency personnel have been deployed to the affected areas and were rushing to rescue injured and stranded people, the defence ministry said.

Afghanistan -- which had a relatively dry winter, making it more difficult for the soil to absorb rainfall -- is highly vulnerable to climate change.

The nation, ravaged by four decades of war, is one of the poorest in the world and, according to scientists, one of the worst prepared to face the consequences of global warming.

Hundreds evacuated from Ukraine border after Russian offensive

KYIV, May 11 (Agencies): Hundreds of people were evacuated from areas near the Russian border in Ukraine's Kharkiv region, the regional governor said Saturday, a day after Moscow launched a surprise ground offensive.

"A total of 1,775 people have been evacuated," governor Oleg Synegubov wrote on social media, adding that there had been Russian artillery and mortar attacks on 30 settlements in the region over the past 24 hours.

Russian forces made small advances in the border area it was pushed back from nearly two years ago.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Friday said a "fierce battle" was on in the area.

The Kharkiv region has been mostly under Ukrainian control since September 2022.

A senior Ukrainian military source said Russian forces had advanced one kilometre



(0.6 miles) into Ukraine and were trying to "create a buffer zone" in the Kharkiv and neighbouring Sumy regions to prevent attacks on Russian territory.

Officials in Kyiv had warned for weeks that Moscow might try to attack its northeastern border regions, pressing its advantage as Ukraine struggles with delays in Western aid and manpower shortages.

Ukraine's military said it had deployed more troops and Zelensky said Ukrainian forces were using artillery and drones to thwart the Russian advance.

"Reserve units have been deployed to strengthen the defence in this area of the front," it said.

The US-based Institute for the Study of War said on Friday that Russia had made "tactically significant gains".

But the main aim of the operation was "drawing Ukrainian manpower and materiel from other critical sectors of the front in eastern Ukraine," it said.

ISW said it did not appear to be "a large-scale sweeping offensive operation to envelop, encircle and seize Kharkiv" -- Ukraine's second biggest city.

Israel Orders Residents In More Areas Of Rafah To Evacuate Despite US Pressure

Israel has said it will proceed with an incursion into Gaza's Rafah, where more than 1 million displaced people have sought refuge during the seven-month-old Israel-Hamas war.

JERUSALEM, May 11 (Agencies): Israel called on Saturday for Palestinians in more areas of Gaza's southern city of Rafah to evacuate and head to what it calls an expanded humanitarian area in Al-Mawasi, in a further indication that the military is pressing ahead with its plans for a ground attack on Rafah.

In a post on social media site X, a military spokesperson also called on residents and displaced people in the Jabalia area of northern Gaza, and 11 other neighbourhoods in the enclave to go immediately to the shelters west of Gaza City.

According to the Palestinian news agency Wafa, 24 Palestinians were killed overnight after Israeli jets targeted several areas in central Gaza.

Despite heavy US pressure and alarm



expressed by residents and humanitarian groups, Israel has said it will proceed with an incursion into Rafah, where more than 1 million displaced people have sought refuge during the seven-month-old war.

Israel's military said that so far, about 300,000 Gazans have moved towards Al-Mawasi.

Israel says it cannot win the war without rooting out thousands of fighters of the Islamist Hamas movement it believes are deployed in Rafah.

Israeli tanks captured the main road dividing Rafah's eastern and western sections on Friday, effectively encircling the eastern side in an assault that has caused Washington to hold up delivery of some

military aid to its ally.

The White House said on Friday it was watching the Israeli operations "with concern," but they appeared to be localized around the shuttered Rafah crossing and did not reflect a large-scale invasion of the city.

The war was triggered by a Hamas-led attack on southern Israel in which some 1,200 people were killed and

more than 250 people taken hostage, according to Israeli tallies.

Israel's military operation in Gaza, which it says aims to eliminate Hamas, has killed close to 35,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's health ministry. The bombardment has laid waste to the coastal enclave and caused a deep humanitarian crisis.

The Biden administration said on Friday Israel's use of U.S.-supplied weapons may have violated international humanitarian law during its Gaza operation, in its strongest criticism to date of Israel.

But the administration stopped short of a definitive assessment, saying that due to the chaos of the war it could not verify specific instances where use of those weapons might have been involved in alleged breaches.

Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar not in Rafah, hiding in tunnels: Report

GAZA, May 11 (Agencies): The leader of Hamas's political wing in Gaza and one of Israel's most wanted men, Yahya Sinwar, is not in Rafah, two officials said as Israel moved ahead with its ground offensive in Gaza's southernmost city.

Two officials, citing intelligence inputs, told The Times of Israel that the Hamas leader was hiding in underground tunnels in the Khan Younis area, around five miles north of Rafah. Another official from Israel said Sinwar was still in Gaza.

In March, it was reported that close relatives of Yahya Sinwar crossed over to Egypt through the Rafah crossing. Several other top Hamas

leaders have also managed to move their relatives and family out of Gaza into safe zones in Egypt.

Israel has called Yahya Sinwar the mastermind behind the October 7, 2023, raid into southern Israel, in which about 1,200 people were killed, and more than 200 others kidnapped.

In subsequent months, Israel is believed to have killed Hamas military wing deputy commander Marwan Issa along with other senior commanders. However, Sinwar and his deputy, military wing chief Mohammed Deif, have not been traced.

The development comes as Israel kicked off a ground offensive in Rafah, launching a



targeted operation in the eastern part of the city. Israel has said that Rafah was the last stronghold of the Hamas militant group.

On Friday, Israeli tanks captured the main road dividing Rafah's eastern and western sections.

Rafah is located along the 12 km border that divides the Gaza Strip from Egypt and is the primary exit point for

people from Gaza. It is Gaza's lifeline as goods and humanitarian aid cross through the border.

The death toll in the Israel-Gaza war, which broke out in October 2023, has soared to more than 34,500 people, most of them women and children, according to local health officials, reported agency.

In Latest Gaffe, Biden Calls Kim Jong Un President Of South Korea

WASHINGTON, May 11 (Agencies): In another fumble by US President Joe Biden, the 81-year-old confused the leaders of North and South Korea and called Kim Jong Un the president of South Korea.

Biden was addressing a private fundraiser when he attacked his rival, former President Donald Trump, for his "love letters" to the North Korean leader and their meetings during the Republican's term at the White House.

In his attack, he referred to Trump's pride in "love letters from South Korean president Kim Jong Un."

The fundraiser was organised at the Indian-American billionaire Vinod Khosla's home in Silicon Valley. The



Democratic candidate is reported to have raised over \$1.5 million at the event.

The US president made multiple jokes about remarks by his presidential rival. "Remember him saying the best thing to do is just inject a little bleach in your arm? That's what he said. And he meant it. I wish he had done a little bit himself," he said.

During the pandemic, then-president Trump had suggested that a media briefing that a way to protect yourself against COVID-19 was to inject disinfectants like bleach or rubbing alcohol into your body.

This is the second time Biden has mocked Trump for his bleach remark. A few weeks ago, the US President joked that the chemi-

cal had "gone to his hair". "Remember when he was trying to deal with Covid...He suggested just inject a little bleach in your veins. He missed, it all went to his hair!" he quipped.

Biden is prone to fumbles and gaffes, a habit his rivals have often used to discredit him as a viable presidential candidate owing to his advanced age.

In February, the president confused French President Emmanuel Macron's name with former leader, Francois Mitterrand, who has been dead for nearly 30 years. In another faux pas, he confused his own deputy's designation, incorrectly promoting her to his job by calling her "President Kamala Harris".

Registrations Open for AIMA's UGAT 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU : The All India Management Association (AIMA) is a premier apex body for management professionals in India, dedicated to enhancing management skills and capabilities through various programs, initiatives, and examinations. AIMA is pleased to announce the commencement of registration for the Under Graduate Aptitude Test (UGAT) 2024.

