

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, MONDAY, MAY 13, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT

Lady Gaga's concert film set to premiere after two-year wait



NATIONAL

My family works for Rae Bareli, PM Modi for Adani, Ambani: Rahul

INTERNATIONAL

Biden Surrendering US University Campuses To "Jihadist Freaks": Trump



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BRIEFLY

CBSE 10th, 12th results 2024 out

JAMMU, May 13 (Agencies): The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has declared the class 10 and class 12 board results 2024 today, May 13. As many as 87.98% have cleared the 12th exams this year and 93.60% have passed class 10. Girls have outperformed boys yet again. Trivandrum is the top-performing district this year in both CBSE 10th and 12th results. Candidates can check their marks at the official websites — results. cbse.nic.in, cbse.gov.in or cbserresults.nic.in. Students will need their roll numbers mentioned on their admit cards to check their scores. The results are available on the UMANG app, Digilocker app, Pariksha Sangam portal, and through the SMS facility. The CBSE class 12 exams began on February 15 and ended on April 2. Students must score a minimum of 33 per cent marks to pass the CBSE class 10 and 12 exams. The class 10 results are yet to be announced.

2 girls die as portion of temple's balcony collapses in Ambala

AMBALA, May 13 (Agencies): Two young girls died while another got injured when a portion of a balcony in a temple collapsed in Nanyola village here on Monday, police said.

The deceased have been identified as Manisha Devi (19) and Parminder Kaur (18) from Punjab's Tasalpur village, they said.

According to the police, a lintel of the balcony on the first floor was put in the Devi Mandir complex here about two months ago. There is an institute nearby where many girls learn various courses.

Among the girls who had come to the institute on Monday, three of them were standing in the shade under the balcony to protect themselves from the hot weather.

Meanwhile, suddenly the balcony lintel fell and all three got buried under it. They were immediately taken to a nearby health centre here where doctors declared two dead.

Doctors suspect that the two girl students died due to head injuries, but the exact cause of death will be revealed only after the post mortem.

The injured student Simran has been admitted to the Civil Hospital of Ambala City, police said.

On receiving information about the incident, the family members of the deceased reached the hospital.

Cong Holding PM Modi Responsible For Nehru's Mistakes: Jaishankar On China Issue

MUMBAI, May 13 (Agencies): External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday said the Congress holds Prime Minister Narendra Modi accountable for the mistakes made by first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru when making comments on China while believing the party has no culpability for the past acts.

On Chinese belligerence in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh, Jaishankar said Indian



land was taken by China between 1958 and 1962, and some of it before 1958 as well.

Attacking Rahul Gandhi,

Jaishankar said it is "very very sad" to "gun down your own forces".

"When you keep saying land taken by China, it was lost in 1962. I see efforts made to mislead the country," he said in response to a question at a news conference here.

China and India have been witnessing an unease in ties, especially after the Galwan Valley incident of June 2020 when Chinese and Indian soldiers clashed, resulting in casualties on both

sides.

Since then India-China relations have been in an "abnormal state", with both sides amassing its troops along the LAC.

The External Affairs Minister said people are saying Chinese are building villages on the border, but it is in a place called Longju (along Line of Actual Control in Arunachal Pradesh), which the Chinese attacked and occupied in 1959.

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LS Polls : 23.57 % Voter turnout recorded till 1 pm in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, May 13 (Agencies): 23.57 percent voter turnout was recorded till 1 pm in Srinagar parliamentary constituency where polling began at 7 am today, officials said.

Here are the details:

Central Shalteng – 15.97%, Chadoora – 32.60%, Char-e-Shareef – 34.89%, Channapora –

13.36%, Eidgah – 17.79%, Ganderbal – 31.97%, Habba Kadal – 9.50%, Hazratbal – 16.96%, Kangan (ST) – 36.62%, Khan Sahib – 32.00%, Khanyar – 14.12%, Lal Chowk – 16.87%, Pampora – 23.45%, Pulwama – 25.99%, Rajpora – 28.01%, Shopian – 28.94%, Trai – 23.55%, Zadibal – 18.59%

ED summons J'khand Minister Alamgir Alam days after seizing Rs 34 cr cash from his secretary's domestic help

RANCHI, May 13 (Agencies): Days after the Enforcement Directorate arrested Jharkhand minister Alamgir Alam's personal secretary Sanjiv Lal and Lal's domestic help Jehangir, the agency has asked the minister to appear before it on May 14.

Alam, who is the state's Minister of Rural Devel-

opment, had distanced himself from the Rs 34.50 crore in cash seized last week from the premises of Jehangir. A day later, Lal and Jehangir were arrested.

Sources said Alam was served the summons as the ED is looking into any relationship between Jehangir and the minister himself. The Congress

leader has been asked to appear a day after polling takes place in Jharkhand in the Lok Sabha elections.

The ED had said earlier that names of senior bureaucrats and politicians have emerged as part of their investigation that led to the seizure of the cash last week.

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Modi gave country's wealth to 4 or 5 rich people: Priyanka

NEW DELHI, May 13 (Agencies): Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra Sunday attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accusing him of giving the country's "entire wealth" to "four or five rich people".

Addressing a rally in support of her brother and Congress' Rae Bareli Lok Sabha seat



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Delhi Police vehicle mows down man, cop held

NEW DELHI, May 13 (Agencies): A 58-year-old man was mowed down allegedly by a recklessly driven Delhi Police vehicle in Sarojini Nagar area here on Monday, police said.

A PCR call regarding the incident was received at 3.27 am, at Sarojini

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Three generations of Abdullah family cast vote in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, May 13 (Agencies): Three generations of the Abdullah family on Monday cast their vote in Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency, with National Conference (NC) vice president Omar Abdullah appealing to people to turn out in large numbers to exercise their franchise.

NC president and former Jammu and Kash- mir chief minister Farooq Abdullah, his son Omar Abdullah, his son Omar

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Scores of KPs return without voting in Jammu after finding names missing from roll

JAGTI (JAMMU), May 13 (Agencies): Scores of displaced Kashmiri Pandits in Jammu were unable to vote on Monday in the fourth phase of Lok Sabha elections due to their names missing from the electoral rolls.

Even as KPs lined up

across special polling stations in Jammu amid tight security, several of them had to return without casting their vote.

"I came to the polling station with three members of my family to cast our votes despite suc-

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Anti Bribery Mgmt System certification awarded to POWERGRID

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power, Govt. of India has been awarded Anti-Bribery Management System (ABMS) IS/ISO 37001 certification by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in a program held on May 8, 2024 at POWERGRID Corporate Centre, Gurugram.

The ABMS Certificate was handed over by Lalithan Pari, Director, Management System Certification (Central), BIS to Dharmendra Kumar Madan, Chief Vigilance Officer, POWERGRID in the presence of Ajay Tewari, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Power, Govt. of India, R. K. Tyagi, CMD, Abhay Choudhary, Director (Projects), G. Ravisankar, Director (Finance), Dr. Yatindra Dwivedi, Director (Personnel), Ashish Tripathi, Chief Vigilance Officer, BIS, Anish Anand, Dy. CVO, POWERGRID and senior officers of POWERGRID and BIS.

The Chief Guest of the event Ajay Tewari, Additional Secretary (MoP) spoke about the importance of Vigilance mechanism in government organizations.

The ABMS Certification to POWERGRID is commitment to transparency & act as preventive vigilance tool for fairness and integrity in the Organization under the guidance of Central Vigilance Commission.

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MBA MOTORS

MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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

📍 NAGROTA, JAMMU (J&K)

📞 +91-9086207123

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Girja Dhar Koul** W/o Sh. Tej Bahadur Koul A/P 602, Gayatri Apartments, Sector 45 Faridabad Haryana, who left for heavenly abode on 05.05.2024.

Tenth Day will be performed at Muradnagar (UP) on Tuesday, May 14 at 10.00 am.

Grief Stricken

Sh. Tej Bahadur Koul (**Husband**) 9871041222

4871062466

Pratigya Bhan & Neeraj Bhan (**Daughter & Son in law**)

Puja Arora & Amit Arora (**Daughter & Son in law**)

Rishon, Saisha, Smera (**Grand Children**)

Kauls, Dhars, Khashus, Walis, Khers, Razdans



Smt. Girja Dhar Koul

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother, **Smt. Mohini Raina** W/o Late Chuni Lal Raina resident of Jawahar Nagar Srinagar, Kashmir on 10th May 2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 19th May 2024 at Murad Nagar Ghat (Choti Ganga), Ghaziabad, UP at 7:00 AM.

ASSEMBLY for Prayer meeting will be held at the 2/81, G-2, Rajendra Nagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad at 11:00am

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Daughter and Son in law

Varsha Raina and Manohar Nath Raina

Roma Chopra and Navneet Chopra

Sonia Kaul and Vikas Kaul

Suraj Raina -**Son**

Grand Children: Krish, Shivang, Mannat, Aarohi

Contact Numbers: +91 8376957320, +91 9643100397,

+91 9888219219, +91 9873665751



SMT. MOHINI RAINA

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

IT'S VERY SAD TO ANNOUNCE THAT OUR BELOVED BROTHER **SH PYARE LAL BHAN** LEFT FOR HIS HEAVENLY ABODE ON 7TH MAY 2024. WE ARE MOURNING AT COMMUNITY HALL, LANE NO 24, NEAR BLOCK 152 BACK SIDE JAGTI NAGROTA.

TENTH DAY KRIYA SHALL BE PERFORMED ON 16TH MAY 2024 THURSDAY AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AT 8 AM ONWARDS. **ASSEMBLY** AT 10:30 AM AT COMMUNITY HALL LANE NO 24 NEAR BLOCK 152 BACK SIDE JAGTI NAGROTA.

IN GRIEF:-

KANTA BHAN (MOTHER)

(SISTERS AND BROTHERS-IN-LAW)

MRS KIRAN KOUL & MR ANIL KOUL

MRS CHAMPA & MR BULU JI RAINA

MRS NEELU BHAT & MR RAJ NATH BHAT

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY HIS NEPHEW & NIECE: PAVESH KOUL, VARSHA RAINA, MOHIT RAINA, SAI BHAT, GUNUNG BHAT.

GRIEF STRICKEN: KOUL, RAINA AND BHAT PARIVARS

CONTACT NO: 9622307445, 7006740075, 9596196059



SH PYARE LAL BHAN

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and heavy heart we are saddened to inform that our beloved mother **Smt. Pita Shori Dhar** W/o Late Shri Roshan Lal Dhar erstwhile resident of Chandrapura, Habbakadal Srinagar Kashmir, left this mortal world and attained moksha on May 8, 2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Garh Ganga Murad Nagar, Uttar Pradesh on Friday, May 17, 2024, at 8:00am.

CONDOLENCE meet will be performed at our residence Flat B-1, C 34, Shalimar Garden Extn 2, Sahibabad Ghaziabad, UP after 11:00am

GRIEF STRICKEN:

(Sons and Daughters in Law)

Sanjay Dhar & Suman Dhar

Vinod Kumar Dhar & Archana Dhar

Rakesh Dhar & Dolly Dhar

Meenakshi Dhar (**Daughter**)

Grand Children: Apoorva, Saanvi, Anushka, Drishti, Utkarsh, Sarvika and Rimjim,

MOBILE NUMBER: 9810148407



SMT PITA SHORI DHAR

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Sh Parveen Gupta (Hira Shah)** S/o Sh. Yash Pal Gupta R/o Village Rajpura Tehsil Rajpura District Samba.

Tenth Day will be performed on 14/5/2024 at MM Resorts Rajpura near Gupha Charcoal Unit Defence Road Rajpura at 11 am to 12 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Sh. Yashpal Gupta (**Father**)

Smt. Anuradha (**Wife**)

Sh. Kharal Gupta and Smt. Nirmla Gupta (**Chacha & Chachi**)

Brother and Sister-in-law

Ravinder Gupta and Chinta Devi

Hansh Gupta and Late Devi Gupta

Sister & Brother in law

Vijay Gupta and Sunil Gupta

Ram Gupta and Rajesh Gupta

Raju Gupta and Late Surinder Gupta

Daughter and Son in law

Priyanka Mahajan and Sumit Mahajan (Sajan)

Son & Daughter in law

Rajan Gupta and Riya Gupta

Surinder Mahajan (**Son**)

Rukhi Mahajan (**Grand Daughter**)



Sh Parveen Gupta (Hira Shah)

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Maharaj Krishen Koul** S/o Lt. Sh. R. N. Koul originally resident of Satru Barber Shah (Nakashpura) Srinagar at present H No. 3 Sector 4, Panduka Colony Paloura Jammu on 07/05/2024 (near Badshah Kalander Ashram).

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 16th May 2024 (Thursday) at Muthi Ghat, near Directorate of Education office Muthi Jammu at 08:00 AM.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY :-

Smt. Vijay Koul (**Wife**)

(Son & Daughter-in-law)

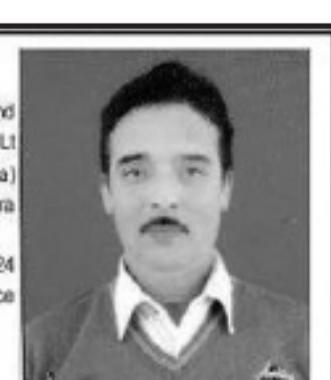
Smt. Meemai Koul and Vikas Koul

(Daughter and Son-in-law)

Smt. Neeta Chauhan and Sandeep Chauhan

GRAND CHILDREN: Aashna, Aaransh, Anshita, Anushka

9797533300, 9796824819, 9596844415



Sh. Maharaj Krishen Koul

OBITUARY

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SMT. DULARI KOUL (REKHA JI)** WIFE OF LATE SHRI KAILASH NATH KOUL ON 7TH MAY 2024 ERSTWHILE RESIDENT OF TULSI ORCHARD CHANNAPORA SRINAGAR PRESENTLY AT SURIYA VIHAR, HOUSE NO. 603, LANE NO. 17, BOHRU, JAMMU.

TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE HELD ON 16TH MAY 2024 AT 9 AM AT MUTHI GHAT (NEAR DIRECTOR SCHOOL EDUCATION).

GRIEF STRICKEN

Dr. M. L. Koul -**Brother-in-Law**

Gopal Krishan & Vijay Dhar -**Brother & Bhabhi**

Sheela Shah -**Sister**

Sons & Daughter-in-Laws

K. K. Koul & Chandra Ji

Deepak & Anju Ji Koul

Vinod & Meenakshi Koul

Ajay & Veena Kuchroo

Kiran Kuchroo W/o Lt. Dr. Bawmeh Kuchroo

Daughters & Son-in-Laws

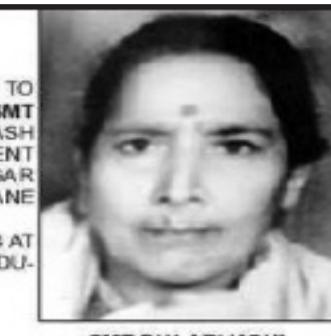
Usha & Roop Krishan Zaroo

Roshan Lal Dhar

Upasana & Rakesh Mattoo

Monika & Ravi Koul

Sunita & Ashwani Raina



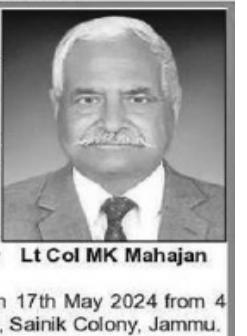
SMT DULARI KOUL

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Lt Col **MK Mahajan**, who left for heavenly abode on 04 May 2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on 13 May 2024 from 12 Noon to 1 PM at Ram Mandir, Sector D, Sainik Colony, Jammu.

Kriya will be held on 16th May 2024 at 12.30 PM at House No 106, Sector D, Sainik Colony, Jammu.



Lt Col MK Mahajan

Rasam Pagdi / Uthala will be held on 17th May 2024 from 4 PM to 5 PM at Ram Mandir, Sector D, Sainik Colony, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Nirmal Mahajan (**Wife**)

Meenu Joneja (**Daughter**)

Deepak and Rajeev Mahajan (**Sons**)

All family members and relatives

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With deep sorrow, we regret to inform you of the sad and untimely passing of our beloved Mother, **Smt. Shakuntla Devi** (Retd. Government Teacher), wife of the Late Sh. Homeshwar Chander Raina (Retd. Assistant Post Master), residing at PANJIRTHI, Jammu.

The **10TH DAY** will be held on MONDAY, May 13th, 2024, at 10:00 AM at Rani Park, Jammu.

KRIYA will be performed on Tuesday, May 14th, 2024, at 12.00 Noon at our residence in Panjirthi, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Daughter and Son-in-law

Poonam Raina and Sh. Vinod Sharma

Son and Daughter-in-law

Bharat Raina and Mekhla B Raina

Grand Daughter

Divya Shakti Sharma (Radhu)

And all Raina Family

Phone : 979600123, 979623146

Smt. SHAKUNTALA DEVI (RETD. GOVERNMENT TEACHER)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh Chuni Lal Koul

S/o Late Sh. Jee Koul R/o Harduchanan at present Lane 16, F. No. 03, Block 79 Jagti Colony on (11-05-2024).

TENTH DAY will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of Education on Monday (20-05-2024) at 8 am. **Mour**

Industry-academia meet held at Govt Polytechnic Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: Government Polytechnic Jammu in collaboration with Department of Industries and Commerce today organised an Industry-Academia Meet as per the directions from District Administration, Director, Department of Industries and Commerce, Jammu and Director, Skill Development Department, J&K.

