

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

Adah Sharma: My fans motivated me for my singing debut



NATIONAL | 7

Faces In Congress Have Changed But Its Character Remain Same: Yogi Adityanath

INTERNATIONAL | 8

Elon Musk welcomes 12th child, says 'our friends and family knew' about birth



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BRIEFLY

J&K forms TAC for outsourcing printing of DLs and RCs

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 25: In a recent development, the Finance Department of Jammu & Kashmir has established a Technical Appraisal Committee (TAC) tasked with vetting the RFP document for the outsourcing and centralized printing of Driving Licenses (DLs) and Certificates of Registration (RCs).

Srinagar fire under control; Mosque, shops and houses destroyed

SRINAGAR, Jun 25 (Agencies): The fire in the Malaratta area of Srinagar, which has been contained, destroyed a mosque, a few shops, and residential homes, officials said on Monday.

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Bilal Mohiudin, told ANI, "A mosque, a few shops, and residential houses were gutted in the fire...12 fire tenders, including hydraulic cranes, have been deployed. Fire is under control..."

"We will ascertain the cause of the fire," DC Mohiudin said before leaving for the fire spot.

He further added that the entire team, including the ADC's, Tehsildars, and police officials, are present at the spot.

Jammu base camp gets 3-tier security ahead of annual Amarnath Yatra

JAMMU, Jun 25 (Agencies): A three-tier security system has been put in place in and around for the Amarnath base camp in Jammu under the charge of Jammu and Kashmir Police's security wing.

Forces have carried out search and sanitisation operations to ensure a safe commencement of the annual yatra from June 28 in Jammu.

The 52-day pilgrimage to the holy cave shrine of Amarnath, located at a height of 3,880 metres, will commence from the twin tracks — the traditional 48-kilometre Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag and the 14-kilometre shorter but steeper Baltal route in Ganderbal — on June 29.

Turn to page 9

It's Birla Vs Suresh for Lok Sabha Speaker Post

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): BJP's Om Birla will fight it out with Kodikunnil Suresh of the Congress for the Lok Sabha Speaker's post after efforts to reach a consensus between the government and the opposition failed on Tuesday.

The voting will take place on Wednesday.

Both Birla and Suresh filed their nominations as NDA and INDIA bloc candidates, respectively.

Birla served as Speaker in the previous Lok Sabha as well and if he wins he would be the first person to get the post for the second term in 25 years. Before filing his nomination, Birla also met Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He has returned to the Lok Sabha for the third time from Kota in Rajasthan, Suresh, an eight-time



MP from Kerala, said it is not about winning or losing, but about a convention that Speaker will be of ruling party and deputy speaker will be of opposition.

"Last two Lok Sabhas, they denied us deputy speaker's post because they said you are not recognised as the opposition. Now we are recognised as the opposition, deputy speaker post is our right. But they are not ready to give us. Till 11.50 we were waiting for reply from government's side but they

did not give any reply," he told reporters.

Senior BJP leader and Union minister Rajnath Singh reached out to opposition leaders for their support to Birla, but the Congress wanted the deputy speaker's post for the Opposition in return citing convention and past practices.

There was no deputy speaker in the previous Lok Sabha.

Union Ministers Rajiv Ranjan Singh and Piyush Goyal said it was wrong on the part of Opposition to put condi-

tions and Rajnath Singh told them that the issue can be discussed when time comes for election of deputy speaker.

The opposition, however, wanted the post immediately and the NDA would not agree to such conditions, the two ministers told reporters.

Earlier in the morning, Congress leader K C Venugopal and DMK's T R Baalu walked out of Defence Minister Singh's office, refusing to endorse NDA candidate Birla without being offered the deputy speaker's position.

Venugopal said the BJP refused to give a commitment on offering the deputy speaker's post to the opposition.

Union ministers Amit Shah and J P Nadda besides Singh tried to persuade opposition

Turn to page 9

IGP Kashmir calls for vigilant patrolling along highways for safe, secure Amarnath Yatra



SRINAGAR, Jun 25 (Agencies): Inspector General of Police Kashmir Zone VK Birdi took stock of the arrangements for the peaceful conduct of Amarnath Yatra during a meeting at the conference hall of Police Control Room Kashmir on Monday.