(BCA), Bachelor of Hotel Management (BHM) and Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com). UGAT scores are accepted by premier universities/institutions such as University of Kashmir, Islamic University of Science & Technology, Ahmedabad University, New Delhi Institute of Management, NICMAR University, VM Salgaocar Institute of International Hospitality Education, Kalinga University, Birla Global University, KIIT, Sharda University, and many more. To streamline the admission process for students, UGAT offers a unique opportunity wherein candidates can appear for a single test and be considered for

admission to numerous reputed institutions and universities offering the aforementioned programs nationwide. This streamlined approach not only simplifies the application process for students but also provides them with a comprehensive platform to showcase their aptitude and technical skills. A large number of students from Jammu appear for competitive exams or academic entrances each year and UGAT can help them to secure admission to their favorite courses or colleges across the country. Expressing his thoughts, Mr. Daljeet Singh, Director, AIMA said, "UGAT continues to serve as a vital platform

for students aspiring to pursue undergraduate studies in management and related fields. As we open registration for UGAT 2024, we encourage all eligible candidates, including those from Jammu, to seize this opportunity and showcase their potential. AIMA remains committed to facilitating the academic aspirations of students and promoting excellence in management education." Candidates interested in appearing for UGAT 2024 from Jammu are encouraged to visit the official AIMA website for further details and to complete the registration process. All students who have passed, appeared or are appearing for 10+2

level examination in any stream are eligible to take UGAT. The Paper Based Test (PBT) will be held in 21 major cities of India. UGAT enables candidates to apply for admission to multiple institutes through a single exam. UGAT has a proven track record of over two decades. UGAT scores are accepted by prestigious institutes and universities across India. The Paper Based Test (PBT) will be held on 16 June. The last date for registration is 9 June. Admit cards will be available from 11 June. Candidates can register online by visiting the UGAT website https://apps.aima.in/UGAT2024 by paying Rs 750 by credit card or debit card (ATM card) and net banking.

Will raise people's issues, ensure tourism potential is fully tapped: Bhat

SRINAGAR, May 11 (Agencies): Amir Ahmad Bhat, the Democratic Progressive Azad Party candidate in the Srinagar Lok Sabha seat, wants to tap the tourism potential of Jammu and Kashmir for the benefit of the people and accuses his rivals of peddling "misleading narratives" over Article 370 issue.



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His prominent challengers in the seat are Aga Syed Ruhulla Mehdi, fielded by the National Conference to retain the traditional bastion of the party, PDP's Waheed-ur-Rehman Para and Apni Party's Mohd Ashraf Mir.

They are among 24 contestants trying their luck from the constituency which has over 17.44 lakh voters and will go to polls in the fourth phase on May 13.

On the last day of campaigning, Bhat was accompanied by his party's chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad on a road show from near his residence that is expected to cover a vast area till Ganderbal, passing through Nishat, Shalimar, Harwan, Fakir Gujri, Khimber and Chatterhama.

"Once elected to Parliament, I will follow the footsteps of Azad and raise people's issues without any fear. Since I am associated with tourism, I know the potential of this sector and will try my best to ensure that its potential is fully tapped to benefit the

public," said Bhat who has been a travel agent.

Exuding confidence over winning the seat, he asserted that people remember with pride Azad's tenure as Jammu and Kashmir's chief minister (2005-08). "His courageous speech in Parliament against abrogation of Article 370 is still fresh in the minds of the people," the DPAP leader told PTI.

Azad has a crystal clear vision for Jammu and Kashmir grappling with unemployment, under-development and the worst-ever electricity crisis, he asserted.

"DPAP is promise-bound for its efforts in the restoration of statehood and providing good governance under the leadership of Azad. We are not making any false promises to the people like the NC and PDP who should first inform people about their failure in making Article 370 provisions permanent in the past seven decades.

"When it is gone and the Supreme Court has put its stamp on the government decision, they are once again building up misleading narratives. I am sure they

will be rejected," Bhat, a founding member of DPAP, said.

Amidst sloganeering during the roadshow, Azad, who founded DPAP in 2022 after ending his over four-decade-long association with Congress, emphasized electing candidates who prioritize public issues and endorsed Bhat as someone who would echo the people's concerns in Parliament.

He said, "When I was a college student, I heard slogans like 'Azadi' and 'Khud Mukhtari' as a result of which we lost one lakh people and some 50,000 of our daughters and sisters lost their husbands. The third generation of those who ruled are raising these slogans once again and we have to remain cautious and reject them."

In his affidavit submitted along with his nomination paper, Bhat has put the value of his movable property at over Rs 50.79 lakh and a liability in the form of a car loan at Rs 12,43,607. His wife's assets stand at Rs 4.4 lakh, which includes gold jewellery.

Celebration of International Nurses Day commences across Ramban

Top News Report

RAMBAN, May 11: Celebration of International Nurses Day 2024 commenced on Saturday in district Ramban on the theme "Our Nurses Our Future, the Economic Power of Care".

Various entertaining and informative events dedicated to the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, were held at District Hospital Ramban, DISHA Institute of Paramedical & Nursing Sciences, Ramban and other healthcare centres to highlight and honour the invaluable contributions of nurses to the healthcare system worldwide.

Nurses who form the backbone of the Health Care System. These dedi-

icated individuals are the one's by your side when one is sick. They work tirelessly round the clock 24x7, 365 days a year offering comfort, expertise and unwavering compassion to the patients.

At DISHA Institute of Paramedical & Nursing Sciences the Hosts and students welcomed guests and dignitaries, especially chief guest of the programme, Medical Superintendent District Hospital Ramban, Dr. Varinder Trisal.

Speaking on the occasion, the Medical Superintendent emphasized the indispensable role nurses play in the healthcare sector, acknowledging their dedication, compassion, and tireless efforts in providing qual-

ity patient care.

He commended the faculty and staff of DISHA Institute for their commitment to organizing such meaningful events that recognize and appreciate the noble profession of nursing.

Various students spoke about the nurses' day besides organizing various events including culture programmes, skits and poster making competitions.

Later Principal of DISHA Institute Hilal Wani extended gratitude to the guests for their valuable presence and support. He reiterated the institute's commitment to nurturing future generations of compassionate and skilled nurses who uphold the highest standards of patient care.

Dr Rohit Gupta continues election campaign in support of Zafar Iqbal Manhas in Poonch's village

Top News Report

POONCH, May 11: Apni Party Provincial Secretary and Membership Incharge, Dr Rohit Gupta today continued the election campaign in favour of the Party candidate from Rajouri – Anantnag Parliamentary constituency, Zafar Iqbal Manhas.

Dr Gupta attended a meeting with the villagers at Mangnar in Poonch and informed them about the agenda of the Party regarding its policy to develop the region and its infrastructure.

He also informed that the Party wants to revamp the development in all the areas equally and explore possibility of employment for the youth at the local level to stop the migration from the villages in search of jobs outside Jammu and Kashmir.

He sought vote and support for Zafar Iqbal Manhas sahib. The people have also extended their support to the Apni Party candidate, Manhas. This meeting was organized by Lokender Kumar, Rajender Kumar and Ashok Kumar.

FROM PAGE 1

Controversy brews as J&K Bank issues caveat notices to employees

Manager," the caveat notice issued to Bank officers read.

Some aggrieved officers claim the notices are a deliberate attempt to obstruct their participation in the career advancement process, rather than a genuine legal precaution.

"The caveat has been issued to bar the employee for asking management about the rights," said an aggrieved bank employee posted in Srinagar.

Disturbance has rippled through the Bank's ranks as the notices have been dispatched to residential addresses, unsettling many officers, including women employees. Moreover, the broad application of the caveat, targeting not only those aspiring for promotion but also senior officers deemed potentially litigious, has fueled discontent.