The collaboration was based on a collective commitment to bridge the gap between local industries and academia. The meeting witnessed a congregation of representatives from various industrial associations, unit holders, DIC Jammu and TPOs and faculty of Government Polytechnic Jammu.

Virender Kumar

Manjal, General Manager, DIC Jammu along with Er. Arun Bangotra, Principal Government Polytechnic Jammu headed the meet.

In his welcome address, Er Arun Bangotra briefed the meet as an opportunity to access the nature and magnitude of the skill gap across the district and to take appropriate measures in conducting skill training to bridge the skill gap.

He added that the institute and industry can collaborate on various topics related to research, innovation, education, and workforce development as such events serve as a platform for fostering meaningful interactions, exchanging ideas, and building partnerships between the two sectors.

Virender Kumar Manjal, General Manager, DIC Jammu said that we

need industry-academia collaboration to make sure that the engineers of tomorrow are ready to face the challenges of fast-paced world and to share the industry expectations from academic institutions and identify common interests, foster greater understanding and to develop the capacity to address the local issues like unemployment of the local youth.

The session witnessed participation from S. C. Dutta, President Birpur Industrial Association, Vinod Kumar Vice President, Ajay Langer, Vice President, Bari Brahman Industrial Association, B. L. Koul, representative Pharmaceutical Association, Pankaj Sharma, Plant head, Saraswati, Ashok Kumar, Rajesh and other representatives from industry asso-

ciations and unit holders. The speeches by representatives from industry and academia are providing insights into current trends, challenges and opportunities. Panel discussions featuring experts from both sectors delve into specific topics such as technology trends, industry-academia collaboration models, and skill development strategies. It provided a platform to discuss the technological challenges industries are facing and eventually the measures to overcome those challenges.

On the occasion, MoU was also signed between Er. Arun Bangotra Principal, Government Polytechnic Jammu and Center for Invention, Innovation, Incubation and Training (CIIT) Jammu and Virender Kumar Manjal, General

Manager, DIC Jammu with a collective commitment to go beyond common boundaries to build the bridge between the local industries and the local skilled youth. The proceedings of the event were coordinated by Sakshi Kapahi Lecturer I&C Department.

Others present on the occasion were Neena Dullo, TPO, Rajesh Khajuria TPO (DLTP Cell), Ankur Kalotra FM DIC, Dr Komal Sharma FM DIC, Dr Sunaina Sharma FM DIC, Roohi Khajuria FM DIC, Rupinder Kour FM DIC, Ajay Thapa Incharge TP Cell, Lecturer-I Mechanical Engg., Inderjeet Singh, Workshop Superintendent, Sanjay Koul HoD Computer Engineering, Rani Devi, HoD MLT, Amit Sharma HOD T&T, all the member of TP Cell.

Director Horticulture interacts with FPO's at Sungal

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, May 13: The Department of Horticulture, under the chairmanship of Director Horticulture Jammu, Chaman Lal Sharma, orchestrated a significant interaction programme with the Board of Directors and members of the Farmers Producers Organisation (FPO) for Aonla crop at village Sungal of block Akhnoor.

The event, which witnessed a commendable turnout of local farmers, served as a crucial platform for dialogue and collaboration, echoing the Department's commitment in empowering agricultural communities.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director emphasized the intrinsic importance of FPOs to the horticultural com-

munity of Akhnoor and its neighbouring villages.

He underscored their pivotal role in empowering farmers, fostering collective action, and amplifying voices within the agricultural landscape.

Highlighting the critical role of FPOs in enabling smallholder farmers to access resources, markets and knowledge, Director Sharma commended the proactive efforts of FPO members. He reiterated the Department's steadfast commitment to supporting and strengthening grassroots initiatives.

Director Sharma's address resonated deeply with attendees, igniting a sense of purpose and unity among the farming community. His insights into the transformative potential of FPOs sparked engag-

ing discussions and inspired participants to explore new avenues for collaboration and growth.

The interaction programme not only served as a platform for knowledge exchange but also as a catalyst for fostering solidarity and camaraderie among farmers. It underscored the Department's dedication to nurturing inclusive and sustainable agricultural practices that benefit communities at large.

Later in the programme, Chief Horticulture Officer Jammu, Ashwani Sharma, DLSMS Pomology Sandeep Gupta, MCC Uttam Lal, HDO Akhnoor Virender Kumar and HDO Khour, Amit Saraf also interacted with participants, further enriching the exchange of ideas and experiences.

Institute Peer Panchal bench of J&K High Court at Rajouri: Mukhtar Gors



Top News Report

RAJOURI, May 13: Youth National Conference leader Mukhtar Gors on Monday addressed a press conference at the party office in Bela Colony Rajouri.

While addressing the media, he highlighted that Larvi Family has a significant and undeniable contribution in the uplifting of masses belonging to Peer Panchal and the social connect that the

family has over the entire belt is unmatched.

He further highlighted that Mian Altaf has a link with each family in the Peer Panchal region and can be easily accessed. And that since he is well versed with the problems of the area, only he can project the demands in a righteous way and at the right forum.

While talking about issues of the youth, he highlighted the need for a Peer Panchal regiment

in Indian Army, Establishment of industrial unit in Rajouri, creation of employment opportunities for youth of peer panchal and other issues.

He was flanked by youth leaders Waleem Shah and Adv. Imran Janjua.

While addressing the media persons Waleem Shah Block President National Conference said that Mian Altaf is the most suitable candidate to represent the diversity of Twin Districts as he has followers among both Gujjar and Bakerwal Communities.

Adv Imran Janjua while talking to the media persons demanded institutionalisation of a Peer Panchal bench of Jammu and Kashmir High Court at Rajouri as litigants from the area has to travel all the way to Jammu for getting remedy for even petty cases.

Govt Polytechnic College Jammu organizes Lecture on overview of Gladni Grid Station

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: Government Polytechnic College Jammu organized an expert lecture on the topic overview of Gladni grid station for the students of Electrical Engineering Department under the guidance of Er. Arun Bangotra Principal Govt. Polytechnic College Jammu and Er. Manjeet Singh H.O.D Electrical Engineering Department.

Er. Bandana Manhas Assistant Engineer TLMSD -I Gladni (JKPTCL) was the resource Person for the expert talk. In order to provide an opportunity of learning for the students these types of Expert lecture plays an important role for students growth of learning.

Er. Bandana Manhas (Resource Person)



elaborated the students regarding the overview of Gladni grid station along with Components installed inside the Gladni grid station. During the Expert lecture students came to know about total capacity of the grid station (710 MVA), different

Electrical equipments installed and used in the grid station for Transmission and Protection.

She also explained the general process of Generation, Transmission and Distribution of Electrical Power in addition to that how electrical Power

is received at 220 KV and the Voltage is step down with the help of step down Transformer in various stages and further distributed to consumers with the help of Sub Transmission system.

Er. Itika Sharma and Er. Vicky Sharma faculty

Electrical Engineering Department conducted the proceedings of the program. Others Present on the occasion Were Er. Akhil Kumar, Er. Vandana Chib, Er. Deevika Bhardwaj, Arun Sharma, Rakesh khullar, Joginder Kour and Atish Bandral.

SMVDU Annual Sports Festival concludes



Top News Report

KATRA, May 13: The annual sports festival of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) culminated with the closing ceremony wherein the winners were awarded prizes.

The Sports festival, a semester long event, involves the participation

of the students in athletics, badminton, basketball, chess, cricket, football, kabaddi, kho-kho, table tennis, tennis and volleyball in both male and female categories.

The Chief Guest for the closing ceremony was Prof. Pragati Kumar, the Vice Chancellor of SMVDU, who in his address emphasized

upon the importance of sports in life for learning discipline, team work, and perseverance besides attaining physical and mental health.

He applauded the efforts of the organizers, participants and spectators in making the event happen. He also updated about the new sports facilities being developed

in the university for the benefit of students.

In the closing ceremony, medals to the winners and awards to the best players were distributed by the chief guest along with the Registrar, Ajay Kumar; Dean, Students Welfare, Prof. R.K. Mishra, President, Board for Sports Activities, Dr. Parvez Singh Slatia, and Vice-President, Board for Sports Activities, Dr. Kamaldeep, The organizing body for the sports festival, Board for Sports Activities (BSA) expressed gratitude to all the departments of the university and especially students for their help and role in organizing the festival.

BSA extended special thanks to the Vice Chancellor for his unwavering support for conduct of sports activities in the university.

Civil Defence Jammu inaugurates five-day training programme



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: On the directions of Directorate of HG, CD and SDRF J&K, five days Civil Defence basic training programme was started at Soil Conservation Training School Miran Sahib, Jammu under the supervision of Deputy Controller Civil

Defence, Jammu. In the training camp 42 Trainees are going to attend the basic training.

The said training will be given by the Civil Defence Experts on the knowledge of First Aid, prevention, management and control of Fire Fighting, Snake bite, Choking and other basic life saving

technique and preventive measures during the natural/ manmade disaster.

On the occasion R. Vijay Magotra, Dy. Chief Warden Civil Defence, Jammu delivered a lecture on Civil Defence Disaster Management and highlighted the role of Civil Defence and importance of this training in our

daily life.

Neha Mehta Principal training School appreciated and thanked the Civil Defence team for organizing such training programme.

Rakesh Verma Range Office, Rajesh Slalia, Range officer and other staff of the School also present on the occasion.

Darakshan casts her vote at Lalbazar in Srinagar First election in Kashmir after decades, without bloodshed and boycott coercion: Andrabi

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 13: Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Monday cast her vote at Municipal Office Polling Booth at Lalbazar in Srinagar. Spoke to media after her vote, she said that Modi has ensured that democracy in the true spirit of it is ensured in Jammu and



Kashmir. "This is the first election in Naya Kashmir after decades without any violence, death threats, boycotts, coercion and rigging. Still some politicians with myopic mentality say that nothing good has happened in Kashmir," she added.

"Prime Minister Modi has transformed J&K into a peaceful place. LG

administration has gifted us an environment in which we are able to vote freely," she said.

Dr Darakhshan said that never has she seen such a positive atmosphere in the valley on the polling day. She appealed to all to be part of this great democratic process and contribute in strengthening the democratic values of this great nation.

Dogra Degree College organizes Poster Making Competition

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: The Equal Opportunity Club of Dogra Degree College organized Poster Making Competition centered around the critical theme of Female Foeticide. With a firm commitment to promoting awareness and initiating dialogue on pertinent social issues, the Equal Opportunity Cell orchestrated this competition to engage students and the wider community in confronting the grave issue of gen-

der-based discrimination, particularly the troubling practice of female foeticide.

The competition witnessed enthusiastic participation from students across various disciplines, who exhibited their creativity and passion for social change through their visually striking posters.

Each artwork served as a powerful medium for conveying messages against female foeticide, urging society to reflect and take action.

The judging panel, comprising of Ravinder Kumar Rao, Assistant Professor, Dogra Degree College, Indu Puri, Senior Lecturer, Dogra College of Education and Shazia Kousar, Assistant Professor, Dogra Law College, evaluated the submissions based on criteria such as creativity, relevance to the theme, clarity of message and overall effectiveness in advocating for gender equality and condemning female foeticide.

After scrutiny, the results declared were as under-

In poster making competition the first prize was bagged by Priya Sharma (B.Ed. sem. 2nd), Student of Dogra College of Education, Second prize was bagged by Shiv Sharma (B.Com sem. 2nd) and third prize was bagged by Isha Sayal (B.Com sem. 2nd) Students of Dogra Degree College.

The Equal Opportunity Cell of Dogra Degree College is dedicated to creating a more equitable and inclusive environment within the college and beyond.

EDITORIAL

VOTERS
PARTICIPATION

Voter participation in elections is the lifeblood of democracy, representing the collective voice of the populace in shaping the future of their governance. It's a fundamental right and responsibility in democratic societies, crucial for ensuring that governments are accountable to the people they serve. However, across the globe, voter turnout rates vary significantly, influenced by a multitude of factors ranging from socio-economic conditions to political culture and institutional mechanisms. Understanding the dynamics of voter participation is essential for strengthening democratic processes and fostering inclusive governance.

At its core, voter participation reflects the level of engagement and trust citizens have in their political systems. High levels of participation often indicate a healthy democracy where citizens feel empowered and believe that their votes can make a difference. Conversely, low turnout rates may signal disenchantment, apathy, or disillusionment with the political process. Therefore, efforts to enhance voter participation must address both systemic barriers and socio-cultural factors that inhibit people from exercising their right to vote.

One of the primary determinants of voter turnout is the accessibility and convenience of the electoral process. Measures such as early voting, mail-in ballots, and online registration can significantly increase participation by removing logistical barriers that may prevent certain groups, such as the elderly or individuals with disabilities, from voting. Similarly, ensuring the availability of polling stations in underserved communities and implementing measures to reduce waiting times can enhance access to the ballot box for all citizens.

Education and awareness campaigns also play a vital role in promoting voter participation. Many people abstain from voting due to a lack of understanding of the political process, feeling disconnected from the issues at stake, or simply not knowing how, when, or where to vote. Civic education initiatives aimed at schools, community centers, and online platforms can help demystify the electoral process, educate citizens about their rights and responsibilities, and encourage informed decision-making.

Moreover, the perceived relevance of elections and the credibility of political institutions are crucial factors influencing voter turnout. When people believe that their vote will genuinely impact policy outcomes and that elected officials will represent their interests, they are more likely to participate in the electoral process. Conversely, widespread perceptions of corruption, electoral fraud, or a lack of responsiveness from political elites can undermine trust in the system and deter people from voting.

Social and cultural norms also shape patterns of voter participation. Factors such as age, ethnicity, income, and education level can influence whether individuals choose to vote. For example, young people often have lower turnout rates compared to older generations, reflecting disparities in political engagement and awareness. Addressing these disparities requires targeted outreach efforts, including youth-focused campaigns, multilingual voter education materials, and initiatives to engage marginalized communities.

Furthermore, political polarization and ideological divisions can impact voter turnout by influencing perceptions of the stakes involved in an election. In highly polarized environments, where politics is framed as a zero-sum game between competing factions, individuals may feel that their vote will not make a difference or that they are being asked to choose between the lesser of two evils. Building consensus and promoting dialogue across party lines can help mitigate polarization and foster a sense of collective responsibility for the democratic process.

In conclusion, voter participation is a multifaceted phenomenon shaped by a complex interplay of factors. By addressing barriers to access, promoting civic education, enhancing institutional credibility, and fostering inclusive political cultures, societies can strive to maximize participation and ensure that democracy remains vibrant and responsive to the needs of all citizens. Ultimately, the strength of democracy depends on the active engagement of its citizens in shaping the future of their communities and nations through the ballot box.

By: Shailaja Chandra

(Ex-Secretary, Health Ministry,
and former Chief Secy, Delhi)

ANGLO-SWEDISH drug-maker Astra-Zeneca (AZ) has initiated the worldwide withdrawal of its Covid-19 vaccine. In India, the vaccine, known as Covishield, was manufactured in collaboration with AZ by the Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII). Around 175 crore doses were administered across the country. The vaccine's withdrawal has been attributed to "the availability of multiple, variant vaccines leaving a surplus of outdated vaccines". Simply put, it was just a business decision, coming on the heels of court proceedings related to cases of serious side effects and a £100-million class action lawsuit that the company faces. In February, the company is reported to have admitted that its Covid 19 vaccine "can, in very rare cases, cause TTS".

TTS stands for thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome. It causes low platelet count and formation of blood clots. Lay articles mention symptoms such as shortness of breath, chest pain, headaches and easy bruising.

Several people in the UK have claimed that they suffered various kinds of injuries. In India, too, some families are pursuing legal action against AZ and the SII.

Against this background, I weigh in on what public health dictates governments to do and whether anything could have been done differently in India.

I talked to two highly knowledgeable people, whose words are

Pandemic response and the dilemma of vaccination

worth repeating before I give my views as a former public health administrator.

I first spoke to Dr Gagandeep Kang, one of India's leading microbiologists and virologists, whom I had known when she was the Executive Director of the Translational, Health, Science and Technology Institute of the Ministry of Science and Technology. As she put it, the WHO announced the probable association of TTS with the AZ vaccine in March 2021 and confirmed it by May 2021. The SII had updated its vaccine label to include the risk for Covishield in October 2021. With TTS, we only know anecdotally that some patients reportedly faced side effects, and some cases eventually resulted in deaths. What was the risk-benefit of continuing or not continuing with the vaccination — or even warning millions of people? Did we have an alternative?

Answering these questions, Kang explained what is not widely known: "The risk is age-dependent and may also be geography-dependent. The latter can only be measured by doing pharmacovigilance (safety monitoring of vaccines) either actively, as we have done for rotavirus vaccines, or passively, which is to wait for people to report a problem. The issue with the passive approach is that anything that does not occur within the first few hours or days after vaccination may not be recognised as having an association with vaccination."

The risk-benefit ratio, particularly for the Delta wave, was very high on the side of benefit, particularly for older individuals and somewhat less for younger

ones. Had we followed the lead of the West and stopped Covishield among less than 40-year-olds, our alternative would have been Covaxin which was in short supply resulting in immunisation becoming very stretched out for younger people. Given the absence of any India-specific TTS data, it would have been difficult to monitor," she said.

Dr Anand Krishnan, Professor at the Centre of Community Medicine at AIIMS, New Delhi, put it differently: "Larger public health interest mandated that a rare side effect did not derail a beneficial programme. Focusing on side effects could have resulted in high vaccine hesitancy. That does not mean we should hide it (the side effects)... In hindsight, it is easy to say that better, more nuanced and balanced communication would have helped. Maybe we could also have planned for compensation for those who encountered rare side effects."