The meeting was attended by DIG Central Kashmir Range, DIG North Kashmir Range,

DIG South Kashmir Range, all district SSPs of Kashmir Zone, SSP Traffic City, SSP Traffic Rural, SSP Security, SSP APCR, SP Telecommunication.

The statement reads that the officers briefed the IGP Kashmir through Power Point Presentation (PPT) of the security plan including the specific requirements of their respective districts

& security arrangements put in place for smooth conduct of Amarnath Yatra.

While directing the officers, IGP Kashmir closely examined the SOPs formulated for coordinating security efforts and ensuring a unified approach in managing exigencies arising out of operational, natural & manmade disasters.

Emphasising upon the safe & secure movement of pilgrims, being the top priority, he reviewed the deployment and operational readiness of the road opening parties, stressing the need for vigilant patrolling and monitoring along highways.

Turn to page 9

Indian Army holds first-ever dental camp at Siachen Glacier



LEH, Jun 25 (Agencies): The Indian Army organised its first-ever dental camp at a forward post on the Siachen Glacier, officials said.

"A significant milestone was achieved by the Indian Army's Fire and Fury Corps Siachen Base Camp Dental Det by organising the first-

ever Dental Camp at a forward post on the Siachen Glacier," Fire and Fury Corps, Indian Army said in a post on X.

The dental camp provided much-needed oral healthcare services, improving the overall well-being of the personnel enduring difficult weather conditions in the highest battlefield, the post added.

The Siachen Glacier is located in the eastern Karakoram range in the Himalayas and is often considered the world's highest battlefield.

Earlier on April 13, the Indian Air Force celebrated the 40th

Turn to page 9

Helicopter service from Jammu to Vaishno Devi Shrine begins

KATRA/JAMMU, Jun 25 (Agencies): The direct helicopter service from Jammu to the Mata Vaishno Devi temple began on Tuesday, facilitating pilgrims who wish to perform 'darshan' at the revered shrine within a day due to time constraints, officials said.

This is in addition to the helicopter service which is already available between Katra, the base camp for the pilgrims visiting the famous shrine atop Trikuta hills in Reasi district, and Sanjhi Chhat near the temple with a one-way



fare of Rs 2,100 per person.

Pilgrims opting for the service from Jammu can choose between two packages — Rs 35,000 per passenger for same day return and Rs 60,000 per person for

next day return.

Marking the commencement of the new service, the first helicopter carrying pilgrims left Jammu airport at around 11 am and landed on Panchi helipad along the new trek to the shrine,

the officials said.

"The service is part of continuous efforts to provide better facilities to the pilgrims visiting the shrine," Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB), told reporters in Katra after the inauguration.

"We have been getting requests from the pilgrims from faraway places within the country and abroad, facing time constraints, for a direct service between Jammu and the shrine," Garg added.

Turn to page 9

MBA MOTORS

MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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

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

Former JKHCBA president Mian Qayoom arrested in Babar Qadri murder case

SRINAGAR, Jun 25 (Agencies): Former J&K High Court Bar Association (JKHCBA) president Mian Qayoom has been arrested in connection with the 2020 murder of outspoken Kashmiri lawyer Babar Qadri, reports said.

Qadri, in his 30s, was shot dead by two people who came as clients to his Srinagar house in September 2020.

A special team set up by the Jammu and Kashmir police had filed charges against five suspects in August 2021.


Kashmir police had said that Saqib Manzoor was also involved in Qadri's murder.

Manzoor was the deputy to Abbas Shiekh,

Turn to page 9

10TH DAY OM SHANTI OM

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM YOU OF THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SH. THAKUR JIWAN SINGH CHARAK, S/O LT. SH. CHAJJU RAM, R/O H.NO. 84, SECTOR 2, WARD NO. 51, MOHALLA PAROLI, CHANNI HIMMAT, JAMMU.**



SH. THAKUR JIWAN SINGH CHARAK (1961-2024)

TENTH DAY SHALL BE PERFORMED AT HOME (WEDNESDAY) ON JUNE 26, 2024, AT 11:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN CHARAK FAMILY CHANNI HIMMAT 9086232727


MASVAR AND VAHARVAR

One year has passed since you left for heavenly abode. But your memories are still fresh, you are being missed every moment and will be in our hearts forever, you are always with us unseen and unheard.