Employees are calling for intervention from the J&K government, a major stakeholder in the Bank, urging a resolution to the dispute through dialogue and fairness.

"The promotion policy lacks transparency and inclusivity, leaving room for suspicion and resentment," the employee said.

The Bank's Managing Director and CEO, Baldev Prakash, maintains that the policy is non-controversial and has been duly sanctioned by the Board of Directors.

"There are some disgruntled elements who are terming it a controversial policy. It has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Bank," Baldev told UNI.

However, dissenting voices within the bank question the legitimacy of these notices.

"The issuance of caveat notices is an act of intimidation aimed at stifling dissent and discouraging employees from asserting their rights," said another officer.

Other employees who are likely to be called for the interview want the bank to amicably resolve this issue.

"Let all the eligible candidates participate in the career progression process on equal footing, fostering a culture of fairness and meritocracy within the institution as has been done in the past," remarked a Bank Manager.

All opposition leaders will be in jail if BJP wins Lok Sabha Polls: Kejriwal

Mahajan," said Kejriwal. "He will retire next year. He is seeking votes for making Amit Shah the prime minister. Will Shah fulfill Modi's 'guarantee'?" he asked.

Kejriwal also claimed that if the BJP comes to power, the party will change Uttar Pradesh chief minister within two months.

While Kejriwal was in jail, the BJP had demanded his resignation.

Talking about why he did not resign, he said, "The chief minister's post is not important for me. I did not step down as the chief minister because a conspiracy was hatched to force me to resign on a fake case."

Kejriwal in a scathing attack on the BJP said all "thieves and dacoits" are inducted by the party.

"If the prime minister wants to learn about fighting corruption, he should learn from Arvind Kejriwal. We sent corrupt to jail and even our own ministers," he added.

The chief minister also alleged that the "prime minister has left no stone unturned to crush the AAP by sending its four top leaders to jail".

BSF opens fire on Pakistani Drone along IB in Samba

operation was launched in Narayanpur in the Ramgarh sector on Saturday morning to sanitize the border outpost area to ensure the drone did not drop any weapons or narcotics.

J&K Admin revoked our rally permission in Dal Lake to favour BJP-Aligned Party: National Conference

campaigning, "a BJP-aligned proxy party enjoys the privilege of doing so in the same location".

"This sequence of events, from permission to withdrawal, is truly shameful," he said, posting the order of permission and then its subsequent revocation.

Despite attempts to use administrative powers against us, the NC chief spokesperson said, trust and integrity will ultimately prevail.

"My apologies to the people of Mir Behri, who had made all arrangements and were eagerly awaiting their candidate's visit. Though we may feel powerless against

this unjust might, let your votes speak volumes," he said.

Sadiq appealed to the people to show their "unwavering support" for the NC and send a clear message to those responsible.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration in its order said, "In view of the potential law and order situation which may arise due to two political parties (JKNC and JKAP) campaigning simultaneously in the same area and as recommended by the District police Srinagar, the permission in favour of NC (which has applied for the permission later than other party) for conducting Water Boat Rally and Roadshow from Moti Mohalla to Ranger Stop Siada Kadal, Srinagar is hereby withdrawn." However, the administration said the NC may apply for an alternate venue to conduct a roadshow or rally which can be processed on priority.

On May 9, the NC had accused the administration in the Baramulla Lok Sabha constituency, from where the party's vice president and former J-K chief minister Omar Abdullah is contesting, of disallowing election rallies.

The rallies were postponed after the office of Senior Superintendent of Police in Sopore, Divya D, issued an official directive to the additional district magistrate, outlining the rescheduling of various political activities in the area.

The order specified the postponement of a car rally from May 9 to May 18, and the rescheduling of a political rally in Rafiabad from May 10 to May 18, while no new date was provided for a May 12 gathering in Behrampora — all of which would see the participation of Abdullah, who has been actively campaigning in the region.

However, after a controversy erupted, later in the day, the administration allowed the NC to hold public rallies.

Gangster Gataru, accomplice detained under PSA

been booked under the PSA for their alleged involvement in organized criminal activities, posing a grave threat to public peace and order.

Operating alongside his brother Sourav and other gang members, Gataru has been implicated in various criminal activities, including attempted murder, robbery, breach of peace, extortion, cheating, and land grabbing. The Gataru gang's notorious reputation stems from their involvement in numerous criminal cases across police stations in Samba and Jammu districts.

Following their continued engagement in criminal activities, the District Magistrate of Samba issued detention orders based on comprehensive dossiers prepared by SSP Samba. Under the execution of SHO PS Vijaypur Insp Zaheer Mushtaq, the warrants were executed, leading to the incarceration of the accused in District Jail Kathua.

Mehbooba Mufti accuses J&K administration of trying to 'Fix' Lok Sabha Elections

that they do not come out to vote.

"Preparations are being made to do fraud in the elections. The election is being fixed," she added.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister also alleged that her party's active workers, who have been organising its meetings, have been detained ahead of the polling.

"This is not restricted to Pulwama only. Some days back, there was an attack in Surankote (in Poonch district of Jammu). After that, 50-60 of our workers have been detained and a strange atmosphere is being created," said Mufti.

"If the Election Commission of India has to repeat 1987 elections, then why this drama of elections? If they have to create Ikhwans (government gunmen) or the party of Ikhwans, their proxies whom they are supporting then they should say that," she added.

Mufti said the administration is not yet openly coming out in support of their proxies as they are waiting for the elections to conclude in two seats in Srinagar and Baramulla.

"After that, they will declare their support in Rajouri-Poonch (part of Anantnag-Rajouri seat). The election was delayed there only because of their party, the party of suited-booted ikhwans. They have created political ikhwans whom they support fully, the whole government machinery supports them," Mufti said.

"The government officials are under pressure. The PDP workers are selectively targeted, they are harassed," she added.

The PDP chief asked Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to stop the "drama of elections".

"If you want to do fraud in the elections, then tell us, we will leave. Why would we then put the lives of our workers at risk?" she said.

Mufti alleged the ruling BJP put several

youth in jails.

"It is your responsibility to send a message to New Delhi that while you put our youth in jails, we will send them as our advocate to the Parliament," she added appealing to the people of Kashmir to cast their votes in favour of her party.

Mufti further said they were targeting the PDP as they were "rattled" by her party's popularity.

To a question about Union Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks on PoK, Mufti said the government should first address the problems in this part of Kashmir.

"Let them talk to the people here first. There are 22 crore Muslims in our country and the BJP calls them infiltrators and term-rites," Mufti said.

"So, what will they do by bringing Muslims from PoK when they think of the Muslims here as their enemies," she added.

Sajad Lone gets ECI notice for violation of MCC

reach this office within one day, failing which the matter will be reported to the office of Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu & Kashmir, Srinagar for appropriate action under rules," as per the notice.

Girl dies after being hit by shooting stone in Rajouri

district on Saturday, officials said. Shazia Akhter was hit by a rolling boulder while passing through a landslide prone area near her Dandote village in Budhal area, the officials said.

They said the girl was shifted to hospital where she was declared brought dead.

The girl's death sparked protest by the villagers who demanded legal action against the private company engaged for upgradation work of Budhal-Mahore-Gool road.

"The careless work and negligence on the part of the construction company resulted in the death of the girl. We want the administration to initiate action against the company and ensure adequate compensation to the family," Manzoor Ahmad Naik, a local resident said.

He said on Friday a landslide blocked the road, connecting Rajouri with Reasi district but the concerned company employed its men and machinery and cleared the debris.

However, despite shooting stones from the hillock, the company allowed movement on the road resulting in the loss of precious human life, Naik said.