I have no hesitation in saying that the process of examining side effect claims would have presented a nightmare for state governments, whose resources were overstretched and fully committed to getting the vaccinations done with utmost expediency. When pandemics strike, public health professionals and governments the world over have to triage the population at risk and ensure that the most vulnerable get vaccinated on priority. In India, vaccination clearly prevented tens of thousands of people from dying or rushing to hospitals at a time when no beds were available.

The fact that the AZ vaccine was approved in just 10 months

— in contrast to 10 years, which is the usual time taken to develop a vaccine — must not be lost sight of and must be recognised and saluted. It certainly prevented millions of people from succumbing to severe illnesses or dying. The situation would have been different had the severe side effects been well understood and not been overlooked by those who took decisions. But was that so? Was any negative advice given by any expert body suppressed? Was there anything essential and equally actionable that ought to have been shared with state governments? If not, the balance of advantage was clearly in favour of accelerating the vaccination drive.

We were fortunate we did not see a forceful anti-vaccine movement which could have impeded the gargantuan outreach needed to vaccinate India's massive population. Dispersed across overcrowded cities and over six lakh villages, the public health response was naturally to prevent large-scale morbidity and mortality. That was non-negotiable. To expect families and communities to make a choice would have put millions at risk. In the absence of data on age or geography, it would have been a wild-goose chase which could have derailed the programme. District health workers in India's 800-odd districts, having a population of about 20 lakh each, already had their hands full.

At times, the good (in this case, monitoring side effects), could have become the enemy of the great (vaccination of millions at risk). Indeed, for India, that is the moment of truth!



By: SHAHNAZ HUSAIN

Milk, a common household item, has been used for many centuries as a natural beauty product. Its benefits for skin have endured the test of time.

Milk consists of nourishing and moisturising properties. It helps in maintaining the health of your skin. It also helps in treating most of your skin concerns.

It's packed with vitamins A and D, as well as lactic acid. Some of these components are popular skin care additives. Drinking milk can also contribute to healthy, radiant skin.

Milk is considered a miracle drink to control melanin production and to achieve a fair, glowing and flawless complexion. It is one of the most nutrient-rich foods which is packed with proteins, enzymes, vitamins, minerals and lactic acid that works effectively for lighter, blemish and acne-free skin.. Milk helps to nourish and soften the skin. It contains many Vitamins and

MILK FOR HAIR AND SKIN

minerals which are very necessary for healthy skin. Milk also contains alpha hydroxy acid, which actually helps to reduce blemishes and has an anti-tan effect on the skin. Cotton wool soaked in cold milk can be used to wipe the skin to remove tan and soothe the skin. Cold milk applied daily, using cotton wool, not only helps to soothe the skin but also keeps it soft. It also makes the skin colour lighter over a period of time, if used daily. It would suit normal to dry skin.

If you have a sunburn, applying milk to your skin can provide relief. The proteins in milk form a protective layer on the skin, reducing pain and redness associated with sunburn.

Turmeric and Raw Milk Face Pack ----Take: 2 tablespoons of raw milk and 1 teaspoon of turmeric powder. Apply the mixture on the face and wash it after 15 minutes. Use it twice a week, It will lighten your skin and give radiant look.

Turmeric is known for its anti-inflammatory and brightening properties. When combined with the moisturizing effect of raw milk, this face pack becomes a potent solution for reducing blemishes and dark spots.

Take two to three tablespoons of cold raw milk, add half a tablespoon of glycerine into it and mix it up. Apply on the face and lips with a cotton ball, and let it dry for 30 minutes. Wash your face with fresh water. It will result in smooth and glowing skin and your skin will remain

moisturised throughout the day.

Milk also contains lactic acid, which nourishes and moisturises the skin and helps to delay the visible signs of ageing. Milk can be added to face packs very easily. However, it suits normal to dry skin more. Soak Lotus flowers in 3 to 4 tablespoons of warm milk for an hour. Crush the flowers with your fingers. Add three teaspoons of gram flour (besan) and mix it with the milk and crushed flowers into a paste. Apply on the face, avoiding the lips and area around the eyes. Wash it off after 20 to 30 minutes. Raw milk should be used on the face for beauty care. Boiling the milk destroys several nutrients. For a face pack. Add 2/3rd tsp of gram flour to raw milk and mix well. Add very little honey and rose to the mixture. Apply on the face and wash off with water after 10 minutes.

It contains different kinds of proteins. How to Apply Milk on the Face?---- Start with cleansing your skin using a face wash. Dip a cotton ball o into milk and apply it gently to your face. Gently massage the milk into your skin in circular motions. Allow it to sit for 10-15 minutes. Rinse your face with lukewarm water and pat dry.

Milk for Hair ----- Hair is also made up of a protein matter called keratin. Therefore, protein in milk is beneficial for the hair, in terms of adding strength and body. Milk also contains fats, which help to soften and smoothen the

hair. It is of particular benefit to dry hair, as well as hair that has been subjected to chemical treatments. Milk also contains vitamins and minerals, which are nourishing for the hair. Many of them are powerful antioxidants and nourish the hair follicles.

Milk can be applied on the hair to nourish and soften it and also to give it a healthy lustre. If the hair has been subjected to sun-damage, applying milk would help to nourish, soften and restore health to it.

After your shampoo, rinse the hair with milk and leave on for 5 minutes. Then rinse off with plain water. It would help to add body and shine to the hair.

For extremely dry hair, add a little milk to egg yolk and apply on the hair half an hour before shampoo. This is a wonderful nourishing treatment for dry hair. The hair looks soft, smooth and shiny.

A pre-shampoo treatment can also be done with a hair pack containing powdered milk. Add a little water to make a thick paste. Apply it on the hair. Then dip a towel in hot water, squeeze out the water and wrap the hot towel around the head, like a turban. Keep it on for 5 minutes. Repeat the hot towel wrap 3 or 4 times. This helps the hair and scalp absorb the pack bet.

(The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India)

Numerous women joined ranks of JKPC

Top News Report

BARAMULLA, May 13: In a significant development, a wave of women has surged towards the Jammu and Kashmir People's Conference (JKPC), marking a notable shift in the political landscape. Today, amidst an atmosphere of enthusiasm and determination, numerous women officially joined the ranks of the JKPC, underscoring their commitment to the party's vision and mission.

The event, graced by the presence of former Councillor and JKPC leader Nighat Mir, served as a testament to the growing influence and appeal of the party among women in the region.



Mir's presence not only underscored her pivotal role within the party but also highlighted the inclusive ethos championed by the JKPC.

Addressing the gathering, Nighat Mir expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the newly joined members and emphasized

the crucial role women play in shaping the political discourse and driving positive change.

She articulated the party's unwavering commitment to gender equality, promising to provide a platform for women to actively participate in decision-making pro-

cesses and contribute to the betterment of society.

The influx of women into the JKPC signals a broader societal shift towards greater female empowerment and participation in politics, reflecting a desire for change and progress. It also underscores the

trust and confidence reposed by women in the leadership and vision of the JKPC, as they embark on a collective journey towards a brighter and more inclusive future for Jammu and Kashmir.

As the political landscape continues to evolve, the increasing representation of women within the JKPC stands as a beacon of hope and inspiration, reaffirming the party's commitment to fostering a more equitable and just society.

With Nighat Mir's guidance and the collective resolve of its members, the JKPC is poised to continue its transformative journey, driven by the values of democracy, equality, and empowerment.

Inter school zonal level tournament commences at Zone Miran Sahib

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: Inter school zonal level tournament for Under-4 and Under-17 years boys and girls, organized by the Department of Youth Services and Sports Zone Miran Sahib in the sports discipline of Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Volleyball, Chess, Badminton, Handball, Basketball, Wrestling under the supervision of Joginder Sharma ZPEO Miran Sahib at Govt. Boys High School Simbal from May 13 to 20, 2024.

The tournament was inaugurated by Kuldeep Raj Sharma Headmaster of the host school, in

the presence of Joginder Sharma ZPEO Miran Sahib and other fields staff of zone Miran Sahib.

The Chief Guest congratulated all the participants for taking part in sports activities at various levels and counted them the benefits of these sports events.

Speaking on this opening ceremony, Joginder Sharma congratulated all team participants for playing under sportsmanship during whole journey and assured them in future the department will try to organise such tournaments in more sports events.

Today 550 players from different schools of Zone

Miran Sahib are participating in the tournament.

The matches were officiating by following official of zone Miran Sahib Hardeep Kour PEM, Gurmeet Singh PEM, Ravinder Singh Bali PEM, Ravinder Singh PEM, Kuldeep Kour PEM, Nisha Sharma PEM, Iqbal Kour PEM, Anil Singh PEM, Amolak Singh PET, Navneet Singh PET, Mukta Gupta PET, Ravinder Kumar PET, Gurmeet Singh PET, Anit Kour PET, Raghunandan REK, Koushal Sharma REK, Gagandeep Singh REK, Ambika Sharma REK, Nadani Sharma REK and Shubham Bakshi GM.

Shoolini University excels in SCIMAGO Institutions Rankings 2024

Top News Report

SOLAN/JAMMU, May 13: Shoolini University, Solan, has registered exceptional performance in the SCIMAGO Institutions Rankings 2024, with an impressive performance reflecting unwavering commitment to academic excellence.

The University has clinched the top spots in Chemistry, Physics, and Astronomy, reaffirming its stronghold in these fields nationally. This outstanding achievement reflects the tireless dedication of the faculty and students towards pushing the boundaries of knowledge and innovation.

The latest rankings showcase a remarkable advancement in the university's global standing, with an impressive overall rank of 1492, marking a significant rise from its position at 1561 in 2023.

In the Asian region, Shoolini has surged to 496th place from 540th, solidifying its stature as a premier educational institution. Furthermore, the university has made substantial strides in the BRICS region, climbing to 332nd place from 384th, further amplifying its influence on the global stage. Notably, in India, Shoolini University has secured the 29th rank in the overall global standings.

In the category of Global research, Shoolini University has showcased remarkable progress, securing a global research rank of 739, a substantial improvement from 890 in the previous year. In India the university continues to lead the way, maintaining its position at 7th place in research excellence.

Furthermore, the university has demonstrated

prowess in various subject areas, with exemplary performances in Mechanical Engineering, Environmental Science, and Energy, among others.

In the category of Innovation, Shoolini has garnered global recognition, securing 2920th place globally, and notable positions in the Asian, BRICS, and Indian regions.

Chancellor Shoolini University Prof PK Khosla congratulated all the faculty and staff for Shoolini's performance in Scimago ranking. However, he said, "we have still to work hard for achieving leader's position in India".

Pro Chancellor Shoolini University, Vishal Anand, complimented the researchers and added that the importance of research is driving innovation and progress. He further said that the

research is at the heart of Shoolini University's mission.

Vice Chancellor Shoolini University, Prof Atul Khosla, commended the faculty and students for their dedication to academic excellence. Prof Khosla further added that our faculty's expertise and the hard work of our students have been instrumental in achieving these outstanding subject-wise rankings. "We remain committed to providing a nurturing environment for learning and research", he added.

Sourabh Kulshreshtha Dean Research and Development Shoolini University said that the university has improved rankings in most of the parameters in comparison to last year and extended his congratulations to the entire Shoolini family for this remarkable success.

EuroKids Preschool hosts Mother's Day celebrations

Top News Report

MUMBAI/JAMMU, May 13: EuroKids Preschool, the country's foremost preschool expert, embraced the joy of Mother's Day with heartfelt celebrations, securing over 2200 children across 100+ centres in a series of meaningful activities. The aim of this delightful event was to create lasting memories for mothers and their children while fostering a sense of love, appreciation, and togetherness.

Mother's Day is a significant occasion to acknowledge and appreciate the unwavering love and dedication of mothers. EuroKids recognizes it as an ideal opportunity to introduce young minds to the concept of expressing gratitude and to nurture the special bond between a mother and her child. The Mother's

Day celebrations were thoughtfully curated to provide a perfect avenue for children to express their love and affection.

The day was filled with engaging activities designed to strengthen the mother-child bond. A vibrant music and movement session had mothers and children dancing and singing together. Children gave heartfelt performances dedicated to their mothers, and there were multiple fun games conducted, further enhancing the joyful atmosphere. An arts & crafts session followed, allowing them to create masterpieces side by side, with palm painting activities and greeting card making being particularly popular. Mothers and children used their creativity to craft beautiful keepsakes together, making it a wonderful blend of fun, creativ-

ity, and bonding that left cherished memories for both.

Commenting on the celebration, KVS Sesha-sai, CEO, Pre-K Division, Lighthouse Learning (EuroKids), remarked, "At EuroKids, we understand the profound impact mothers have on their children's development, both intellectually and emotionally. Our Mother's Day celebrations were a heartfelt tribute to the first teachers in children's lives. It was a joyous occasion filled with love, togetherness, and cherished moments. We were delighted to have mothers join us in this celebration, as children expressed their gratitude through gifts and performances, making the day truly unforgettable."

This Mother's Day celebration served as a testament to the enduring love and gratitude shared within the EuroKids family. Through such celebrations, EuroKids reaffirms its commitment to nurturing young minds with essential 21st-century skills.

'Peace in J&K facilitating good poll per cent in LS elections' Bloodshed may return if dynasts return to power: Khatana

Top News Report

NEW DELHI/JAMMU, May 13: Peaceful polling with good poll per cent in the ongoing Lok Sabha (LS) elections in Jammu and Kashmir is only possible due to the prevailing peace and normalcy in the Union Territory (UT).

This was stated by the senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament (MP) Rajya Sabha, Gulam Ali Khatana in a press statement issued at National Capital New Delhi.

He further said that people of Rajouri-Poonch should not support the Political Parties like National Conference (NC) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) which

work exclusively for the interests of a single family as such Political Parties will give nothing to the people except hollow promises.

Khatana said that voting for the dynasts will bring back the stone pelting, protest calendars, killings and the era of bloodshed will again return to J&K.

"BJP has worked a lot for bringing peace and normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir," he maintained adding: "It was only BJP which has worked for all the sections of the society without any discrimination."

The BJP leader said that in the last ten years of the government led by BJP with PM Modi at the

helm, our country has witnessed remarkable developments in every field and empowerment of common public was ensured.

"The third term for PM Modi will take the nation to newer heights which a common man can't even think of and there will be much for every Indian ranging from better education facilities, better healthcare, housing for all to unlimited job avenues in a peaceful and progressive atmosphere," he continued.

Khatana said that a good citizen should not sit at home on the polling day but should vote to a proper candidate taking it as his moral responsibility.

ZPEO Basohli organizes Inter School Zonal Level Competition

Top News Report

BASOHLI, May 13: With the direction and overall supervision of DYSSO Kathua Sunil Singh Sambyal, Inter School Zonal Level tournament held at GMHSS Basohli on Monday under the chairmanship of Principal GMHSS Basohli Lalit Kumar Sharma and Tara Singh Incharge ZPEO with the cooperation of field staff in Kabaddi, Volleyball, Chess, Foot-ball and Wrestling.

A total of 719 players are taking part in Zonal level tournament.

The tournament was inaugurated by Vice Principal of Higher Secondary School Bhoond, Dev Raj along with physical education staff at block Bhoond.

The event showcased the talent and competitive spirit of the participating youth. The competition was held in various disciplines namely Kabaddi, Volleyball, Chess, Foot-ball and Wrestling.

As you embark on this new journey, we want you to know that we have every confidence in your abilities. You are capable, talented, and driven, and you have all the qualities necessary to achieve greatness, wished the JKBS Members'.

JKBS members felicitate Vicky Kaith



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha (JKBS) members visited the Music Factory of Vicky Kaith in Bhagwati Nagar here on Monday and felicitated him with a 'Certificate of Achieve-

ment'.

JKBS General Secretary R.L.Kaith said: "We are so thrilled to hear that you reached your goal. You inspire by having such ambitious dreams, then putting in the hard work to achieve them. May success follow you every step of

UIPS students achieve outstanding results in CBSE Exams with 100% Results

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: Unique International Public School (UIPS) is thrilled to announce the exceptional performance of its students in the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) examinations, achieving a perfect 100% pass rate in both 10th and 12th grades.

The school is proud to recognize Akshita Gupta, daughter of Prem Kumar as the top scorer, securing an impressive 97% in the exams.

The dedication and hard work of the students at Unique International Public School have been exemplified through the remarkable achievement of other top performers



as well. Navgun Singh, son of Taran Singh, and Nupur Mahajan daughter of Prem Kumar have both excelled with scores above 95% showcasing the consistent academic excellence fostered by the school.

Chairperson's his excitement, stating, "We are immensely proud of our students' achievements in the CBSE examinations. This out-

GDC Budhal organises lecture to raise awareness about 'MCC for General Elections'

Top News Report

BUDHAL, May 13: The NSS Unit of Government Degree College (GDC) Budhal organized an extension lecture on Monday on the topic "The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) for General Elections 2024".

The lecture aimed to educate students about the significance and implementation of the Model Code of Conduct, especially in the context of the upcoming elections in the Anantnag-Rajouri

parliamentary constituency scheduled for May 25, 2024.

The event commenced with a cordial welcome address presented by Prof. Tahir Nadeem, the NSS Programme Officer of the College. Dr. Shokit Ali, HOD Urdu efficiently managed the proceedings of the event.

Prof. Atal Bharti, HOD Physics served as the distinguished resource person for the lecture. He provided valuable insights into the Model Code of Conduct and its

application in ensuring free and fair elections.