INDI Alliance assures Legal MSP Guarantee, Farm Debt Waiver if voted to power: Rattan Lal

Slams BJP for muzzling voices of farming community

Top News Report

JAMMU May 11: The INDI Alliance will provide a legal guarantee of Minimum Support Price (MSP) to every farmer on crops, along with a comprehensive farm debt waiver, if voted to power in the ongoing Lok Sabha Elections.

This was stated by Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President, JKNC, Jammu, in a statement issued here on Saturday.

The senior NC leader has criticized the BJP led Government at the Centre for curbing the voice of farming community. He said that in 10 years, the Modi government has backtracked from its promises made to the food providers of the country. He claimed the BJP has backtracked, from his promises to double farmers' income



by 2022 and legal status to Minimum Support Price (MSP).

The senior NC leader stated that PM Modi committed to double farmers income but the fact is that the farmer is not able to cover his production cost of the crop not to talk of profit or doubling of income. He anguished that more than 700 farmers lost their lives, yet despite this harrowing toll, the government remains unwilling to provide Minimum Support Price

(MSP) to the farmers. He said that in absence of any visionary policy of the farmers these food producers continue to crave for seeds and fertilizers.

The senior NC leader stated that despite Govt's tall claims of having achieved tremendous success in every sector, the fact remains that there are no proper or even adequate Marketing Mandis or storage facilities for farmers' produce. The ultimate

result of all these enumerated shortcomings is that farmers are not getting adequate prices for their produce despite their hard toil in the fields amid tough economic condition, he said, adding that this stark reality underscores the deep-seated injustices and neglect faced by the agricultural community, whose livelihoods are at stake under the present dispensation.

"The Modi government's decade-long tenure will be remembered as a period of relentless hardship inflicted upon farmers. The transformation of Delhi into a fortress to silence the voices of our food providers reflects the cruelty of the BJP government," he said.

The Provincial President asserted that now the time has come to raise the voice of the

62 crore farmers in the country. He maintained that the INDI Alliance will provide legal guarantee of MSP to every farmer on crops and will waive off their farm debt, if the Alliance voted to power after general elections.

Rattan Lal Gupta appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir specially the farmers to strengthen the hands of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah by supporting all three candidates of the National Conference from the Kashmir valley: Omar Abdullah from Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency; Aga Syed Rahullah from Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency, and Mian Altaf Ahmed from Anantnag - Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency in the ensuing Lok Sabha polls in Kashmir.

Missing names of voters from extracted voter lists for Kashmiri Migrants is serious issue: G.L Raina

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: The Displaced Community of Kashmir is facing a serious problem of missing names electoral roll extracts corresponding to each of these Special Polling Stations established in Jammu & Udhampur.

This issue has been taken up with Chief Electoral Officer J&K UT by former MLC & BJP spokesperson Girdhari Lal Raina. Incidentally his name was also missing from the draft rolls in spite of submitting M-Form.

Raina wrote to the CEO terming the issue as urgent that needs attention and intervention.

After removing the necessity of M Form for Kashmiri Migrant voters in this on-going Lok Sabha election the community has been enthusiastically waiting for the Election Day to exercise their right to vote. But unfortunately unforeseen difficulties continue to confront these voters, he said.

It may be recalled that on April 12, 2024 the Election Commission of India provided a major relief by abolishing the cumbersome procedure of filling

Form-M for the displaced people from valley who are residing in Jammu and Udhampur.

The modified scheme envisaged culling out Electoral roll extracts corresponding to each of the Special Polling Stations shall be of the basic electoral rolls of their respective assembly constituencies. The Draft Electoral Roll Extracts, to be used as the rolls for respective Special Polling Stations, for each of the Zone had to be notified by the respective AERO Migrants at Jammu and Udhampur and published in the newspapers as well as given wide publicity by placing it at all conspicuous places in the zone including the Zone Office as well as other places of importance for the Migrants like Office of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner, J&K, websites, etc.

All electors within 7 days of the notification of the draft electoral roll extract, approach the respective Assistant Returning Officers (Migrant) at Jammu and Udhampur in case there was any omission of any eligible name in the draft lists. Nothing like

that happened.

Even after submitting M-Form / consent form in their respective zones or with the office of ARO migrants or in office premises at Shankar Building the names are missing from draft extract rolls prepared by Relief organisation, Raina claimed. He stressed that a large number of complaints of missing names are reported from almost everywhere. In absence of any authorised communication anxiety, distress and resentment is replacing joy of the culmination of M-Form era.

Former MLC asked for authorised authority to issue an appropriate guideline/instructions to officials to ensure inclusion of all eligible names in the extract voter list of their respective zones and to electors having their names in final voter list of their respective constituencies assuring them of enabler mechanism to cast their votes even if name is not in the extract voter list. He further demanded that no voter with EPIC card or number be turned back without exercising the fundamental right to vote.

Labour Commissioner urges employers of business units to ensure 'Declaration of Paid Holiday' of employees on Polling days

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 11: Labour Commissioner, J&K Charandeeb Singh on Saturday chaired a meeting with Labour Department Officials regarding implementation of Section- 135(B) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 which provides for grant of Paid Holiday to the employees employed in any business, trade, industrial undertaking or any other establishment, Shop or factory on the day of poll.

The Labour Commissioner invited attention to the instructions of the Election Commission of India and the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K regarding declaration of Paid Holiday.

It was instructed that Paid Holiday(s) shall be observed in the Srinagar, Baramulla and Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituencies on May 13, 20 and 25, 2024 respectively, on account of General Elections to the Lok Sabha, 2024.

The poll days indicated above shall be observed as Paid Holiday to every person viz. employee/ worker/ Labourer employed in any business, trade, industrial undertaking or any other establishment, Shop or factory who is entitled to



vote in respect of the area falling within the limits of the Parliamentary Constituency enabling them to exercise their democratic right to vote on the day of poll in the constituency.

A person viz. employee/ worker/ Labourer who is ordinarily resident of a constituency and registered as an elector, serving / employed in an industrial undertaking or an establishment, shop or factory located outside the constituency shall also be entitled to the benefit of a Paid Holiday on the day of poll. No deduction or abatement of the wages of any such person shall be made on account of a holiday having been granted to the employee/ worker/ labourer for exercising his/ her right to vote.

The Labour Commissioner urged the Officers

and Officials of the Labour Department to bring the guidelines/instructions regarding declaration of Paid Holiday to the notice of all the establishment owners falling under their jurisdiction for compliance.

Moreover, it was also instructed that the declaration of the Paid Holiday on the Poll Day(s) may also be displayed prominently on Notice Boards by the establishment owners for the information of their employees.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Labour Commissioner Jammu, Deputy Labour Commissioner Kashmir, Deputy Labour Commissioner Jammu, Inspector of Factories Jammu, Inspector of Factories Kashmir, Assistant Labour Commissioners and other Officials.

NISD Beauty & Designing Institute celebrates Achievers Award 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: The NISD Beauty & Designing Institute hosted a grand celebration of talent and success at the prestigious Amar Singh Club in Jammu with its annual "Achievers Award 2024" event was held.

Dr. Manmeet Singh (Chairman Ranjit College of Education) joined this event as Chief Guest and Shefali Verma (Sr. Faculty- School of Fashion Design) at Footwear Designing & Development Institute, Chandigarh with her team as special guests.

Manju Bala, the Director of NISD Beauty & Designing Institute, extended her heartfelt congratulations to all the winners across various categories, emphasizing the growing prominence of freelancing opportunities in the beauty and



fashion industry. Manju Bala said that total 59 awards given in this year to achievers and 7 Awards to those NISD students who do jobs in different areas, 31 to those NISD students who work as freelancer in different streams, 21 to those NISD students who running their own businesses in different

location of J&K.

The event was a testament to the hard work and dedication of the students and professionals associated with NISD.