He initiated the session by elucidating the key provisions and objectives of the Model Code of Conduct, emphasizing its role in regulating the conduct of political parties, candidates and election officials during the electoral process. He shed light on the significance of the Model Code of Conduct in upholding the democratic principles of transparency, accountability and fairness in elections.

The resource person also highlighted the enforcement mechanisms and penalties associated with violations of the Model Code of Conduct.

Other notable faculty members attending the event included Prof. Ishfaq Ahmed Bhat, HOD Kashmiri; Prof. Qamar Rabani Chowdhary, HOD History; Dr. Altaf Hussain, HOD Chemistry; Altaf Hussain, Lecturer in History; Anamika Sharma, Lecturer in Computer Applications, Dr. Mohd

Adrius Anjum, PTI and Alyas Hussain Shah, Lecturer in Urdu.

The event culminated with a formal vote of thanks presented by Dr. Altaf Hussain, HOD Chemistry.

In acknowledgment of the NSS Unit's efforts in organizing the event, the College Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Mohd Mazammal Hussain expressed that such events are of utmost importance for spreading awareness, particularly during these election times.

In Chandigarh, chef Karl Whittaker talks about how just a little twist here and there makes any dish worth its while

It's not every day that we look at food on our tables from a different perspective. What is considered as the basic necessity of life is so much more! Food is history, geography, culture, art, politics, trade, identity and also expression. As Olive Café and Bar's head chef Karl Whittaker expresses his interpretation of 'How India Changed the World: Global Journey of Foods' through a five-course meal, we relished the experience!

Curated by the esteemed food columnist and historian Anoothi Vishal, complemented by Indri Trini, India's first triple-cask single malt whisky, retraces the ancient routes between India and the Mediterranean world meticulously. Mind you, this is not Anoothi's first time with this concept. She has conceptualised the whole idea, thanks to her thorough research on how Indian food and ingredients influenced global palate in more ways than we knew.

Anoothi doesn't have a favourite pick as a dish because each serving blends, geography, history and trade. She explained, "We have collaborated with many big hotels and restaur-

ants in the past, and each time I have been surprised by the chef. To be honest, I have been columnist for a long time and in this digital age when everything is about experience, I wanted to create such a food experience for people which is not just unforgettable, but also leaves you with a better knowledge of India's rich food culture. There's no better way than serving history with food and create a dialogue, as food is subjective to each person."

Perfect recipe

Meanwhile, each course was dedicated to an ingredient or food item that's global, but somehow traces its roots back to India. For instance, Karl's most interesting dish, Pan-fried Chilean sea bass (for non-vegetarians) and caramelised cauliflower steak (vegetarians) included Vadouvan spice, a special spice mix from Pondicherry that travelled to France because of colonisation and trade. He created French Buerre Blanc recipe with Vadouvan spice calling the dish — Over the Pond (cherry)!

Then there was a tribute to rice and barley, ancient grains of Vedic Indian cultures, called



Barley a Risotto, which was served with onion and sugarcane glazed chicken breast or grilled cottage cheese for non-vegetarian and vegetarian choices. Many do not know how rice and barley travelled the world to give us uber-trendy Buddha bowls, paellas and risottos.

For the dessert, Anoothi recalled a story of 'amber coloured rocks',

aka world's first crystal sugar discovered by Greek travellers in the wake of Alexander's invasion. Karl interpreted this historical story by serving the dessert Mango Rum Baba, combining Indian seasonal fruit mango and rum. Just like crystal sugar, molasses, from which rum is produced, this was created from sugarcane. Karl explained,

"We all know how gluten-free desserts are often dry. But creating Mango Rum Baba was pure delight as each bite would give an experience of rum-soaked gluten-free sponge. It has mango compote stung, mango cream coating, ginger crumble, mango sorbet, mango tuile and as if this wasn't enough, the topping was of fresh mango and mint."

Mouth-watering fare

Talking of another special dish 'Peposo for Pliny', Karl was excited to see how they would enjoy this Italian dish, which make use of pepper, an ingredient traded from India in ancient times. He said, "I feel that here people like overcooked lamb, but it's not how the lamb should be presented. This one is a typical Florentine dish of meat braised in red wine, stock and black pepper. The name Peposo means peppery in Italian. For the meat-lovers, I made red wine and black pepper braised lamb, topped with lamb tallow chimichurri, creamy white bean puree and fried lady finger, whereas for vegetarians, lamb has been replaced with oyster mushrooms."

Jennifer Aniston pays ode to 'Friends' character Rachel Green's 'iconic' hair accessories



Actress Jennifer Aniston has expressed love for her Friends character Rachel Green and her

iconic hairstyles. The Morning Show star, 55, took to Instagram along with her haircare brand and shared throwback photos of her hair, styled with clips and hairbands throughout the different seasons of the popular show, which aired from 1994 to 2004.

The actress started off her Instagram carousel post with a shot of her hair in one of the earlier seasons of the show — when she also premiered her infamous signature Rachel haircut — styled in an updo with an unseen clip.

also showed her hair styled in a half-up, half-down hairstyle and tied with a silver clip into a ponytail. Additional snaps showed the actress with longer hair during the series, which was styled with at least three smaller clips that held her hair back and styled in a more complicated updo with a headband and a clip. "The clips that caused a million trends. Shout out to Rachel Green and her iconic hair accessories," she captioned the post. In September 2023, Jennifer celebrated her brand's second anniversary on Instagram with adorable pictures.

Jennifer Lopez denies 'This is Me Now' tour woes after poor sales claims

Singer-actress Jennifer Lopez is all set to start her tour and is excited to see her fans at the shows. The 54-year-old hitmaker will be performing across North America with her This is Me Now tour, starting next month.

Some reports claimed that the promoter behind the tour recently suggested that all 30 dates should be cancelled due to poor sales, but the pop princess was adamant it should go ahead.

A source informed that there were discussions about 'multiple options' regarding the tour and that everyone involved, including the organisers, the talent, and management, decided the shows would not be cancelled.

While seat maps on Ticketmaster seem to show a number of seats still available at some venues, includ-



ing San Antonio and Dallas, Texas, some of the dates are selling 'incredibly well'.

Shruti Haasan: The number of Hindi & Tamil songs with English lyrics is huge & no one is questioning that; it's baffling

Actor-musician Shruti Haasan has been singing since the age of five but eventually found her calling in making independent English music out of her passion. While she is also known for her acting projects in Tamil, Telugu and Hindi film industry, she feels English music hasn't reached its potential audience yet in India.

Recently, musician Ananya Birla, announced she is quitting music, also made an appeal to people for giving Indian made English music a chance.

Talking about the state of Indian English music, Shruti, who released her first Independent English song The Edge in 2020, says, "It's much better than it was when I started out, but the legitimate Indian English music is not in a great place. I understand the value regional independent music."



The 38-year-old cites the example of the popular Bollywood track Desi Girl, and makes an interesting observation: "The number of Hindi and

Tamil songs that have English lyrics is huge and no one is questioning that. It's baffling for me. It's cute when you mix it with something and I understand that too but when it comes to an English song, I find an aversion to it which I find strange."

Shruti, whose songs include HER and Toxic also shares that when she started out as an indie musician, people thought it was a "bad idea" but now people are more open to it. She also states the difference in regional music's reach as compared to English music's reach with the help of her own songs.

"I had a release called Monster Machine in English last year and this year I had a release called Inimel in Tamil. Both are in the independent music space but the reach of Inimel song as well as the

video was higher," says Shruti, adding, "I know that the reach of an English or Hindi song would be higher. I make English music because I am passionate about it. That is the language I can write in my songs. I can sing in many languages. In my music I try to very organically bring in the influences and the things that make me who I am as Indian English musician."

Asked her about the obstacles that home-made English music face, and Shruti is quick to call out the bias. "However, ultimately the audience and their support truly drives and determines that change. I think of the audience supports artists more, stream more and go to their gigs and support live English music more it would make a huge difference," says the actor, who was last seen in Salaar Part 1.

Anup Soni warns fans against his 'fake video' from 'Crime Patrol' promoting IPL betting

Actor Anup Soni said a video doing rounds on social media of him promoting Indian Premier League (IPL) betting is "completely fake" and warned fans to be wary of "manipulated" content on the Internet.

The purported clip has been lifted from his popular show 'Crime Patrol', he said.

In the video, which seems to have been edited using Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology, Soni can be seen endorsing a Telegram group to place bets during the ongoing IPL matches.

Soni said perpetrators manipulated his voice in an old video of Sony TV's long-running true crime anthology series 'Crime Patrol' to serve their interest.

"This is a complete fake video and we all have to be alert as to how and to what extent things are



getting manipulated these days. "The voice totally seems like I'm only saying. Even video clips are from 'Crime Patrol'. Please be alert people," Soni said in a statement.

He is the latest public figure whose videos have been tampered

using AI. In the last few months, actors Aamir Khan, Ranveer Singh, Allu Arjun, Ashutosh Rana, Katrina Kaif and Rashmika Mandanna as well as Union Home Minister Amit Shah have also fallen prey to the deepfake technology.

Lady Gaga's concert film set to premiere after two-year wait

Nearly two years after its initial announcement, Lady Gaga's highly anticipated Chromatica Ball concert film is set to premiere later this month, marking the culmination of a lengthy wait for fans worldwide.

Originally unveiled in 2022, the concert film will feature electrifying footage from Gaga's global tour, showcasing the vibrant music and visual extravagance of her 2020 album, Chromatica. The film will capture the essence of tour, a spectacle that graced stadiums across the globe.

Scheduled for release on May 28, the movie



will debut on HBO. In a teaser trailer for the film,

Gaga exclaims, "Put your hands up, come on!" Originally slated for a summer 2020 debut, the Chromatica Ball tour faced postponement due to the COVID-19. Gaga affectionately refers to her fans as 'monsters,' expressing gratitude for their unwavering support. She emphasised the film's immersive experience, encouraging fans to see themselves reflected in every aspect of the production, from vocals to choreography.

As both director and producer of the film, Gaga's announcement of the film in September 2022 reignited anticipation among fans.

INDIA bloc leaders scared of Pakistan's nuclear power: PM Modi

The remarks come in the backdrop of comments by Farooq Abdullah about Pakistan having atom bombs and not wearing bangles.

MUZAFFARPUR/HAJIPUR, May 13 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday lashed out at the opposition INDIA bloc, calling its leaders "cowards" who were "scared of Pakistan's nuclear power".

Addressing an election rally in Muzaffarpur Lok Sabha constituency of Bihar, Modi made an apparent reference to a recent statement of National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah, without mentioning him by name.

"The INDIA bloc seems to have leaders who are scared of Pakistan and have nightmares of its nuclear power," he said.

The remarks come in the backdrop of comments by Abdullah about Pakistan having atom bombs and not wearing bangles.

"If Pakistan does not wear bangles, we will make the country wear these. I knew they did not have food grains. Now, I come to know they do not even have adequate supply of bangles," the PM said.

"But, we must look carefully at the opposition which seems to be full of cowards and timid people, who give a clean chit to Pakistan on terrorism, raise



doubts on surgical strikes their Left allies even want our nuclear arsenal to be dismantled," he said.

Earlier, addressing an election rally in Hajipur Lok Sabha constituency, Modi said the money recovered in raids against politicians 'belonged to the country's poor'.

"I will tell you why they are crying hoarse against the action of agencies like the ED. During the previous Congress regime, the ED seized only Rs 35 lakh, which could be contained in a school bag. Ever since we took over, the agency has recovered Rs 2,200 crore, which would require 70 small

trucks to be carried," said the PM.

Modi said unlike his opponents, who were concerned about promoting their offspring, "I have no 'waaris' (successor). The common people are my 'waaris'."

He reiterated the charge that parties like the Congress and RJD, which 'allowed extortion and kidnapping to flourish' while in power, will 'give away reservations' to Muslims 'to pursue their vote bank politics', but added that "as long as I am alive, I will not let this happen".

"Kidnapping and extortion flourished during the RJD rule in Bihar...NDA fights for social justice, 60 per cent Union ministers from OBC/SC/ST categories," he asserted.

The prime minister also accused the opposition parties of deliberately hurting people's sentiments by making obnoxious statements about the Ram temple in Ayodhya.

Speaking on a day when the fourth phase of Lok Sabha elections were underway, he urged the people to turn out in large numbers and vote for the NDA to enable formation of a strong government.

In his speech, Modi also touched upon his government's track record on development, citing construction of highways at a rapid rate and underscoring commitment to social justice and empowerment, while accusing the opposition of trying to put hurdles in the way of measures like women's reservations.

Fondly recalling late Ram Vilas Paswan, his former cabinet colleague, whose son Chirag is contesting from Hajipur, Modi called upon people to vote for the young leader and ensure his victory with a margin that could beat his father's record-breaking wins.

My family works for Rae Bareli, PM Modi for Adani, Ambani: Rahul



worked to improve the lives of people in Rae Bareli.

Considered a Gandhi family bastion, the Rae Bareli seat had been represented by senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi since 2004.

The constituency was earlier represented by former prime ministers Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi.

In his address, Rahul Gandhi also accused the media of not showing the problems faced by farmers and unemployed youngsters and instead giving prominence to wedding functions in top industrialists' families.

He said if the INDIA bloc comes to power, a list of poor families would be compiled and Rs 1 lakh annually -- or Rs 8,500 per month -- transferred in the bank account of one woman in each such family.

Gandhi also said an INDIA bloc government would waive the loans of small farmers and legalised common minimum support price would be provided to them.

He reiterated that the Agniveer scheme of short-duration recruitment in the defence forces would be done away and youngsters would be provided permanent jobs in the armed forces with pension provisions.

Gandhi said youngsters would get one year of apprenticeship in public sector organisations and later, based on their merit, permanent government jobs.

Rae Bareli will go to polls in the fifth phase of the Lok Sabha election on May 20. The BJP has fielded Uttar Pradesh minister Dinesh Pratap Singh from the seat.

2 killed, 15 injured after military truck collides with two vehicles in Madhya Pradesh's Rajgarh

RAJGARH, May 13 (Agencies): Two persons were killed and 15 injured in a collision between a military truck and two other vehicles in Madhya Pradesh's Rajgarh district on Monday morning, police said.

The accident occurred on National Highway-46 near Pilukhedi under the Kurawar police station area, an official said.

Prima facie, the accident occurred after one of the tyres of the military truck burst, causing it to collide with a private bus and an SUV, Kurawar Police Station



in-charge Mehtab Singh Thakur said.

Om Kori (23), the cleaner of the bus, and passenger Hariom Shivhare (26) died on the spot, while 15 per-

sons, including two military personnel, sustained injuries.

The injured military personnel were referred to Bhopal for treatment, he said.

SC issues notice to ED on ex-Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren's petition against his arrest in money-laundering case

NEW DELHI, May 13 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Monday issued notice to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on former Jharkhand Chief Minister and JMM leader Hemant Soren's petition challenging his arrest in a money-laundering case linked to a land scam.

A Bench of Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Dipankar Datta asked the ED to respond to Soren's petition by May 17, the next date of hearing.

Initially, the Bench was not inclined to take up the matter before May 20 but it agreed to list it on May 17 after senior counsel Kapil Sibal sub-

mitted on behalf of Soren that the whole exercise would become infructuous if there was delay in deciding the petition as the Lok Sabha election would be over.

Sibal sought to emphasise that Soren's prayer for release was covered by the top court's May 10 order granting a three-week interim bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to campaign in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls.

Polling for 14 Lok Sabha seats in Jharkhand is scheduled to be held in four phases -- May 13 (4 seats), May 20 (3 seats), May 25 (4 seats) and June 1 (three seats).

Earlier, Justice Khanna

asked Sibal if Soren was in possession of the land in question.

"I was never in possession of the land... I have nothing to do with the land. This statement can be recorded," Sibal told the Bench.

Soren has challenged the May 3 order of the Jharkhand High Court dismissing his petition against the arrest. He has also sought interim bail for campaigning in the Lok Sabha election till the court delivers its verdict on his plea against arrest.

Soren was arrested on January 31 in the case after he resigned as Jharkhand chief minister, and party loyalist and state transport min-



ister Champai Soren was named his successor.

Soren is lodged in judicial custody at the Birsa Munda Central Jail in Ranchi.

The ED has alleged that "huge amounts of proceeds of crime" were generated by Soren through manipulation of official records by showing dummy sellers

and purchasers in the guise of forged/bogus documents to acquire huge parcels of land having value in crores of rupees.

On May 10, the Bench had disposed of his petition seeking a direction to the high court to deliver its verdict on his petition challenging his arrest by the ED in a money-laundering case as it had become infructuous in view of the fact that the high court delivered its judgement on May 3 and the JMM leader had already challenged it in the top court.

Soren has contended that the high court erred in dismissing his plea against the arrest.

Three Naxalites killed in encounter with police in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli

GADCHIROLI, May 13 (Agencies): Three Naxalites, including two females, were killed in an encounter with security forces in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district on Monday, police said.

An intelligence input was received that some members of the Perimili Dalam of Naxalites were camping in a forest near Katrangatta village in Bhamragad taluka with an aim to carry out subversive activities during their ongoing



After the firing stopped, bodies of a male and two female Naxalites were recovered from the spot, he said.

One of them was identified as Vasu, in-charge and commander of the Perimili Dalam, the official said.

An AK-47 rifle, a carbine, an INSAS rifle, Naxal literature and items were also found at the spot, he said.

The anti-Naxal operation was underway in the area, the police added.

Naxalites undertake the TCOC from March-June to strengthen their cadres and launch major attacks on security forces as forests are devoid of green cover, thereby increasing visibility.

Journalist shot dead in UP's Jaunpur

Family sources said that the journalist had written to officers at the Shahganj police station a month ago and requested protection but the cops did not pay heed to his request.

JAUNPUR, May 13 (Agencies): A 43-year-old journalist and BJP leader was shot dead in the Shahganj area of Jaunpur district in Uttar Pradesh on Monday, police said.

Ashutosh Srivastava, a native of Sabarhad village and correspondent of Sudarshan News was on his way to Imranganj market around 9.30 am when unidentified assailants shot him at the intersection near Jaun-

pur-Shahganj Road, Circle Officer (Shahganj) Ajit Singh Chauhan said.

Family sources said Srivastava had written to officers at the Shahganj police station a month ago and requested protection but the cops did not pay heed to his request.

Following the murder, locals held a protest by blocking the road. The protest was lifted following assurances by officials

that the matter will be looked into.

Local journalists said Srivastava was writing against cow slaughter in the area. He had received several threats from smugglers and informed the police about these in writing.

Superintendent of Police Ajay Pal Sharma said a team has been deployed to nab the assailants.

The Jaunpur Patrakar Sangh

has condemned the murder and demanded that the killers be arrested as soon as possible.

It has also demanded that the state government provide Rs 50 lakh in compensation to his family.

'Srivastava was murdered due to the careless working style of the police. Legal action should be taken against the police officers responsible, the journalists' body said.

Sporadic incidents of violence mar fourth phase polling in Bengal, BJP candidate Dilip Ghosh heckled



KOLKATA, May 13 (Agencies): Sporadic incidents of violence marred the fourth phase of Lok Sabha polls in the eight parliamentary constituencies of West Bengal on Monday as TMC and BJP workers clashed in various parts of violence-hit Birbhum and Bardhaman-Durgapur seats.

Although the poll panel claimed that voting has been peaceful so far, it said it had received 1,088 complaints from different political parties alleging EVM malfunctioning and agents being stopped from entering booths.

The TMC, however, denied the charges and claimed Ghosh was "trying to vitiate the atmosphere sensing defeat."

Clashes broke out between supporters of TMC and BJP in Monteswar's Susunia area of Bardhaman-Durgapur Lok Sabha seat around noon, as BJP candidate Dilip Ghosh was on his way to a polling booth following complaints of booth jamming.

As Ghosh was on his way, TMC supporters blocked his convoy and squatted in front of his vehicle, starting a protest against him. Stones were hurled at his convoy, following which some of the cars of the security personnel tailing his convoy were damaged.

Ghosh was also heckled by the TMC activists, sources claimed.

"Police are just mute spectators. The TMC has let loose a reign of terror. Since morning, TMC goons have beaten up our polling agents and are not allowing polling to be free and fair," Ghosh told reporters.

The TMC, BJP, and Congress-CPI (M) alliance lodged complaints respectively related to poll violence, voter intimidation, and assaults on poll agents in the first few hours of polling, sources from both parties said.

In some areas, TMC workers staged a protest following allegations that central forces were assisting BJP workers in intimidating voters at some booths of Birbhum. A voter turnout of 51 per cent was registered in eight Lok Sabha constituencies of West Bengal till 1 pm on Monday, an Election Commission official said.

More bodies found in Indonesia after flash floods killed dozens and submerged homes

The floods swept away people and submerged nearly 200 houses and buildings

PADANG (INDONESIA), May 13 (Agencies): Rescuers recovered more bodies Monday after monsoon rains triggered flash floods on Indonesia's Sumatra Island, bringing down torrents of cold lava and mud, leaving 41 people dead and another 17 missing.

The heavy rains, along with a landslide of mud and cold lava from Mount Marapi, caused a river to breach its banks.

The deluge tore through mountainside villages along four districts in West Sumatra province just before midnight Saturday. The floods swept away people and submerged nearly 200 houses and buildings, some severely damaged, said National Disaster Management Agency spokesperson Abdul Muhamad.

Cold lava, also known as lahar, is a mixture of volcanic material and pebbles that flow down a volcano's slopes in the rain.

Rescuers on Monday recovered more bodies, mostly from villages that were worst hit in Agam and Tanah Datar



districts, bringing the death toll to 41, said Ilham Wahab who heads the West Sumatra Disaster Mitigation Agency.

"Bad weather, damaged roads and access that blocked by thick mud and debris were hampering relief efforts," Wahab said.

He said at least 19 people were injured in the flash floods and rescuers are searching for 17 villagers reported missing.

Flash floods on Saturday night also caused main roads around

the Anai Valley Waterfall area in Tanah Datar district to be blocked by mud, cutting off access to other cities, Padang Panjang Police Chief Kartyana Putra said on Sunday.

Videos released by the National Search and Rescue Agency showed roads that were transformed into murky brown rivers and villages covered by thick mud, rocks, and uprooted trees.

Heavy rains cause frequent landslides and flash floods in Indonesia, an archipelago

nation of more than 17,000 islands where millions of people live in mountainous areas or near floodplains.

The disaster came just two months after heavy rains triggered flash floods and a landslide in West Sumatra, killing at least 26 people and leaving 11 others missing.

A surprise eruption of Mount Marapi late last year killed 23 climbers. Marapi is known for sudden eruptions that are difficult to predict because the source is shallow and near the peak, and its eruptions aren't caused by a deep movement of magma, which sets off tremors that register on seismic monitors, according to Indonesia's Center for Volcanology and Geological Disaster Mitigation.

Marapi has been active since an eruption in January 2024 that caused no casualties. It is among more than 120 active volcanoes in Indonesia. The country is prone to seismic upheaval because of its location on the Pacific "Ring of Fire," an arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the Pacific Basin.

A plane with 3 aboard lands without landing gear at an Australian airport after burning off fuel



MELBOURNE, May 13 (Agencies): A light plane with three people aboard landed safely without landing gear Monday after circling an Australian airport for almost three hours to burn off fuel.

Fire engines and ambulances were among emergency services standing at the ready.

The twin-turboprop Beechcraft Super King Air had just taken off from Newcastle Airport north of Sydney for a 180-kilometer (112-mile) flight north to Port Macquarie when the pilot raised the alarm, officials said.

The plane landed

Services, which did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Aviation safety expert Ron Bartsch said the pilot would have decided to return to Newcastle because the airport had better emergency response resources than was available at Port Macquarie.

"The pilot has done quite a copy book landing and got everybody on the ground safely, and that's the most important outcome," Bartsch said. "The situation could've been a lot worse."

"They have to shut off the fuel, shut off the electrics to reduce the chance of a fire upon doing a belly-up landing. But obviously the pilot has done this text book-style and safe outcome," Bartsch added.

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau would investigate what happened.

Indonesia's Mount Ibu Erupts Again, Sends Ash Tower 5 km Into Sky



Monday after authorities raised it last week, with an exclusion zone between three and five kilometres (two to three miles) around the volcano's crater.

Ibu is one of Indonesia's most active volcanoes, erupting more than 21,000 times last year.

Geology Agency official Sofyan Primulyana said Ibu recorded an average of 58 eruptions per day in 2023.

Indonesia, a vast archipelago nation, experiences frequent seismic and volcanic activity due to its position on the Pacific "Ring of Fire".

Last month, Mount Ruang in North Sulawesi province erupted more than half a dozen times, forcing thousands of residents of nearby islands to evacuate and it remains at the highest alert level.

All of the 800 or so residents of Ruang island will be permanently relocated.

Biden Surrendering US University Campuses To "Jihadist Freaks": Trump



NEW JERSEY, May 13 (Agencies): Former US President Donald Trump came out heavily against Joe Biden over the massive pro-Palestine protests at American universities, and claimed that his successor is surrounded by "fascists" and has 'surrendered' the college campuses to "jihadist freaks" and "anti-American extremists."

Trump further claimed that "the very same people who are funding the violent campus uprisings are also funding Joe Biden's campaign", adding that Biden is running a "radicalised" Democratic Party.

Notably, the college campuses in the US have become a hotspot, with pro-Palestinian

protestors calling for a ceasefire in Gaza.

The students holding encampments and occupying areas on campus have also led to a strong crackdown and arrests by the police.

Addressing a huge crowd in Wildwood, New Jersey, on Sunday, Trump said, "He (Biden) is surrendering our college campuses to anarchists, jihadist freaks and anti-American

extremists who are trying to tear down our American flag."

"They want to tear down every single place they go. They want to rip down our flag. The chaos and violence happening on our college campuses right now is all because Crooked Joe Biden doesn't know what the hell he's doing. Joe is weak," he added.

Taking his attack on the incumbent president

"anti-Americanism or anti-Semitism" on the campuses will be immediately deported.

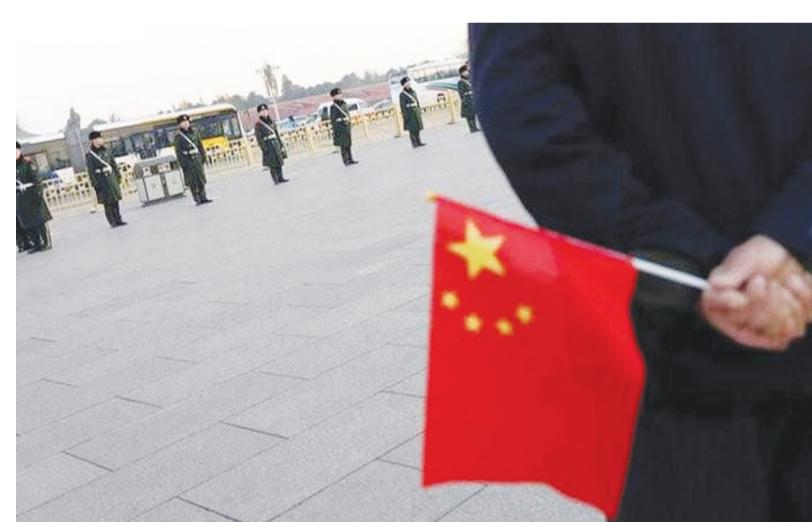
"When I'm president, we will not allow our colleges to be taken over by violent radicals," the presumptive Republican presidential nominee added. "And if you come here from another country and try to bring jihadism or anti-Americanism to our campuses, we will immediately deport you. You'll be out of that school."

"He's (Biden) surrounded by fascists around the Oval Office. It's not him," Trump added. "He's not doing a very good at cheating on elections. He doesn't stand up to our enemies abroad. And he does not stand up to the extremists in his own party, the Democratic Party is becoming radicalised. It's becoming radical left, and they're going to lose our country."

Trump, affirmed that if he returns to the White House, he won't allow "violent radicals" to take over the colleges and those spreading

China Accused Of Targeting Its Overseas Citizens For Political Dissent

China does not tolerate political dissent and has used sophisticated tech tools as well as intimidation to crack down on domestic protestors and activists.



BEIJING, May 13 (Agencies): China is targeting citizens studying abroad for their political activism, rights group Amnesty International said Monday, with some students reporting harassment of family members back home.

China does not tolerate political dissent and has used sophisticated tech tools as well as intimidation to crack down on domestic protestors and activists.

And Beijing's curbs on political activism are increasingly expanding abroad in the form of "trans-national repression", Amnesty International said in a report, citing interviews with dozens of students in eight European and North American countries.

Overseas students reported that family members in China received threats after they attended events abroad including commemorations of the bloody 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown, according to the group.

"Threats made to family members in mainland China included to revoke their passports, get them fired from their jobs, prevent them from receiving promotions and retirement benefits, or even limiting their physical freedom," it

claimed.

Students also said they had been blocked from posting and surveilled on Chinese social apps -- often the only way to communicate with family members due to Beijing's internet firewall.

One student told Amnesty International that police showed his parents "transcripts of his online WeChat conversations with family members".

Students said they actively self-censored during classes and social interactions and complained of mental health problems

caused by the feeling of pervasive surveillance, "ranging from stress and trauma to paranoia and depression".

"I would really want to publish my thesis... but I'm worried, so I chose not to," one student told Amnesty.

Beijing has not yet responded to Monday's report, but has previously rejected mounting criticism in recent years that it targets citizens living abroad, insisting that it respects other countries' sovereignty and that any law enforcement operations are conducted in accordance with the law.

Residents said Israeli tanks are now stationed east of the Salahuddin Road that bisects

As Israeli Tanks Step Up Northern Gaza Attack, Airstrikes Hammer Rafah



CAIRO, May 13 (Agencies): Israeli tanks, under cover from heavy fire from air and ground, pushed further into Jabalia in the northern Gaza Strip on Monday, residents and Hamas media said, while airstrikes hammered Rafah in the south.

In Jabalia, tanks were trying to advance towards the heart of the camp, the biggest of Gaza's eight historic refugee camps. Residents said tank shells were landing at the centre of the camp and that air strikes had destroyed clusters of houses.

Israeli troops forced hundreds of Palestinians housed in shelters to leave.

In Rafah, near the border with Egypt, Israel stepped up aerial and ground bombardments on the eastern areas of the city, killing people in an air strike on a house in the Brazil neighbourhood.

Residents said Israeli tanks are now stationed east of the Salahuddin Road that bisects

eastern part of the city, with the highway cut off by intense fighting. Residents added the eastern part of Rafah remained a "ghost town".

Hamas armed wing

said their fighters were engaged in gun battles with Israeli forces in one of the streets east of Rafah, and in the east of Jabalia.

In Israel, the military sounded sirens several times in areas near Gaza, warning of potential Palestinian cross-border rocket and mortar launches.

Late on Saturday, the Israeli military said forces operating in Jabalia were preventing Hamas, which rules Gaza, from re-establishing its military capabilities there.

"They were bombing everywhere, including near schools that are housing people who lost their houses," Jabalia resident Saed, 45, told Reuters via a chat app on Sunday. "War is restarting, this is how it looks in Jabalia."

The army sent tanks back into Zeitoun, as

well as Al-Sabra, where residents also reported heavy bombardments that destroyed several houses, including high-rise residential buildings.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Sunday warned that Israel was risking facing an insurgency in Gaza without a post-war plan for the enclave.

The death count in Israel's military operation in Gaza has now passed at least 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 war was triggered by a Hamas-led attack on southern Israel on Oct. 7 in which some 1,200 people were killed and more than 250 people taken hostage, according to Israeli tallies.

Israel says 620 soldiers have been killed in the fighting, more than half of them during the initial Hamas assault.

SPPND GDC Samba organises Quiz Competition

Top News Report

SAMBA, May 13: Department of English of SPPND GDC, Samba organised a Quiz Competition on the topic "Life and Works of William Shakespeare". The quiz competition was dedicated to honoring the timeless legacy of William Shakespeare, the Bard of Avon. The competition aimed to engage students in a lively exploration of Shakespeare's life, his literary masterpieces and their enduring relevance in today's world. Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri, Principal



expressed her enthusiasm stating Shakespeare's contributions to literature as unparalleled and encouraged students to continue exploring literature with enthusiasm

and curiosity. The quiz competition featured questions covering various aspects of Shakespeare's life and works, gave opportunity to the participants to showcase

their knowledge and passion for Shakespearean literature. Four teams, each comprising four students participated in the quiz competition. The participants were

engaged in rigorous rounds of questions, demonstrating exceptional expertise and academic excellence.

Team comprising Mehak Sharma, Shreya Singh, Harsita Chib and Tania Katal from Semester II emerged as winners and they were awarded for their outstanding performance. The quiz competition not only celebrated the unparalleled legacy of William Shakespeare but also fostered a spirit of camaraderie among students. The whole event was coordinated by Kasak Gupta, a student of semester II.

Bharat Bhushan, MD of JK Cooperative Housing Society Sidhra is biggest land grabber: Amit Kapoor

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: Amit Kapoor, President of Dogra Welfare Organization, has demanded strict action against land mafia and said that this action should not be limited to only a few people. He said that Bharat Bhushan, who has a white collar and is MD of JK Cooperative Housing Society Sidhra, Tawi Vihar, is the biggest land grabber. He said that Bharat Bhushan has built flats on JDA's land in Sidhra Tawi Vihar Colony and sold them for billions of rupees.

For this, he had attached the design of Siddara Tawi Vihar Colony for approval for construction. Amit Kapoor said this while addressing a press conference in Jammu. He said that Bharat Bhushan has also sold many plots on JDA land in Siddara and Bajalata. He also presented many



proofs during this time and further said that he will expose all the scams done by Bharat Bhushan within the next seven days.

Along with this, Amit Kapoor cited another case and said that Krishna Vantti, who is the widow of Dipti Ram, a resident of Muzaffarabad, was allotted 16 kanal land in Khasra

number 48 in Bandhu Rakh on L form.

But the surprising thing is that by applying L form in the name of SK, the land mafia in a roundabout way got 48 kanal land allotted on the main road in Barnai in connivance with Janak Singh Tehsildar and the land mafia. No Khasra number, Khebat number etc. was shown in it. In

Khasra number 664 and 663, within 15 days of allotment of this land, its registration was done in the name of their respective relatives.

After seven years, the same land mafia got a third piece of land allotted in the name of the same woman in Delhi-Gangyal and that land was also on the roadside. Its Khasra number is 781, 817, 822, 825, 826, 1010, 694 and the allotted land is 33 Kanal 16 Marla.

Although the Financial Commissioner has rejected the transfer of the lands of Barnai and Gangyal and a case of FIR number 22-2015 is registered in Vigilance, but no action has been taken on it till now and neither its challan has been presented.

Amit Kapoor said that the registry of 33 Kanal 16 Marla land was done by Patwari Ramesh Chand Sharma who retired as Naib Tehsildar

two years ago.