The institute, known for its commitment to nurturing creative talent in makeup artistry and fashion designing, recognized outstanding achievements in these fields.

Manju Bala highlighted the significance of freelancing in today's dynamic industry landscape, stating that this year's theme focused on empowering individuals to explore and excel in the realm of freelance work.

She expressed her pride in the winners and participants who have

embraced this evolving trend, underscoring the immense potential for creative expression and entrepreneurship.

The Achievers Award 2024 witnessed a gathering of industry experts, students, faculty, and supporters who came together to celebrate excellence and innovation in beauty and fashion.

The event served as a platform to showcase emerging trends, talents, and the transformative impact of education and skill development in the industry.

NISD Beauty & Designing Institute continues to be a beacon of inspiration and excellence in Jammu, fostering a community of creative individuals poised to make significant contributions to the global beauty and fashion landscape.

National Lok Adalat disposes of 528 cases in Ramban

Top News Report

RAMBAN, May 11: Implementing the annual calendar of Activities issued by the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) and on the directions of the J&K Legal Services Authority, second National Lok Adalat of the year 2024 was held at District Court Complex Ramban and other sub-ordinate Courts on Saturday by District Judiciary, Ramban under the Chairmanship and guidance of Chairman, District Legal Services Authority (Pr. District & Sessions Judge) Ramban, Ranbir

Singh Jasrotia, which was assisted by Advocate A.R. Mushtaq.

In the said National Lok Adalat, eight benches were constituted across all Courts of District Ramban for amicable and speedy settlement of the cases. A total no. of 761 cases i.e. 701 Post-litigation and 60 Pre-litigation cases were taken up, out of which 521 Post-litigation and 07 Pre-litigation cases were disposed off with a settlement amount of Rs. 89,10,800/- in Post-litigation cases. Thus, a total settlement award amount of Rs. 89,10,800/- was settled out.

Mudra Vigyan & Health Session held at SCRC

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: Mudra Vigyan Session, exploration of the science behind hand Mudras and their potential benefits for health and well-being, was undertaken at Senior Citizens Rejuvenation Centre (SCRC) by Dr Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner and State Chairman Indian Yoga Association.

Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain explained of how each finger corresponds to different elements and chakras provides a solid foundation for understanding the practice. He said Thumb indicates Agni Tatva (Fire Element) with respect to Manipur Chakra, Index finger indicates Vayu Tatva (Air Element) with Nahat Chakra, Middle finger



indicates Akash Tatva (Ether Element) for Vishudhi Chakra, Ring finger for Prithvi Chakra (Earth Element) for Mooladhar Chakra & Little finger indicates Jal Tatve (Water Element).

He also explained in detail about specific mudras like Gyan, Akash,

Prithvi, Indra, Vayu, Surya, Varun, as well as those with symbolic meanings like Durga, Vishnu, and Kaleshwar Mudra.

The demonstration of Kaleshwar Mudra was done and its description was explained by Dr Jain and said as it helps to get

rid of any addiction.

"It brings control over mind. People addicted to anything should try Kaleshwar Mudra to get rid of it. Practice of this Mudra convinces your body to fight the addiction. It also increases memory retention power, channelizes the flow of

Prana energy into our body as well," Dr Jain said.

Baldev Raj Gupta SCRC President welcomed the Members and programme was conducted under the guidance of N.K Gupta, Retd SE & SCRC Patron.

Spiritual Bhajans were recited by P.N Jalla, K.S Samyal, Karan Kumar, S.K Gupta, M.L Vaid and Baldev Raj.

Yoga Session besides chanting of Om, Gaytri Mantra and Shanti Path, yoga asans & Pranayama were practiced by TR Puri, Yogacharya of the Centre.

73rd Happy Birthday of Chaman Lal Sharma (Quite Senior club member) was celebrated by great fervor and all the members wished him for long and happy life.

Speeding vehicle kills 60 sheep, injures 40 in Kulgam

SRINAGAR, May 11 (Agencies): A speeding vehicle mangled 60 sheep to death and injured another 40 on the national highway last night in J&K's Kulgam district. Officials said that 60

sheep had been killed and 40 others injured by a speeding vehicle in the Khudwani area of Kulgam district during the night.

"Two flock caretakers were also injured in this

incident. They have been hospitalised for treatment.

"The driver of the vehicle was arrested and an FIR has been registered against him," officials said.

Soldier shot dead by his father-in-law over matrimonial dispute in Reasi

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11 (Agencies): A soldier was gunned down allegedly by his father-in-law over some matrimonial dispute in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district on Saturday, police said.

Village Defence Guard (VDG) member Doulat Ram allegedly fired his .303 rifle on his son-in-law Amit Singh, an army soldier, at Kembal Danga village, causing chest injuries to him, they said. Ram, a resident of Panasa village, had

come to meet his son-in-law, who was posted outside and had come on leave to his home, police said. However, he lost control after finding that Singh had thrashed his wife over a long standing matrimonial dispute and in a fit of rage opened fire,

causing critical injuries to the soldier, they said.

A police party rushed to the scene on getting information about the firing incident and shifted both Singh and his wife, who had suffered injuries due to physical assault, to the hospital.

After initial treatment, Singh was referred to the Government Medical College (GMC) hospital but succumbed on way to Jammu, police said.

The accused was arrested and further investigation is on, they said.

Indian Stars' Performance In IPL After T20 WC Squad Selection: Rohit's Form A Concern, Hardik A Positive

Here we take a look at how the Indian players have performed since their selection in the T20 World Cup squad.

NEW DELHI, May 11 (Agencies): The Indian cricket team's 15-member squad for the T20 World Cup 2024 to be held in the West Indies and the United States was announced on Tuesday, April 30. Since then, all the 15 players selected for India's squad for the T20 World Cup have played at least one game for their respective franchises in the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 season. Here we take a look at how these Indian players have performed since their selection in the T20 World Cup squad.

Rohit Sharma (captain)
Indian cricket team captain Rohit Sharma has registered a string of low scores since the announcement of the 15-member squad for the T20 World Cup 2024. Mumbai Indians' star opening batter scored just four runs off five balls against Lucknow Super Giants on the very day the squad was announced. Two days later, Rohit managed 12-ball 11 against Kolkata Knight Riders at Wankhede. The right-handed opener was once again dismissed cheaply as he scored four runs against SunRisers Hyderabad in MI's previous outing on May 6. Overall, Rohit has scored just 19 runs in three matches since the squad announcement.

Yashasvi Jaiswal
Flamboyant left-handed batter Yashasvi Jaiswal celebrated his inclusion in India's T20 World Cup 2024 squad with a scintillating fifty against SunRisers Hyderabad. Chasing 202, Rajasthan Royals' dashing opener slammed 67 off 40 balls, laced with seven fours and two sixes. Despite his brilliant half-century, RR lost the game by just one run in Hyderabad. Meanwhile, Jaiswal scored just four runs against Delhi Capitals in RR's previous fixture. Since the squad announcement, the 22-year-old has scored 71 runs in two games.

Virat Kohli
Virat Kohli has been in magnificent form in the ongoing Indian Premier League. Opening the batting for Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Kohli continued his good run after he scored a 27-ball 42 against Gujarat Titans before scoring a century against Punjab Kings. But, it also has to be kept in mind that Virat was dropped twice during his stay at the crease. Kohli was also given apt support by Rajat Patidar who scored a half-century to help RCB put 241/7 on the board.

Suryakumar Yadav
India's swashbuckling batter Suryakumar Yadav has produced some outstanding knocks since the squad announcement for the T20 World Cup. Mumbai Indians' accomplished batter scored a match-winning hundred against SunRisers Hyderabad in their last game. MI were reduced to 31/3 in 4.1 overs while chasing SRH's 173/8. Batting at number four, Suryakumar smashed 102 not out off just 51 balls to guide MI to a seven-wicket win at Wankhede. Earlier, the right-handed batter hammered a 35-ball 56 against Kolkata Knight Riders while other MI batters struggled on that night. However, he was dismissed for 10 against Lucknow Super Giants on the day the squad was announced. Overall, Suryakumar has scored 168 runs in three games since the squad announcement.

Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper)
Delhi Capitals captain Rishabh Pant has been one of the standout wicketkeeper-batters in IPL 2024. The hard-hitting southpaw has amassed 413 runs in 12 games at an average of 41.30 and a strike rate of 156.43. He has registered three fifties this season. Since India's T20 World Cup squad announcement, Pant has featured in just one game against Rajasthan Royals in Delhi. Batting at



No.5, the southpaw scored 15 off 13 balls against RR before he fell to Yuzvendra Chahal. His cameo guided DC to a massive 221/8, which they later defended and won by 20 runs.

Sanju Samson (wicket-keeper)
Sanju Samson pipped KL Rahul to be included in India's 15-member T20 World Cup. Following the announcement, Rajasthan Royals' captain was dismissed for a duck against SunRisers Hyderabad in Hyderabad. However, Samson soon bounced back against Delhi Capitals in RR's previous outing. Chasing 222, Samson led from the front as he smashed 86 off just 46 balls which kept RR in the hunt. His knock included eight fours and six maximums. Despite Samson's brilliant knock, RR fell short by 20 runs.

Hardik Pandya
MI captain Hardik Pandya has produced few impressive bowling performances since the squad announcement for the T20 World Cup. On the day the squad was announced, Hardik was dismissed for a golden duck against Lucknow Super Giants. Defending 144, India's star all-rounder later bagged the important wickets of KL Rahul and Deepak Hooda to finish with

figures of 2/26. Hardik then once again claimed two wickets against Kolkata Knight Riders despite conceding 44 runs in his four overs. In the batting department, he continued to struggle as he scored just one run at Wankhede. In their last game, Hardik took three wickets for 31 runs to help MI restrict SRH to 173/8. MI later chased down the target in 17.2 overs courtesy Suryakumar's ton.

Shivam Dube
Chennai Super Kings' Shivam Dube has suffered a shocking loss of form since his inclusion in India's T20 World Cup squad. The hard-hitting left-hander was dismissed for a duck in the very first ball against Punjab Kings in Chennai before being dismissed for 13-ball 21 against Gujarat at Ahmedabad. On the positive front, Dube dismissed Jonny Bairstow in Chennai to bag his first wicket in IPL 2024, when CSK took on PBKS in Dharamsala.

Ravindra Jadeja
India's star all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has had a mixed bag since the announcement of the 15-member squad for T20 World Cup 2024. The 35-year-old scored just two runs off four deliveries and claimed no wickets against

Punjab Kings in Chennai. Later in Dharamsala, Jadeja was adjudged the Player of the Match for his all-round performance against Punjab Kings. Jadeja then scored a 10-ball 18 against Gujarat as CSK ended up on the losing side.

Axar Patel
Another spin-bowling all-rounder Axar Patel has contributed with both bat and ball in the only game that he has played since the squad announcement. Batting at No.4, Delhi Capitals' all-rounder Axar scored 15 off 10 balls against Rajasthan Royals to help his side post 221/8 in their 20 overs. Later, Axar dismissed Jos Buttler to finish with figures of 1/25 to guide the Capitals to a 20-run victory in Delhi.

Kuldeep Yadav
Left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav has been one of the stand-out bowlers in IPL 2024. The 29-year-old has bagged 14 wickets in nine matches at an average of 20.64 and an economy of 8.25. Since India's T20 World Cup squad announcement, Kuldeep has featured in just one game for Delhi Capitals. Defending 222 against RR, Kuldeep dismissed Donovan Ferreira and Ravichandran Ashwin in the 18th over to power DC to a convincing victory in the end.

Yuzvendra Chahal
Following his inclusion in India's T20 World Cup squad, leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal has been expensive in both the games that he has played since the announcement. SunRisers Hyderabad batters smashed Chahal to all parts of the ground as he conceded 62 runs in his four overs in Hyderabad. Later against Delhi Capitals, Chahal took the important wicket of Rishabh Pant. However, the 33-year-old conceded 48 runs in his four overs.

Jasprit Bumrah
Indian cricket team's bowling

spearhead Jasprit Bumrah has continued his good form even after the squad announcement for the T20 World Cup. Bumrah produced an economical spell of none for 17 against Lucknow Super Giants while defending just 144. Against Kolkata Knight Riders, Bumrah was the wrecker-in-chief for MI as he picked up three wickets for 18 runs in his 3.5 overs to bowl them out for 169. India's right-arm pacer once again bowled an economical spell against an in-form SunRisers Hyderabad's batting line-up. Bumrah finished with figures of 1/23. He is the current Purple Cap holder in IPL 2024 with 18 wickets in 12 matches.

Mohammed Siraj
Indian fast bowler Mohammed Siraj has featured in two games since the announcement of the 15-member squad for T20 World Cup 2024. Playing for Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Siraj bowled an impressive spell against last season's finalist Gujarat Titans at the M.Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on May 4. Siraj finished with figures of 2/29 to help bundle out GT for 147 in 19.3 overs. Siraj then picked up 3 wickets for 43 runs against Punjab Kings in Dharamsala.

Arshdeep Singh
Left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh has produced a few lacklustre performances since his inclusion in India's T20 World Cup squad. While Punjab Kings' star pacer Arshdeep dismissed Chennai Super Kings captain Rituraj Gaikwad, he conceded 52 runs in his four overs in Chennai. Later in Dharamsala against the same opponents, Arshdeep was once again expensive as he gave away 42 runs in his four overs. Even against RCB, Arshdeep leaked 41 runs in just 3 overs.

IPL 2024: Gujarat Titans deal a blow to Chennai Super Kings

AHMEDABAD, May 11 (Agencies): Captain Shubman Gill cracked a blistering century while B Sai Sudharsan hit his maiden IPL ton as Gujarat Titans kept themselves in the playoffs race with a 35-run win over Chennai Super Kings here.

Sudharsan (103 off 51 balls) matched skipper Gill (104 off 55 balls) stroke for stroke as the two openers propelled GT to 231/3. The home team's bowlers then restricted the defending champions to 196/8 despite fighting fifties from Daryl Mitchell (63) and Moeen Ali (56).

Sent in to bat, Gill and Sudharsan put up a six-hitting exhibition as they notched up a 210-run stand, the highest partnership for any wicket in the IPL this season. The two also equalled Quinton de Kock and KL Rahul's highest-ever IPL opening partnership. While Gill's remarkable innings was punctuated by nine fours and six maximums, Sudharsan's maiden hundred was peppered with five boundaries and seven sixes.

In contrast, the CSK openers were back in the hut with just two runs on the board. Their best batter this season, skipper Rituraj Gaikwad (0), was also sent packing as Rashid Khan completed a brilliant catch on the boundary with the defending champions reeling at 10/3.

Mitchell and Moeen steadied the ship



with some counterattacking play, stitching a 109-run partnership. The two targeted the Afghan spin duo of Rashid and Noor Ahmad.

While Moeen clobbered three sixes on the trot off Noor in the 11th over, Mitchell hit a boundary and a six in the next over off Rashid to bring down the equation to 113 runs off the last 48 balls.

But veteran Mohit Sharma (3/31) struck off his very first ball, dismissing Mitchell and then came back to take the scalps of Moeen and Shivam Dube (21).

Brief scores
GT: 231/3 in 20 overs (Shubman 104, Sudharsan 103; Deshpande 2/33) vs CSK: 196/8 in 20 overs (Mitchell 63, Moeen 56; Mohit 3/31, Rashid 2/38).