Amit Kapoor welcomed the government's decision to impose PSA on land grabbers like Ravinder Gupta alias Gola Shah but he said that strict action should be taken against the land mafia associated with him and other land mafias as well.

He said that everyone knows that Majeed Khan is also associated with Gola Shah and he too has earned huge property in connivance with Gola Shah. Along with this, former Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah's kothi has also been built by showing a different Khasra number. Amit Kapoor made such allegations.

Amit Kapoor said that strict action should be taken against all land mafias and their properties should be attached as the properties of drug smugglers are being attached.

Airtel, Google Cloud enter into Long-Term Strategic collaboration

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: Bharti Airtel ("Airtel") and Google Cloud today entered into a long-term collaboration to deliver cloud solutions to Indian businesses. The strategic collaboration will offer a suite of cutting-edge cloud solutions from Google Cloud to fast-track cloud adoption and modernization for Airtel's customers. In addition, Airtel will provide a suite of cloud managed services to its customer base of more than 2,000 large enterprises and one million emerging businesses. Through this collaboration, the two companies are targeting the large and growing Indian public cloud ser-

vices market, which is expected to reach \$17.8 billion by 2027, according to IDC."

The two companies will bring together their unique strengths of connectivity and AI technology to develop industry-leading AI/ML solutions that Airtel will train on its large data set. These unique solutions will drive greater value to Airtel's customers and will include geospatial analytics solutions with advanced location intelligence for trend-spotting, predictive capabilities, market assessment, site selection, risk management, and asset tracking; voice analytics solutions for superior conversational applications trained

across languages; and marketing technology solutions to forecast consumer behavior, perform tailored audience segmentations, and streamline content creation with high-precision contextual ads at reduced costs.

In addition to these offerings, Airtel has developed an end-to-end IoT solution designed for the utility sector that combines connectivity, Google Cloud services, and application software under one offering, enabling seamless, hassle-free, and faster deployment.

To power its cloud-based solutions business, Airtel has set up a managed services center in Pune with 300+ experts

who are being extensively trained to champion Google Cloud services and develop world-class tech solutions.

Gopal Vittal, MD & CEO, Bharti Airtel, said: "As India accelerates its digital transformation, cutting-edge cloud and AI solutions will be at the heart and center of this change. We are happy to partner with Google Cloud and jointly address this market opportunity with secure and scalable Cloud solutions for government, enterprises, and emerging businesses. Together, we will also accelerate the deployment of gen AI in the country and unlock its potential to solve problems."

Thomas Kurian, CEO, Google Cloud, added: "Our strategic collaboration with Airtel marks a significant milestone towards our commitment to accelerate cloud and AI adoption in India. Through this partnership, we aim to explore and build transformative solutions that can enhance Airtel's customer experiences." Airtel will also leverage Google Cloud's gen AI capabilities to transform its customer experiences and interactions across its offerings of mobile, broadband, and digital TV, and to streamline its internal processes and operations. Airtel will also extend these capabilities to its B2B customers in India and globally.

290 cleft surgeries performed under CSR

Top News Report

CHANDIGARH/JAMMU, May 13: In partnership with Smile Train India the Nissan Motor India under its CSR initiative has supported 290 cleft surgeries in poor children. These surgeries were conducted at Smile Train India's partner hospitals by ensuring access to quality care for those in need.

Cleft, a gap in the upper lip and/or the roof of the mouth (palate), is a facial birth difference which affects one in 700 babies and 35,000+ children are born with clefts in India annually. Without treatment, children have difficulty in eating, breathing, hearing, speaking and may face social isolation.

The impacted children, of whom 42% are female, will now have a better chance to attend school, pursue careers, and enjoy gainful employment. Surprisingly, even today, many girl children born with clefts are often abandoned at birth. Through Nissan's support, these girls have not only received a new smile but also the chance of a new life, free from stigma and social

isolation.

Additionally, over half 56% of the beneficiaries (161 individuals), are infants aged two years and below. By addressing cleft conditions at a young age, Nissan and Smile Train India have contributed to reducing the disability-affected life years of these individuals. Additionally, 38% (110 individuals) of the beneficiaries fall within the age group of two to 18 years, while 6% are above 18 years, emphasizing the urgency to address the backlog of cleft patients who struggle to find help in time.

Saurabh Vatsa, MD Nissan Motor India, said, "Our association with Smile Train India exemplifies Nissan's commitment to corporate citizenship, social responsibility and inclusion. Through our partnership with Smile Train India, we aimed to address this critical healthcare need and make a meaningful and compassionate difference in the lives of those affected."

Mamta Carroll, Smile Train's senior VP & regional director for Asia, expressed her gratitude towards Nissan Motor India and their support for the cause.

FROM PAGE 1

Cong Holding PM Modi Responsible For Nehru's Mistakes: Jaishankar On China Issue

"If you look at the Google map, please look at that village and triangulate it with what Nehru said to the Parliament in 1959," Jaishankar said.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and his party talk about a bridge being built by China in Pangong Tso in Ladakh but the bridge is being built at a place where the Chinese came in 1953 and then retook in 1962, Jaishankar asserted.

A Congress spokesperson recently said the Chinese have built a road in Shaksgam Valley and claimed this has created concerns for Siachen, the EAM said.

"Possibly it has concerns for Siachen. Shaksgam Valley was allowed by Nehru to be part of POK and the Pakistanis handed it over to China in 1963. The Congress party is holding Modi responsible for Nehru's actions in 1949 and for (Pakistani premier Zulfikar Ali) Bhutto's actions in 1963 but apparently they (Congress) have no culpability," Jaishankar said.

The EAM admitted there is a challenge from China, which has violated bilateral agreements and sent a large number of troops to the border.

But one should take pride in the fact that

despite the COVID-19 pandemic, India counter deployed and sent a record number of troops to the border, he said.

Those troops today are at a great height and in great cold and are defending the country in very tough conditions, Jaishankar pointed out.

"So when I hear Rahul Gandhi (say) our soldiers were beaten in Yangtse in Arunachal Pradesh (in 2022) when (in reality) we pushed back the Chinese. Gunning down your system, your forces is a very very sad thing," he added.

ED summons J'khand Minister Alamgir Alam days after seizing Rs 34 cr cash from his secretary's domestic help

In ED's remand application for Lal and Jehangir, it had said that "several officials from top to bottom of Rural Development Department" were involved in a money laundering nexus.

"...It is ascertained that Sanjeev Lal takes care of the collection of commission on behalf of some influential persons and plays a pivotal role in managing the tenders and collection of commission from engineers, also the said percentage of commission is distributed in a mechanised manner to higher ups of government," the ED had said.

"Further, during the investigation names of senior bureaucrats and politicians have

emerged which are being investigated... several officials from top to bottom of the Rural Development Department are involved in this nexus and the huge payments were usually received in cash which were later laundered which needs to be unearthed," the ED said in its submission to the court.

Modi gave country's wealth to 4 or 5 rich people: Priyanka

Modi is the MP from Varanasi for the last 10 years but he has not visited any village there or asked a farmer how he is living."

She also said, "Privatisation is not bad in itself but if the prime minister gives the entire wealth of the nation to four or five rich people, then that is not right."

Today coal, electricity, ports and airports of the country are all with the friends of the PM, she alleged. Mentioning former PMs and Congress leaders Rajiv Gandhi and Indira Gandhi, she said they visited villages and asked people about their issues. "Our PM organises big events where you will see many big capitalists but not find a single poor person," she said.

Scores of KPs return without voting in Jammu after finding names missing from roll

heat. We carried our EPIC (Voter ID) cards too. But we found our names missing from

Migrant Kashmiri Pandits, Youth All India Kashmiri Samaj extend support to Apni Party candidates



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: The migrant Kashmiri Pandits and Youth All India Kashmiri Samaj have extended their support to Apni Party and its candidates contesting from Parliamentary seats, Srinagar Mohammed Ashraf Mir, and Rajouri – Anantnag, Zafar Iqbal Manhas.

As a part of the election campaign, the Migrant Cell of the Party held series of meetings and worked tirelessly among the migrant Kashmiri Pandits informing them about the policy and agenda of the Party, especially regarding the honorable return and rehabilitation of migrant Kashmiri Pandits in Kashmir.

These election campaigns were led by General Secretary of the Party, Shri. Vijay Bakaya Ji, Provincial President of the Party, S. Manjot Singh, Additional General Secretary, Arun Chibber, Provincial Vice President, Jammu, Ex-MLA Faqir Nath, Provincial

Secretary / Membership Drive, Dr Rohit Gupta, Provincial President Jammu, Women Wing, Pavneet Kour, prominent social activist, and senior leader of the Party, M.K. Yogi, Provincial Secretary Minority, Nana Wattal, and others.

On the other hand, the youth campaigning team was headed by General Secretary of the Youth Wing and Spokesperson of the Party, Abhay Bhat, Ashok Koul, Chand Ji Khair, Jai Krishan Pandita, Ashok Bhawano, Hira Lal Bhat, Bal Krishan Bhat, Virender Sathoo, Pran Ji, Chand Ji Raina, Dr O.N. Safaya, G. L. Pandita, Krishan Lal Koul, Pyare Lal Mawa, P. K. Dembi, Pyare Lal Pandita, Rajesh Labroo, Rattan Lal Bhat, Rattan Lal Koul, Shuban Krishan Bhat, Raj Nath Bhat, Bansi Lal Raina, Santosh Khar, Subash Kachroo, Ashok Kumar Koul, Bansi Lal Bhat, Nazir Ahmed Lone, president political migrants, social activist Bitti Ji Bhat, Ashwani Bhat and others.

in favour of Apni Party Parliament candidates whose election symbol is "BAT."

Those who arranged the meetings at various places and accompanied us for door-to-door meetings are District Senior Vice President Jammu, Vaibhav Mattoo, Publicity Secretary, Vishal Jyoti, Provincial Secretary KP wing, Vivek Sapoor, TRT Nagrota, Chand Ji Bhat, Ashok Koul, Chand Ji Khair, Jai Krishan Pandita, Ashok Bhawano, Hira Lal Bhat, Bal Krishan Bhat, Virender Sathoo, Pran Ji, Chand Ji Raina, Dr O.N. Safaya, G. L. Pandita, Krishan Lal Koul, Pyare Lal Mawa, P. K. Dembi, Pyare Lal Pandita, Rajesh Labroo, Rattan Lal Bhat, Rattan Lal Koul, Shuban Krishan Bhat, Raj Nath Bhat, Bansi Lal Raina, Santosh Khar, Subash Kachroo, Ashok Kumar Koul, Bansi Lal Bhat, Nazir Ahmed Lone, president political migrants, social activist Bitti Ji Bhat, Ashwani Bhat and others.

the electoral roll. It is a denial of our right to vote," Veena, a resident of Jagti camp and a migrant from the erstwhile Habbakadal area of Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency, said.

Anti Bribery Mgmt System certification awarded to POWERGRID

Commission and Ministry of Power. During the event, training sessions on ABMS were also conducted by BIS & POWERGRID officials.

Three generations of Abdullah family cast vote in Srinagar

Abdullah and his two grandsons and first-time electors Zahir and Zamir cast their vote at the polling station at the Burn Hall School in Srinagar. "We have two first-time voters with us. It is for the first time that three generations of our family are voting together," Mr. Omar Abdullah, also a former chief minister, said.

No member of the Abdullah family is contesting the Lok Sabha elections from Srinagar for the first time since 1998. The only loss the NC suffered a loss on this seat was in the 2014 general elections.

While the BJP, which is in power at the Centre, is not contesting any of the three Lok Sabha seats, including Srinagar, in Kashmir, the party is confident that the

elections in the Valley will end the domination of the NC and the PDP in the region.

The NC, a part of the INDIA bloc, has fielded influential Shia leader and former minister Aga Ruhullah Mehdhi. The PDP has named its youth unit president Waheed Para as its candidate.

Mr. Farooq Abdullah said while he was happy that elections were being held, it was a matter of regret that key workers of several political parties were detained over the past two days.

"I could not cast my vote in 2014 as I was in hospital. I am happy that I am before you here.

But there is a regret that while they say everything is normal and elections are free, they have arrested key workers of several political parties, mostly National Conference, over the past two days," he said.

"I want to ask the prime minister and the home minister why our workers were arrested? Are they scared that they will lose? They will definitely lose, God Willing," he added.

Delhi Police vehicle mows down man, cop held

Nagar police station, Deputy Commissioner of Police (southwest) Rohit Meena said. We got information that a Delhi Police vehicle was involved in the accident and one person was seriously injured, Meena said.

Lok Sabha elections, Q4 earnings, inflation data to guide markets this week

MUMBAI, May 13 (Agencies): Stock markets will be driven by domestic inflation data, ongoing quarterly earnings from corporates and global trends this week, analysts said.

News flows around the general election would also be tracked by investors, market experts said.

Besides, investors would also take cues from the trading activity of foreign investors, the movement of global oil benchmark Brent crude and the rupee-dollar trend.

"Investors will be bombarded with economic data on both domestic and global fronts. Domestically, watch for Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Wholesale Price Index (WPI). Globally, focus will be on the US Producer Price Index (PPI) and Consumer Price Index (CPI) figures."

"Additionally, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell's speech will be a key event to watch."



China's industrial production data and Japan's GDP figures round out the important releases for the week," said Santosh Meena, Head of Research, Swastika Investmart Ltd.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said that the current trend in the domestic markets is likely to continue in the short-

term due to election-led uncertainties.

"In the data-hectic week ahead, investors' attention will be focused on the release of India and US CPI data, Europe and Japan's GDP releases, and the FED chair speech. Furthermore, the next set of Q4 results will also attract market sentiment," he added.

DLF, Zomato, Bharti Airtel and Mahindra & Mahindra are among the major companies scheduled to announce their earnings during the week.

"The outlook for the market will be guided by major global and domestic economic data, India's WPI inflation data, US PPI data, Core CPI data, initial jobless claims, Japan's GDP data, India Q4 company results and

are absolutely clear, yet, uncertainties are caused by the interest rates, inflation, the US Fed's decision, or even the talk which has now begun of possible stagflation in some countries. With the speculation (on likely conflict) about Taiwan and the South China Sea, you see the fluctuation in gold prices. The central banks are buying gold. The uncertainties about the currency and the fluctuations in the exchange rate are the thermometer, which shows the temperature. All this definitely will have an impact on the flow of funds. We are looking into this very seriously.

Why isn't investment by the private sector gathering momentum?

If you look at some sectors, you will find them wanting. But there are sectors where they moved aggressively such as renewables. In new areas like battery storage, charging stations and green ammonia, we are having investments which are mostly driven by domestic investors.

How will you supercharge India's manufacturing sector?

We need to have a lot more dialogue with industry, more from the point of view of what they need. It was ironic to hear from some domain experts and economists that India should give up on manufacturing attempts. It is not a good thing to ignore manufacturing or build the service sector so much that you forget manufacturing.

Inflation has moderated... Is it time to bring down the cost of funds?

A lot more pulse of the

speech by Fed Chairman Jerome Powell," Arvinder Singh Nanda, Senior Vice President, Master Capital Services Ltd, said.

"Overall, we expect the market to consolidate in a broader range and take cues from Q4 results, global factors and news flows around the general election," said Siddhartha Khemka, Head - Retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd.

Last week, the BSE benchmark tanked 1,213.68 points or 1.64 per cent, and the Nifty declined 420.65 points or 1.87 per cent.

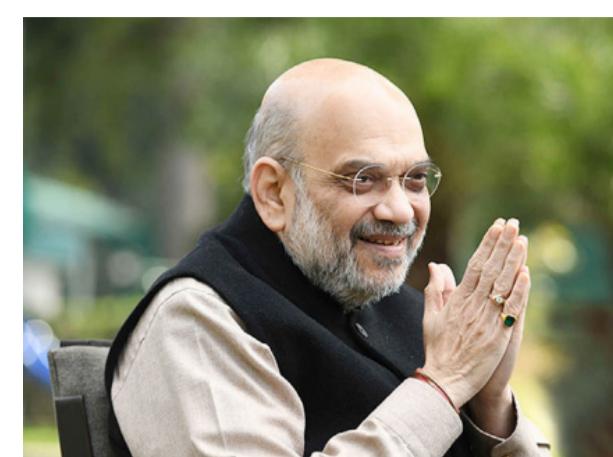
Ajit Mishra SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said, "Despite the negative local sentiment, the strength observed in global markets, particularly in the US, has been instrumental in curbing the pace of decline. It's essential for investors to closely monitor both global market performance and local factors for market cues."

Is it time to buy the dip? Amit Shah says stock market will shoot up: 'Buy before June 4'

NEW DELHI, May 13 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday advised investor to "buy before June 4", saying the market will shoot up after the elections.

Talking to a TV news channel, Shah said one must not link the recent corrections in the stock market to the Lok Sabha elections.

Pointing out that the market has undergone bigger corrections 16 times prior to this, the minister told NDTV India, "Stock market crashes should not be linked with elections, but even if such a rumour has been spread, I suggest you that buy (shares) before June 4. It will shoot up."



"I can't anticipate stock market moves. But normally whenever a stable government is formed at Centre, the market does well. I see \$400-plus seat wins for BJP, a stable Modi government will be in power," Shah added.

The Nifty 50 has plunged more than 4 per cent from its all-time high on May 3. The BSE Sensex tanked over 700 points on Monday morning, dragging below the 72,000 level from the 75,000 mark on May 3.

'We will come back with a good majority ... no reason to think the mood has changed': Nirmala Sitharaman

NEW DELHI, May 13 (Agencies): Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman believes the BJP will come back with a good majority. In this interview with Prasanta Sahu and Shobhana Subramanian, she says the government will continue with reforms and not let go of schemes which empower the poor.

What's your assessment of the Lok Sabha elections so far?

I strongly believe we will come back with a good majority. There is no reason to think the mood has changed just because the opposition wants it to be changed. I don't know from where this negative campaign has started that BJP may not get adequate numbers by saying we didn't perform well in the first two phases. The Home Minister has clearly said that the number of seats (for BJP) will be 370-plus and you will get to know that by 12.30 pm on the counting day. The opposition is only trying to mislead people.

Are we going to see an aggressive agenda on privatisation going forward?

Aggression need not be in your face... We should have the right to choose the right time. We can't be unthinking administrators. We are saying minimum presence of government in businesses.

To arrive at minimum presence, I would have to see how many of them have to be disinvested, how many can be amalgamated to create a scalable and large unit and in some cases, the strategic core has to be retained. Recent privatisations have resulted in the cre-



ation of more jobs (in Air India for example).

Have you done a review of the 15% tax rate for new manufacturing firms? Has it worked?

We need to look at it much more carefully to what extent new businesses have come in and capacity has been increased. The offer of a low tax regime for new firms expired in March. A new call may need to be taken in the Budget in July whether we want to extend it further. The lower tax rate for new manufacturing firms was announced just before Covid-19... To be fair, I think many of them lost the opportunity... we will take a carefully considered decision.

Do you think the new income tax regime needs to be sweetened a bit to bring the remaining taxpayers into the fold?

I don't know if it is due to a lack of sweetening, they remain where they are. The old tax regime existed with exemptions added year after year. To wipe it all off from the old regime and give some kind of sweetener in the new tax regime will never really be satisfactory. Each one of them has been tailored differently.

So, shifting will happen when taxpayers find it not adequately rewarding to remain in the older system.

How do you see the cancellation of Tesla CEO Elon Musk's visit to India and his almost immediate visit to China?

India is putting itself for the strength that it has. I wouldn't think that any investor's decision should be framed like he is coming to India or is he going to China. In the EV sector, India is also building extraordinary capacities.

Everything takes its own time. We will work on policies that will work for Indians as well as others. It is for India's sake, we want investments to come in. It is in this frame, that we look at the decisions taken, let's say by Elon Musk.

Why has gross FDI declined? What can the government do to make India more attractive?

Global uncertainties are growing... India's central bank takes calls itself in the Indian context. But, most Western central banks synchronise actions. As a result, investible funds and their movements are very severely influenced.

Today opportunities

economy needs to be felt. An understanding is required that inflation control is not going to happen just through monetary policy-making. There is more to inflation control through the fiscal domain. Monetary policy cannot any longer tell us that it is for inflation's sake I am remaining where I am. It has to have a broader look at the economy. An element of inflation also triggers growth, you cannot ignore that. Today, monetary policies have greater challenges when you look at exchange rate fluctuations. The dollar is posing more questions than answers today as a global currency. The shift that many countries are doing away from the dollar, is also a major issue, which monetary policy experts will have to study.

Will the government look at giving a guaranteed pension under NPS?

I will wait for the (finance secretary-led) committee report on the National Pension System (NPS) and for the report to be completely analysed.

Are we expecting aggressive reforms in Modi 3.0?

Reforms are something in which the BJP and PM Modi inherently believe... We have emphasised that our attention will go towards the frontier sectors such as space, renewable energy and rare earths as well as building capacity within industries for a transition towards greater use of AI and making governance more transparent by using technology. We are not letting go of schemes which empower the poor.

Zomato posts Q4 consolidated net profit at Rs 175 crore



NEW DELHI, May 13 (Agencies): Online food delivery firm Zomato Ltd on Monday reported a consolidated net profit of Rs 175 crore in the March quarter on the back of higher revenue.

The company had posted a consolidated net loss of Rs 188 crore in the same quarter last fiscal, Zomato Ltd said in a regulatory filing.

Consolidated revenue from operations stood at

Rs 3,562 crore. It was Rs 2,056 crore in the year-ago period, it added.

Total expenses were at Rs 3,636 crore. The company posted its total expenses at Rs 2,431 crore in the corresponding period a year ago, it said. For the fiscal ended on March 31, 2024, the consolidated net profit was Rs 351 crore. The company had posted a consolidated net loss of Rs 971 crore in the previ-

ous fiscal ended on March 31, 2023, the filing said.

In FY24, consolidated revenue from operations stood at Rs 12,114 crore. It was at Rs 7,079 crore.

The results for the year ended March 31, 2024, are not comparable with the year ended March 31, 2023, due to the acquisition of Blink Commerce Pvt Ltd (formerly known as Grofers India Pvt Ltd) in June 2022, the filing said.

M.K Ajatshatru Singh raises serious concern over escalating situation in PoJK

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: M.K Ajatshatru Singh, senior BJP leader and former minister, expressed serious concern over the escalating situation in Pakistan-occupied Jammu Kashmir (PoJK) following violent clashes between JAAC protesters and police in various cities of PoK. He emphasized the urgency for the United Nations to take concrete steps to ameliorate the situation faced by the people of Jammu and Kashmir under Pakistan's occupation.

In a statement issued here today, the former minister said that the clashes, which erupted following the government crackdown on JAAC leaders, have resulted in unfortunate casualties and injuries. Reports indicate that amidst the turmoil, an Assistant Commissioner in Dadyal was held hostage and subjected to violence, highlighting the intensity of the situation. He strongly condemned the use of force and calls for an immediate cessation of violence. He emphasized the need for authorities to respect the rights of citizens to peaceful assembly and expression.

He said that the situation in Muzaffarabad remains volatile, with an indefinite shutdown and wheel-jam strike adding to the uncertainty and apprehension among residents. Reports of protests in various cities, including Samahni, Sehansa, Mirpur, Rawal-



akot, Khiratta, Tattapani, and Hattian Bala, underscore the widespread unrest gripping the region.

The former minister expressed solidarity with the people of PoK and called for an immediate cessation of hostilities to pave the way for peaceful resolution of grievances. He highlighted the importance of upholding democratic principles and respecting the rights of all individuals, emphasizing that the path to stability lies in dialogue, not violence. He also raised concerns over the reported crackdown on dissenting voices in Kotli, Bagh, and Muzaffarabad, urging authorities to uphold human rights and ensure transparency in all actions.

As Kashmir prepares for democratic elections, senior BJP leader stressed the need for PoJK to be treated with the same respect for democratic values, condemning the atrocities being perpetrated against its citizens.

M.K Ajatshatru Singh sought intervention of United Nations over the deteriorating situation in PoJK and urged them to take concrete steps to ameliorate the situation faced by the general public.

Healing Hearts And Saving Lives : Joint Medical Camp by Borderless World foundation, Civil Administration and Army in Poonch district

Top News Report

POONCH, May 13: Indian Army in collaboration with Borderless World Foundation, Nasik Local and the Civil Administration is conducting two days transformative medical camp on 13 and 14 May in Surankot Thanamandi and Kotranka. This camp is aimed to assist resident population and Gujjar Bakkarwal community deras from far flung areas like Dara Sangla, Sangla, Fasla-



bad, Marhote, Jammu Shid, Dograin, Poshana Naili, Azmatabad, Alal, Pangai, Koranka, Samote and Mangota of Surankot and Thanamandi who

camp has a profound effect on the local communities, particularly the Gujjars and Bakharwals. Approximately 1800 persons to include 600 male, 700 Female and 250 children availed the medical facility at both the locations. These marginalized communities often reside in remote areas where healthcare infrastructure is scarce. The camp brought essential medical services directly to their doorstep.

The team of Doctors includes Ophthalmologists, General Physician, Gynaecologist, Dermatologist, Paediatrician and Orthopaedic specialists. The medical

Neeraj Chopra, Kishore Jena To Compete Directly In Fed Cup Finals

NEW DELHI, May 13 (Agencies): Star Indian javelin throwers Neeraj Chopra and Kishore Jena have been given direct entry into the Federation Cup finals in Bhubaneswar on May 15, having already bettered the minimum qualification mark of 75m multiple times in their careers. Olympic and world champion Chopra is coming off a fairly good outing at the Doha Diamond League last week where he finished second with a throw of 88.38m. Asian Games silver-winner Jena's Diamond League debut, however, ended in disappointment as he was eliminated after three rounds with 76.31m being his best.

DP Manu, who finished sixth in the 2023 World Championships and who is looking to qualify for the upcoming Paris Olympics by breaching the 85.50m mark, will also compete directly in the finals.

"All those who have crossed 75m will not compete in the qualifying round on Tuesday. There are nine of them from among those who had made entries, including Neeraj and Jena. They will directly compete in the final on Wednesday," Indian athletics head coach Radhakrishnan Nair said, quoting the Athletics Federation of India's qualification rules.

The remaining who have below 75m mark will compete



in the qualifying round and the top three will join the nine above-75m throwers in the final." The AFI is quite looking forward to 26-year-old Chopra's first home competitive outing in three years.

"The AFI is not at all surprised at Neeraj taking part in the Federation Cup. His participation in domestic event is no doubt a very good thing for Indian athletics," a top official of the AFI told agency.

It is learnt that the AFI wanted Chopra to compete in a domestic event after he won gold in Tokyo Olympics and before the Paris Games.

He did not take part in any domestic event in 2022 and 2023 as he was training or com-

peting abroad. His last domestic event was the Federation Cup in March 2021.

It is learnt that Chopra has reached India from Doha but will land only on Tuesday.

Asian Games medallist Jena is arriving in Bhubaneswar later on Monday.

Nair played down the injury to men's 4x400m relay squad member Rajesh Ramesh who pulled out midway during the second leg of the first round qualifying heat in Bahamas earlier this month.

Ramesh was replaced by Arokia Rajiv, who was also not fully fit, in the second round of the Olympic qualifying heat and the Indian team booked a Paris ticket.

"Ramesh's injury is not a hamstring pull, it's related to tendon in thigh. So, it is not a major injury. He is expected to start training in 10-15 days. Rajiv will also be alright soon," Nair said.

"There should not be any problem in Olympics preparation." A total of 19 track and field athletes have qualified for Paris and Nair said the team will train in Spala in Poland for four weeks before travelling to Paris for the Olympics. Track and field events starting on August 1.

"The team will train in Spala before Olympics and we will reach Paris three or four days before the competition starts," he said.

Indian athletes have trained in Spala many times in the past.

Nair also said the AFI is still hopeful of the mixed 4x400m relay team's Paris qualification despite its failure in Bahamas during the World Relays. Only two slots remain up for grabs.

"Our mixed 4x400m team will take part in the Asian Relays (May 20-21 in Bangkok) and we can qualify for Paris if we run below 3 minutes 14 seconds and we feel can do that." Meanwhile, it is learnt that the AFI will shortly come out with a strategic plan with the target of winning multiple medals in the 2036 Olympics. The target is irrespective of India winning the right to host the Games.

IPL 2024: Royal Challengers Bengaluru beat Delhi Capitals by 47 to keep play-off hopes alive

BENGALURU, May 13 (Agencies): Royal Challengers Bengaluru bowled and fielded brilliantly to beat Delhi Capitals by 47 runs here to keep their IPL play-off hopes alive here.

Having managed only 187 for 9 after a blazing half-century by in-form Rajat Patidar, RCB bowled out lacklustre DC for 140 in 19.1 overs.

Patidar (52 off 32 balls) and Will Jacks (41 off 28 balls) added 88 for the third wicket in little under nine overs.

But Yash Dayal (3/20) and Cameron Green (1/19) were brilliant with their lengths as none of the Delhi batters save stand-in skipper Axar Patel (57 off 39 balls) made a mark.

Brief Scores: RCB 187/8 in 20 overs (Rajat Patidar 52, Will Jacks 41, Ishant Sharma 1/31, Khaleel Ahmed 2/31, Rishabh Salam 2/23). DC 140 in 19.1 overs (Axar Patel 57, Yash Dayal 2/20, Cameron Green 1/19).

Chennai Super Kings beat Rajasthan Royals by 5 wickets in low-scoring IPL thriller

CHENNAI, May 13 (Agencies): Chennai Super Kings on Sunday clinched a five-wicket win over Rajasthan Royals in a low-scoring thriller to brighten their IPL playoffs qualification chances here.

Chasing a modest 142 on a tricky surface, CSK made 145 for five in 18.2 overs with skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad dropping the anchor to make a well-compiled unbeaten 42 (41 balls, 1x4s, 2x6s). Rookie Sameer Rizvi hit an eight-ball 15 not

out with three fours to end the game in a jiffy after Ravindra Jadeja became the third batter in IPL history to be adjudged out after obstructing the field.

Earlier in the first innings, Chennai Super Kings bowler led by seamer Simarjeet Singh produced a unified show to restrict Rajasthan Royals to a moderate 141 for five.

Tushar Deshpande took 2/30 while the others produced disciplined spells.

For RR, Riyan Parag

top scored with 47 not out off 35 balls with three sixes and one four.

Brief scores: Rajasthan Royals 141/5 in 20 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal 24, Riyan Parag 47 not out, Tushar Deshpande 2/30, Simarjeet Singh 3/26) lost to Chennai Super Kings 145/5 in 18.2 overs (Rachin Ravindra 27, Ruturaj Gaikwad 42 not out; Ravichandran Ashwin 2/35, Nandri Burger 1/21, Yuzvendra Chahal 1/22) by 5 wickets.

Ramiz Raja Slams Pakistan Pacers For Poor Show Against Ireland

ISLAMABAD, May 13 (Agencies): Former Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Ramiz Raja slammed Men in Green bowlers on Monday for their performance in the second T20I against Ireland despite their comprehensive win. Pakistan's frontline speedsters, Shaheen Afridi, Mohammad Amir, Naseem Shah and Abbas Afridi combined to give away 162 runs as Ireland posted a total of 193/7 in the first innings. Shaheen and Amir proved to be too costly out of the four as they gave away runs at a minimum economy of 11.00. Shaheen walked away with three scalps but split 49 runs in his four-over spell.

While Amir had a sole wicket to his name in his four-over spell in that process he conceded 44 runs.

Still Pakistan batters were able to cover up and chase down the 194-run target comfortably with more than three overs to spare.

Ramiz slammed the performance of Pakistan pacers against Ireland for leaking runs throughout the innings at a hefty economy. The 61-year-old feels if Ireland had managed to take Mohammad Rizwan and Fakhruddin's catch then the visitors would have been reeling for victory.

"They conceded 200 runs against Ireland and it seemed as if our bowl-

ers were behind. If they had taken the catches of Rizwan and Zaman it would have become difficult for Pakistan to chase the target. Pakistan's top bowlers giving away so many runs against Ireland, then it will become hard for the team in future. Pakistan's forte, and success are based on the bowlers, especially pacers, they have been struggling since last year's World Cup in India. Two balls are good and then three deliveries are bad, this makes the situation tough," Ramiz said on his YouTube channel.

Pakistan's decision to bowl after winning the toss backfired as Lorcan Tucker (51) led the charge with the bat and Harry Tector (32) and Curtis Campher (22) provided the ideal support to him. Gareth Delany provided the finishing touches in the end with his 28* run cameo off 10 deliveries to power Ireland to 193/7.

In reply, Mohammad Rizwan (75*) and Fakhruddin (78) laid the foundation for a successful chase for Pakistan. Azam Khan struck three consecutive sixes to seal a comprehensive 7-wicket victory for the visitors.

Pakistan's victory brought the series to level terms (1-1), the third match will decide the winner of the series which will be played on Tuesday at the Clontarf Cricket Club, Dublin.

KKR aim to secure top finish vs Shubman Gill's inconsistent GT

AHMEDABAD, May 13 (Agencies): The last time KKR faced GT in the Indian Premier League, it turned out to be one of the greatest games ever played in the history of the competition. A relatively unknown Rinku Singh, smashed 5 sixes in the last 5 balls of the match to secure an unlikely victory for Kolkata.

The chances of us qualifying was 0.1 or 1 per cent. I think all of us, all 25 of us, we all believe that we can still make it into the playoffs. Because I have seen miracles happen with this team in the past couple of years and we all do believe in that," Gill said at the post-match press conference after beating CSK.

The two teams face each other once again in the tournament, the first time in the 2024 season. The fortunes are quite on the opposite sides for the teams, as KKR have already qualified for the playoffs, while GT's chances hang by a thread. Currently in the 8th spot in

the league table, GT not only have to win every game, but also have to depend on others to qualify at 14 points. GT captain Shubman Gill has said that he has seen miracles happen with this team and they would hope for the same in their next fixture vs KKR.

"The chances of us qualifying was 0.1 or 1 per cent. I think all of us, all 25 of us, we all believe that we can still make it into the playoffs. Because I have seen miracles happen with this team in the past couple of years and we all do believe in that," Gill said at the post-match press conference after beating CSK.

Both GT and KKR are coming off an impressive win and would hope to add to their victories. The onus will be on Shubman Gill - centurion

from the last game, and Rashid Khan to keep GT alive in the competition. GT vs KKR: Head to Head

KKR and GT are meeting for the first time this season. In the IPL, the team has played each other 3 times, where KKR has won a single game, while GT have been able to grab 2 wins

GT vs KKR: Team News

There are no injury concerns in either sides. But given KKR have already qualified for the playoffs, it might be a good time for KKR

pitch was so good to bat on that Shubman Gill said that the team left behind at least 10-15 runs. It is expected to play the same today as well.