KKR face MI in Kolkata with an eye on the Playoffs spot

KOLKATA, May 11 (Agencies): The excitement in the Indian Premier League 2024 is at its highest as the tournament is heading towards its business end. With eight teams in contention for a spot in the playoffs, each and every game holds massive importance for all the teams involved. To continue with the riveting action in the T20 extravaganza, KKR will take on MI in Match 60 on Saturday, 11 May at Eden Gardens, Kolkata.

Both teams are in contrasting positions coming into the game as KKR are comfortably sitting on the top of the points table with eight wins from 11 matches having 16 points to their name. On the other hand, MI are reeling at the second last spot (ninth) with four wins from 12 games having eight points to their name.

Kolkata are in incredible form heading into the fixture having won their last three matches. The Shreyas Iyer-led side is in sensational form this season and are just one win away from sealing their place in the playoffs. They two-time champions will be up against a battered MI side who're struggling with a change in their leadership.



MI fans haven't been able to accept Hardik Pandya as their new leader and there have been reports of groupings in the team as well. All of this has affected MI's campaign as the five-time champions find themselves being knocked out of the season. However, Mumbai will look to end their campaign on a positive note and carry the momentum into the next season.

KKR vs MI: Head to Head
Mumbai have historically had a dominant record against KKR having won 23 out of the 33 matches played between the two sides. Furthermore, MI have won 10 out of the 13 matches played between the two teams at the Eden Gardens. However, they recently failed to chase down

170 in their own den against the Knights. Given how the season has gone for both teams so far, Kolkata start as clear favourites.

KKR vs MI: Team News

Both teams don't have any injury concerns heading into the game which is great news for KKR heading into the playoffs. On the other hand, MI might be tempted to test their bench strength after being knocked out and might give some rest to their senior players.

KKR vs MI: Pitch Report

The surface at the Eden Gardens has been a paradise for batters this season with humongous scores being a regular feature. Out of the six matches played at the venue so far in the season, four have been won by teams batting second. The average first innings score

at the venue this season has been 204 while the highest target chased has been 262. Captain winning the toss will look to bowl first keeping the recent record in mind.

KKR vs MI: Predicted XIs

KKR Predicted XI
Phil Salt (wk), Sunil Narine, Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Shreyas Iyer (c), Venkatesh Iyer, Rinku Singh, Andre Russell, Ramandeep Singh, Mitchell Starc, Varun Chakaravartih, Harshit Rana.

Impact sub: Vaibhav Arora/Manish Pandey.

MI Predicted XI
Ishan Kishan (wk), Rohit Sharma, Naman Dhir, Suryakumar Yadav, Tilak Varma, Hardik Pandya (c), Tim David, Anshul Kamboj/Luke Wood, Piyush Chawla, Jasprit Bumrah, Nuwan Thushara.

Impact sub: Dewald Brevis/Romario Shephard.

Need to work on fitness: Manika Batra

NEW DELHI, May 11 (Agencies): Manika Batra could not be more thrilled about bossing world No. 2 Wang Manyu from China earlier this week but to beat the top-10 players more often, the Indian table tennis trailblazer knows she needs to do more on the tactical and fitness fronts.

After becoming the first Indian woman to reach the quarterfinals of a Grand Smash (top tier events organised by World Table Tennis), the 28-year-old doesn't want to sit on her laurels and her focus is firmly fixed on the Paris Olympics.

The Delhi-born player shocked Manyu before blanking 14th-ranked Nina Mittelham from Germany. The loss in the quarterfinals came against fifth ranked Hina Hayata. Batra had beaten Hayata before, but the Japanese was better prepared in their latest meeting.



"First of all I am really happy. I had a lot of fun beating her," said a beaming Batra, who had lost badly to Manyu at the Macau World Cup last month. "After Macau, I sat with my coach (Aman Balgu). I was really emotional at that time because I told him that something is going wrong and we really have to work on a few things. After that, we had 10-12 days

of intense sessions which really helped me in this tournament," added the 39th ranked Indian, who will break into the top-25 next week. "To be honest, I don't see any differences but I have noticed in this tournament that if you want to reach the semifinals and finals, your body should be trained like that. The Chinese and Japanese move really fast. It shouldn't happen that after the quarters or semifinals... you are getting tired. So I have to work on my stamina and agility till the Olympics," she said.

"Game wise, everything was there. It's just mentally you have to be strong and you have to believe that you can do it. I also really liked my fighting spirit. Need to work on a few things like my forehand. It was really good in this tournament but need to take it to the next level," she added.

It's a physically draining sport: R Praggnanandhaa

WARSAW, May 11 (Agencies): Young Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa has called for a robust financial backing for chess, debunking the common concept that players require minimal monetary support to train and excel in the sport. Praggnanandhaa recently competed in the FIDE Candidates in Toronto for the first time. "Chess training may look easy and cheap but it's a very expensive sport due to all the travel," said the 18-year-old. "My parents were facing financial issues before I got my first sponsor. It was difficult because my sister was also playing and travelling," added Praggnanandhaa, whose elder sister R Vaishali finished joint runner-up in

the Women's Candidates.

The Chennai teenager also said that to play 14 rounds of chess a player needed to be in the best physical shape.

"To prepare for Candidates, I was doing physical sports. I was also doing exercise during the camps. I love playing badminton. Recently, I started playing beach volleyball," he said. "You need to be ready for long tournaments because playing 14 games is not easy. Keeping focus throughout is something we are working on. Also, 14 games are very tiring. The physical aspect comes when you're playing one game for five-six hours. If you do that for the whole tournament, it's obviously very tiring to concentrate," he added.

Shiv Sena protests against illegal recovery on Liquor

Demand of formation of complaint cell, making bill compulsory, submitted Memorandum

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit held a strong protest against the recovery of more than the marked price by the liquor sellers and demanded the formation of complaint cell, making bill compulsory and strict action like cancellation of license from the department.

Shiv Sainiks gathered at Indira Chowk in Jammu under the leadership of party state chief Manish Sahni, held strong demonstration holding placards with slogans like "Stop illegal recovery on liquor", "Formation of complaint cell, make bill compulsory", "Cancel license on illegal recovery".



Sahni termed this illegal recovery as a big scam in liquor sale and demanded the formation of complaint cells, making bill compulsory on sale and strict action like cancellation of license from the department to curb it.

Sahni said that the shopkeepers involved in this illegal extortion do not show any fear.

On raising objections against this illegal extortion, these shopkeepers fearlessly start misbehaving and cite the need

to pay higher officials.

Sahni said that this illegal extortion increases manifold in far flung areas and Kashmir division. In Kashmir, tourists are openly being charged double the price.

Sahni said that the

Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir claimed corruption-free administration, to prove which the Excise Department will have to take strict action. Along with this, the Excise Inspectors should keep a close watch on the liquor sellers in their areas so that this illegal extortion can be curbed.

Sahni also submitted a memorandum to the Commissioner of the Department demanding strict action.

On the occasion General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Vice President Balwant Singh, Sanjeev Kohli, President Kamgar Raj Singh, Secretary Rakesh Handa, Shashipal, Mangu Ram, Ajay Kumar, Ashwani Kumar and others were present.

DPS Jammu students shine in Kalarippayattu C'ship 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: Students of Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu brought laurels to the school and their parents by winning gold, silver, bronze medals and positions in 6th District Jammu Kalarippayattu Championship 2024 organized by District Jammu Kalarippayattu Association held at Rehari, Jammu from May 2 to 3, 2024.

Kyra Thakyal (Prep-C) and Kavyansh Patyal (III-C) won one gold medal each; Bhavyam Verma (II-E) bagged bronze medal; Zaheer Abbas Khan (V-E) won one gold and one bronze medal; Aranya Mahajan (IX-E) secured three gold medals; Atahrv Mahajan (VIII-B) got two gold medals; Tejshree Singh (VIII-J) bagged two silver medals.



The management of DPS Jammu under the esteemed leadership of President-RCT, Ajjatshatru Singh, Pro VC- Dr. Ritu Singh, Director-S.S. Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra and staff

congratulated all the winners, their parents and coach, Suresh Kumar for their achievement.

Further, they also extended their best wishes to them for all their future endeavours.

Sonal Gupta wins first prize in dance competition organized by JKMS

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: The Junior Wing of JK Montessori Senior Secondary School hosted a special occasion for their mothers on Mother's Day with great zeal and enthusiasm to recognize the essence of mothers with high spirits and merit.

In the event, the mothers were specially invited to spend a memorable day full of activities and fun. Several performances were planned to honour and appreciate all the mothers. The venue was decorated keeping in mind the theme of the day.

The members of the Management Apurv Gupta Dean Academics JKMS and Ojsevy Gupta graced the occasion.

After lighting of the ceremonial lamp by all the dignitaries present at the occasion, the event com-



menced with a Welcome Song presented by the students which was followed by the welcome address given by Aarti Gupta Principal JKMS. Each mother was crowned with a hand-crafted tiara and a basket of flowers made by their children for the occasion. The cultural programme included items

of songs and dance performed by the students with various fun filled activities and games in which maximum number of mothers participated.

The highlight of the programme was the Ramp-walk by our incredible mothers. The programme concluded on a joyful note when all the mothers were invited

on the stage to dance with their children on the foot-tapping tunes. To capture the special moment of happiness and emotions, each mother got her picture clicked with her child as a token of remembrance of the day.

The mothers for their best performances were awarded with a Crown:

For Ramp-Walk – Rimpri Sharma mother of Takshvi Sharma (EW), For Dance – first prize was given to Sonal Rana mother of Advay Bakshi (EW), Second prize went to Marvi Mahajan mother of Ridhvik Mahajan (RTF-I), For Singing the prize went to Sapna Gupta mother of Vanya Gupta (RTF-II).

Rajni Gupta Director JKMS conveyed that the mothers are the emotional backbone of the family and play a very important role in shaping the personality of a child. Nobody can take her place so we should be respectful towards her. She saluted all the mothers for being the priceless gifts from God to mankind.

The programme concluded with the vote of thanks given by Sonia Kapoor Coordinator JKMS followed by National Anthem.

Keshav organises free health check-up camp at Bus Stand



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: Samvedna Society Chairman Keshav Chopra organised 83rd Free Eye Screening Camp/ General Body Health Check Up at General Bus Stand Jammu.

The Camp was organised in collaboration with the Police Station Bus Stand.

The camp saw great attendance from Drivers/ Conductors, police personnel of the area. A total of 92 patients were provided free of cost treatment including refrac-

tion, NCT, AR check up, vision check up and general body examination by a team of experts from Dr KD's Multispeciality Hospital Jammu and free medicines were also given to the patients.

The camp was inaugurated by Superintendent of Police Jammu North, Shivam Siddharth, SDPO Jammu North Devinder Singh Bandral, SHO Bus Stand Inspector Vikas Dogra.

Speaking during the camp, Shivam Siddharth expressed gratitude towards Chairman Samvedna Society Keshav

Chopra for organizing the camp and praised the society's initiative to provide voluntary services to the common man at their doorstep.

Keshav Chopra said Samvedna Society is committed to work for all the sections by providing best healthcare facilities to the people.

This camp was planned exclusively to benefit the Drivers/Conductors and to foster a culture that is devoted to the serving of common man. We will continue to organize such camps in future also so that maximum people can take advantage of it, Keshav further added.

Transport Union prominent leaders Suresh Gupta, Paramjeet Singh, Sanjay Gupta, Dr Bhawna (Ophthalmologist), Dr Bhavuk (Neurosurgeon), Dr Arica (General Physician), Harsh (Manager), Karamjeet Singh, Tanisha, Bharti, Kavita and others were present during the camp.

GDC RS Pura celebrates Mother's Day



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: "A mother is she who can take the place of all other, but whose place no one else can take" Mother's Day is celebrated every year on second Sunday in the month of May and this year it happens to be on 12th May, 2024. Saluting the spirit of unwavering dedication of mothers towards their kids and family, NSS Unit in collaboration with Department of Zoology of GDC RS Pura celebrated Mother's

Day on Saturday.

On this occasion many students devotedly spoke and expressed their gratitude, love, appreciation and acknowledgement towards their mother. Gursimar Kour, student of semester 4th dedicated a beautiful poem to her mother.

A beautiful song was sung by NSS PO Dr. Chanchal Angral. She also motivated the students to respect the values imparted by their mothers and be thankful to them for their selfless

and unconditional love and support.

The programme was conducted under the guidance by Principal of the college, Dr. Rajni Bhagat and under the supervision of Dr. Chanchal Angral NSS PO.

The programme ended with the votes of thanks by Dr. Hari Singh Department of Zoology. Prof. Shifali Abrol and Komika of Department of Zoology were instrumental in making the event successful.

GCW Gandhi Nagar organises "Safarnama" for hosteliers

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 11: The vibrant energy of student's creativity and talent was on full display as the hosteliers of GCW, Gandhi Nagar, Semester 4th bid farewell to the outgoing hostel residents.

The event was organized by the students of semester 4th under the supervision of Hostel Warden, Anita Kotwal. Hostel farewell commenced with the formal lamp lighting by the Convenor of Hostel Committee, Dr Rupinder kour and other senior faculty members accompanied with her viz., Prof. Renu Anand, Dr. Minakshi Bandral, Prof Vijendar Kumar, Prof Anupama Sharma, Prof Anuradha, Dr. Himani Arora and Prof Pooja Charak.

The event was organized by the diligent effort of hostel committee; the event saw enthusiastic participation from students across various departments, making it truly a memorable affair. The Hostel Farewell segment will serve as a platform for the fourth-semester students to express their gratitude and bid farewell to the outgoing residents. It was an emotional yet joyous occasion, filled with heartfelt speeches, nostalgic reminiscences, and the expression of gratitude.

Students had planned a mesmerizing cultural programme, featuring captivating dance performances, melodious singing and the thrilling crowning of Miss Hostelier, 2024. The competition for miss farewell was the highlight of the evening, with contestants undergoing a rigorous selection process spanning three stages. Shruti was awarded the Miss Hostelier award, while Siya Mahajan and Mamta Devi secured the first and second runner up positions respectively. The jury members for the said selection process were Prof. Vijendar Kumar, Dr. Himani Arora and Dr. Anuradha.

Prof. Rupinder Kour, the convenor of the hostel committee emphasized the importance of hostel life in shaping the holistic development of students. Adding to the prestige of the event, Principal of the college, Prof. S.P Saraswat commended the hard work and dedication of the hostel warden, convenor and hostel committee in arranging the memorable farewell to the hostel students.

GDC Mahanpur celebrates National Technology Day



Top News Report

MAHANPUR, May 11: Eco Club of GDC Mahanpur in collaboration with the Department of EVS celebrated National Technology Day on the theme "From Schools to Startups: Igniting Young Minds to Innovate" on Saturday.

It was organized by Dr. Nishu (HOD Department

of EVS) under the supervision and able guidance of Dr. Sangeeta Sudan, Principal of the College.

Students and staff visited various villages of Mahanpur and aware people regarding technologies they can use for purification of water, and also how they can reduce solid waste by using technologies at source.

Students and staff of GDC Mahanpur clean various stepwells of the villages.

25 students were participated in this event and the faculty members present on the occasion were Dr. Mohinder, Dr. Sudesh, Nisha, Dr. J S Soodan, Dr. Suman, Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia, Dr. Hilal, Dr. Ajay and Dr. Anil.