GT vs KKR: Predicted XI

GT Probable XI

Shubman Gill (c), Sai Sudharsan, Shahrukh Khan, David Miller, Matthew Wade (wk), Rahul Tewatia, Rashid Khan, Noor Ahmad, Umesh Yadav, Mohit Sharma, Sandeep Warrier.

Impact Player: Kartik Tyagi.

KKR Probable XI

Rahmanullah Gurbaz (wk), Sunil Narine, Venkatesh Iyer (c), Rinku Singh, Nitish Rana, Andre Russell, Ramandeep Singh, Mitchell Starc, Harshit Rana, Varun Chakaravarthy.

Impact Player: Vaibhav Arora.

Olympics 2024 will not be my last: Manpreet Singh talks new roles, 'miracle' in life

NEW DELHI, May 13 (Agencies): At the age of 31, Manpreet Singh has seen it all when it comes to his international career. Starting in 2011, Manpreet has represented India in three Olympics till now and has also had the honour of captaining the side as well. He was the captain when India ended their 41-year-old drought for an Olympic medal as they won bronze in Tokyo. At the age of 31, could the upcoming Paris Olympics be his last one?

Well, Manpreet doesn't feel so. During the exclusive interaction with agency, the Indian star was quick to say adamantly that he has no intentions of making Paris his last one as far as Olympics his concerned. The 31-year-old also said that everyone would get to see the hungry, energetic version of him at the 2024 Olympics, much like how he was in Tokyo when he led the team from the front.

"No, absolutely not. Nobody knows what happens in the end with your career. But you will see a hungry version of me in Paris. The same one everyone saw in Tokyo," said Manpreet.

No changes to my role

A lot has changed for Manpreet since the Tokyo Olympics. The 31-year-old no longer wears the captain's armband as he has handed over the reins to Harmanpreet Singh. However, Manpreet feels that his role still remains the same as a senior player and being a leader in the side to guide the youngsters coming up through the ranks.

"There are no changes to my role within the team. For me, even if I'm captain or not, it's about giving my 100 per cent to the team. Even now, all the senior players in the side, we talk to each other and our motto remains to guide the youngsters in the team," said Manpreet.

The former captain is also happy to see Harmanpreet and Hardik Singh, two players who developed into

world beaters under his stewardship, take on the roles of captain and vice-captain respectively. Manpreet feels a great sense of pride seeing the duo achieve a lot on the field.

"Me and Hardik are from the same academy so I have seen him play from the very start. So it feels good to see a new player, who you have already seen, come in and be the vice-captain. So it makes me feel proud. And both Harmanpreet and Hardik are doing well. Harmanpreet as a defender and Hardik as a midfielder. So whenever they achieve something, it makes me feel proud," said Manpreet.

The coach says I'm like potato

Apart from the captaincy, Manpreet now plays as a defender in the side after spending years being the lynchpin in midfield. The 31-year-old has no issues with it, as he feels it's all about playing for India.

Manpreet also said how coach Craig Fulton calls him 'alo' and tells him that he can be mixed with any dish to make it even better.

"To be honest, no. When I came into the team, I started off as a defender. I came into the midfield in 2014, so I don't have a problem playing in the backline. For me, regardless of my playing position, it's all about playing for my nation. And hockey has changed a lot. Sometimes, a midfielder may have to come to the backline and the defender may carry the ball into the D for a strike. So, we should have the knowledge about all the positions."

"I'm still a midfielder. Coach calls me alo (potato). I can mix you with anything," said Manpreet.

So now that, he is in defence will we see Manpreet take a couple of drag-flicks along the way? The former captain was quick to show his funny side and said he doesn't want to hurt his back thinking about penalty corners and showed his full support to the world-class



drag-flicks in the line-up.

"I'm 31. I don't want to hurt my back thinking about drag-flicks. We have some great drag-flicks in the side and we will support them. I don't want put myself in trouble (laughs)," said Manpreet.

Coach Fulton has given us freedom

When Craig Fulton came in to become the new coach of the men's team, India were at a low point. A disastrous 2023 World Cup at home had left the team reeling with questions raised about the style of play. Fulton came in and the changes were quite visible as India would achieve Asian Champions Trophy and Asian Games success. The team scored the most number of goals in the ACT with 29 and followed it up with a whopping 68 in Hangzhou.

Manpreet opened up on the style Fulton has brought in and how he has given the players freedom. The 31-year-old said that the coach has told them not to go 50-50 with anything and the importance he has placed on defending. When it comes to the goals, Manpreet has said that Fulton is adamant that the team should always come up with a result when they enter the D of the opponents.

"He has given everyone freedom. He came here with a winning mindset. He tells us not to be 50-50 with

anything that we do. Give it your all and if a mistake happens, don't worry. He also says that attacking may win a few games but defending will help you win titles. He also tells us that when you reach the opponent's circle, he tells 'don't come back empty-handed. Get a result from it and return. If you can take a shot, do it. Else try to make it a penalty corner,'" said Manpreet.

Jasmine, my miracle

The biggest change for Manpreet came off the field as he and his wife welcomed their daughter Jasmine into the world. Talking about her, Manpreet quickly changed from the gritty and tough player on the field to a doting father.

The former captain said Jasmine was a miracle for him and the first girl child in their family. Manpreet now gets to see his daughter come to support him in the stands and that has added a bit more energy to his game.

Manpreet believes he wants to make his daughter feel proud of him when she grows up with his achievements on the field.

"She is a miracle for me. She is the first girl child in our family. Now when she comes to the stadium and cheers for me, it feels so good. Right now, I feel like I need to do something for her on the field as well. Now she is watching the game also. I just want to make her feel proud that yes, my dad has achieved something," said Manpreet.

One of the best pictures, if you scroll through Manpreet's Instagram is an image of him posing with his mother and daughter and the Asian Games gold medal. The former skipper ended by telling everyone to expect a similar one to be on his social media if India ends a 44-year-old wait for gold at the Olympics.

"Yes, they will both pose with the gold medal," said Manpreet as he signed off.

Bachpan Play School Kathua celebrates Mother's Day

Top News Report

KATHUA, May 13: Bachpan play school Kathua celebrated Mother's Day with joy and fervour. The event, filled with fun and excitement, was a special tribute to the mothers who play a vital role in shaping the lives of their children.

The program commenced with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony, marking the beginning of the celebration.

The chief guest, Sushma Rani, guest of honor, Ritu Mahajan, Director of Tiny Scholars school and principal of Bachpan play school Manisha Gupta, and the Principal of Tiny Scholars School, Reena Kharjuria, were present to join in the festivities.

The mothers were treated to a variety of games and activities



designed specifically for them, providing a fun-filled experience.

The students of the school also showcased their talents through various performances, including music and dance. To make the occasion even more special, different titles were awarded to the

mothers, including Best Dancer, Gorgeous Mom, Fashionista Mom, Best Singer, and Super Active Mother, among others.

The highlight of the day was a cake-cutting ceremony, where the guests and students indulged in a sweet treat. The event was a testament to the bond between mothers

and their children and the joy that they bring to each other's lives.

The programme was well-hosted by coordinators Monika Sharma and Jyoti Sharma, who ensured that the event ran smoothly and efficiently.

Speaking on the occasion, Sushma Rani,

Chief Guest, said, "It is an honor to be a part of this special celebration. Mothers are an integral part of our lives, and it is essential that we acknowledge their hard work and dedication."

Manisha Gupta, Director of Tiny Scholars School, added, "We are thrilled to have celebrated Mother's Day in such a grand manner. We believe that mothers are the backbone of our society, and it is essential that we show our appreciation for all that they do."

The event was a resounding success, with both the mothers and children having an unforgettable experience. The celebration will be remembered for years to come as a testament to the love and bond between mothers and their children.

BJP slogan 'Ab Ki Baar 400 Par' will prove a hollow slogan: Rajesh Gupta

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: Bahujan Samaj Party J&K UT General Secretary and Media Head Rajesh Gupta, while in an interview with a local media channel on Monday, said, "BJP slogan Ab Ki Baar 400 Par" will prove to be a hollow slogan." In this campaign, Modi looks like a pale shadow of himself. He lacks confidence. He has miserably failed to weave a national narrative in these elections.

Gupta maintained Ram Temple consecration in Ayodhya would make these elections a formality, and thought of himself as invincible, then after the announcement of these elections and the beginning of the campaign in April he seems to have received a rude

shock.

Gupta said, voters were happy with the construction of the Ram Temple, but other pressing livelihood issues gained importance. Unemployment, price rise, and corruption are now gaining importance in the election campaign. People are asking tough questions and Modi and his party have no credible answers. Rather, they are trying to change the goalpost.

BSP leader said, "Modi is a polarizing figure, who毫不犹豫 uses communal issues to consolidate Hindu voters. In the 2014 and 2019 general elections, he did play the Hindu-Muslim card, but sparingly. This time he has crossed all limits. Modi is rattled. He has sensed that his defeat can't be discounted.

Whenever the BJP is in doubt, it goes back to its communal agenda. For the party, hate-mongering for the consolidation of Hindu voters is the main crisis management tool during elections".

Rajesh Gupta said from one rally to another, Modi is only spewing venom on communal lines. He has gone to the extent of saying that if the opposition comes back to power, then "locks would be put on Ram Mandir" and "only Muslims would be selected to play for India in cricket." Home Minister Amit Shah is saying that if opposition wins then "Sharia law will be implemented."

It is apparent that despite being in disarray, the opposition is very much in the race. Modi magic has disappeared into thin air, Gupta added.

Women congratulated Sahil Gupta in the programme and praised the

work of Councillor Sahil Gupta.

Miss Icon Priyanka Dogra and ASI Naresh Digras were also present with Gupta in the program.

They also celebrated the program well and told all the women the importance of this day.

Ratan Lal (Bittu), Rohit Kumar, Neha Mehra, Sudesh Sharma, Tushar Digras, Tania, Vansh Mehra, Ayan, Akshay Sharma and others were also present.

GAVL announces financial results for fourth quarter

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: Godrej Agrovet Limited (GAVL) has announced its financial results for the fourth quarter and full year ended March 31, 2024.

The company reported consolidated revenues from operations of Rs. 2,134 crore in Q4 FY24 as compared to Rs. 2,095 crore in Q4 FY23. Company reported consolidated EBITDA, excluding non-recurring & exceptional items, of Rs. 164 crore in Q4 FY24 as compared to Rs. 76 crore in Q4 FY23. Company reported Profit before tax, excluding non-recurring & exceptional items, of Rs. 83 crore in Q4 FY24 as compared to Rs. 2 crore in Q4 FY23.

FY24 consolidated revenues from operations increased to Rs. 9,561 crore from Rs. 9,374 crore in FY23.

Company reported consolidated EBITDA, excluding non-recurring & exceptional items, of Rs. 757 crore in FY24 as compared to Rs. 564 crore in FY23. Company reported Profit before tax, excluding non-recurring and exceptional items, of Rs. 434 crore in FY24 as compared to Rs. 280 crore in FY23.

Commenting on the per-

formance, B. S. Yadav, Managing Director, Godrej Agrovet Limited, said, "The financial year 2023-34 augured well for Godrej Agrovet in terms of robust surge in profitability over FY2022-23. This growth in profitability was primarily driven by exceptional performance of domestic crop protection business, structural turnaround of dairy business, market share gains in Animal Feed and robust volume & margin growth in branded products in our poultry business."

"Domestic crop protection business delivered stellar performance primarily driven by higher volumes of in-house and in-licensed products. Animal Feed business recorded double-digit growth in volumes in cattle feed and fish feed categories and significant increase in segment margins led by softened commodity prices and higher realizations in the aforementioned categories. Our Dairy business achieved a remarkable turnaround and returned to profitability. This was driven by focused efforts on improving operational efficiencies and improved milk spread. The Poultry business also recorded robust improvement in profitability on the back of higher live bird prices

NCC Group Commander interacts with NCC cadets at GDC Samba



Top News Report

SAMBALIKA, May 13: The NCC Group Commander, Brigadier P.S. Cheema, NCC Group HQ Jammu (UT of J&K) on Monday visited at the Shri Pandit Prem Nath Dogra Government Degree College Samba to address and interact with NCC Cadets of the College.

Principal of the College, Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri along with Associate NCC officers Dr. Joginder Singh (ANO Naval wing) and Dr. Papinder Kumar (ANO Armed wing) welcomed Brigadier P.S. Cheema.

Brigadier P.S. Cheema sharing insights from his illustrious career inspired the NCC cadets with his words of wisdom and encouragement.

The visit served as a unique opportunity for the cadets to learn from a disciplined officer of the NCC and gain valuable

guidance on leadership, courage and character development. During the interactive session, Brigadier P.S. Cheema emphasized that joining the NCC can offer students numerous benefits, such as comradeship, discipline, physical fitness, and a sense of patriotism.

Through NCC, cadets will have opportunities for adventure activities, community service, and a chance to make lasting friendships.

"The skills and values cadets gain will not only enhance your personal growth but also contribute to the betterment of their community and country," he told the students.

Principal Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri thanked Brigadier P.S. Cheema for the visit and congratulated all NCC cadets of the college for their active participation.

Modi's stolen Guarantees exposed before Nation: AAP

Top News Report

JAMMU May 13: The Sr. AAP leader Kuldeep Kumar Rao, in a press statement issued here has expressed great wonder and astonishment as to how some prominent leaders of ruling dispensation, used to call as "Muft Ki Rewari" the welfare steps of Arvind Kejriwal for Delhi people and later on for Punjab people, are now openly promising and doing out subsidized LPG cylinder, electricity and water, "Muft Ka Rashan" for 5 years, from January, 2024, etc forgetting that same leaders criticized Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal for free electricity, world class health care for all, free bus fare for women, world class education for all, Chaar-Dham free Yatra for senior citizens etc.

He further said that shame on those who once criticized Kejriwal are now following his foot prints clearly establishing that Delhi Model of Governance, is most beneficial for the welfare of general masses and that of BJP promised



one face is being given prominence under a calculated plan which is harmful and dangerous for the democracy and integrity of the country, the AAP leader cautioned.

He further questioned that all the promises made to the countrymen by Modi or his government have turned futile and that nobody is ready to trust his so called guarantees, now called "Jumlas", as Modi thumping his 56 inch, in a public meeting in Bhopal had openly accused Ajit Pawar of Maharashtra of engulfing 70,000 crores and strangely he made him Dy. Chief Minister the other day.

The AAP leader wondered and asked about Modi's thumping Guarantee of taking action against Ajit Pawar and also his MSP guarantee on all crops, etc.

Whereas it is Kejriwal who founded the culture of public guarantees in Delhi as also Punjab & has proved as synonyms before the masses and that is why there is no taker of Modi washing Powder in Delhi UT, MCD or Punjab, he claimed.

CUJ organizes Shiksha Shastrarth on 'Recent Advancements in Educational Research'



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: The Department of Educational Studies, Central University of Jammu, under an academic platform namely Shiksha Shastrarth Lectures' Series, organised Sixth Shiksha Shastrarth on "Recent Advancements in Educational Research".

On behalf of Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain, H.O.D. Prof. Asit K. Mantry welcomed and introduced the Resource Person Prof. Rajeev Rattan Sharma, Dean and Faculty of Education, University of Jammu.

On the occasion Prof. Mantry said that the key objective of this lecture series is to enhance the potentialities of scholars and make them aware about the global trends and technology in the educational field.

While focussing on the key theme, Prof. Rajeev Rattan Sharma started his deliberations regarding the advancements in

research right from 50's in which the research was based on behaviourist pattern, going through 60s and 70's research encompasses new phase with the focal area on Psychological domain; followed by the post 80's and 90's women's education and special education took the new phase and in the same line entering into 90's research gone changed and the era of Bloom's taxonomy, Technology, Radio, Television became popular.

While addressing the queries asked by the scholars, he said we need to integrate the Indian Knowledge System with the recent advances and trends in our research for developing rational and value-based society.

Further, Prof. Sharma emphasised on Bharat Centric Research and asked scholars to do research in Indian context for reshaping the future of Indian society.

He said that it is the need of the hour to re-focus our research perspectives in Indian context rather than following the western

trends. There is a need to identify the differences between western ideologies and Indian Philosophy so that we can find out the specific solutions of our local problems.

While referring the ancient texts and scriptures like Vedas, Manu Smritis, Bhagavad Gita, he further took up some examples of Science and technology, how it was relevant and used in that time.

While addressing the queries asked by the scholars, he said we need to integrate the Indian Knowledge System with the recent advances and trends in our research for developing rational and value-based society.

Other faculty members Prof. J.N. Baliya, Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Dr. Aman, Dr. Kiran, Dr. Ravi Vanguri and Dr. Mohan Galgotra and Research scholars of the Department were present at this event. The session was moderated by Tarandeep Kour and Meenakshi.

BEGH celebrates International Nurses Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 13: Bee Enn General Hospital (BEGH) celebrated the International Nurses Day in the hospital premises.

Kunil Bhalla, Managing Trustee and Neelam Bhalla emphasised the importance and role of nurses in day to day patient care at hospital.

They encouraged the Nursing staff to be

compassionate towards patients and their attendants as they are suffering and their approach and good service will ease their stress during these testing times.

During the function, nurses presented lot of cultural items. Tribute was paid to Florence Nightingale, whose services as nurse is being remembered and appreciated till date and this day is celebrated in her

honour. More than 80 nurses participated in the function.

Nurses said punctuality, regularity and dedication towards patient care is the mantra of our success. The theme of the function was "Our Nurses, Our Future, The Economic Power Of Care."

Everyone congratulated the nurses for their dedicated services towards patients.