MASVAR AND VAHARVAR of our beloved **Late Smt Usha Raina** will be performed on 25th and 26th June 2024 at our residence Lower Muthi Jammu.

Deeply Missed and Remembered by
Kanwal Krishan Raina- Husband
Rimi & Prateek- Daughter & Son in law
Ravi & Bhavana- Son & Daughter in law
Rattan Lal Raina & Sushma Raina - Devar-Devrani
T K Raina & Anjali Raina- **<do>**
Rajinder Raina & Baby Raina- Brother in law & Sister in law
Roshan Lal Raina & Bimla Raina- **<do>**

Grand Children:
Jhanvi, Pari, Sharvi, Poohu

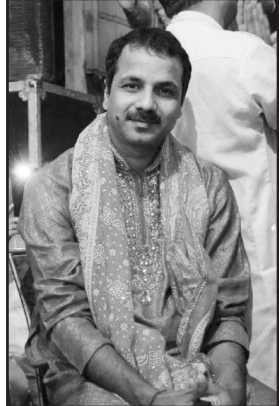


Late Smt Usha Raina

Homage to a legendary virtuoso

With profound grief we want to bring it to your kind notice that the a Renowned Singer, Music Director and Producer of Jammu, Mr. Surinder Manhas, passed away untimely a year back. His first barsi rasam will be performed at his residence with puja at 12 p.m. on Tuesday, 25th June, 2024, followed by a tribute that will be offered to him by his family and loved ones as a Shradhanjali Samaroh at Shri Radha Krishan Temple, near Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Paloura (Jammu), from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Kindly visit the venues to pray for his divine journey towards salvation.

Grief stricken:
Marina Jamwal (Wife)
Yashovardhan(Son)
Khushi(Daughter)



Late Sh. Surinder Manhas

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With Profound Grief and Sorrow we inform you the sad demise of our beloved **Shri Chaman Lal Koul (Waffa)** S/o Lt. Dina Nath Koul O/R Karpora Khushki, Rainawari Srinagar at present R.K Vihar, Lane No.1, Udheywala, Jammu on 19th June, 2024.

The **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 28th June 2024 at Muthi Ghat at 8 AM.

IN GRIEF
Smt. Sarla Koul- Wife
Daughter and Son-in-law
Smt and Shri Shivani and Ajay Bhan
Sons and Daughter in laws
Shri and Smt Sanjay & Anjana Koul
Shri and Smt Sameer & Rozey Koul
Shri and Smt Upender and Rajani Koul- Brother and Bhabhi
Shri and Smt Surinder and Kiran Koul- Brother and Bhabhi
Shri and Smt. Rattan Lal Koul & Kanta Koul- Brother and Bhabhi
Shri and Smt Jawaharlal Koul and Shama Koul- Brother and Bhabhi
Shri and Smt. Chunilal Koul & Mirmala Koul- Brother and Bhabhi
GRAND CHILDREN: Hiti Bhan, Ansh Bhan, Aryan, Yakshit, Dev Rishi

Mourning will held at H.No. 8, Lane No. 1, R.K Vihar, Behind Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu
Contact: 7006543328, 9541401618, 9419145060, 6006270790



Shri Chaman Lal Koul (Waffa)

10TH DAY/ KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Raj Dularie Suri W/o Late Sh. Janki Nath Suri**, Resident of 827, Pamposh Colony, Natipora, Srinagar, Kashmir, A/P House No: 338, Lane No: 4, Lakkari Mandi, Old Janipur, Jammu.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 25th June 2024 (Tuesday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education, Muthi, Jammu at 8.30 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Subash Chander Suri & Princy Suri (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Sahil Suri (Grandson)
Samast Suri & Mantoo Parivar
Mob: 9419240407, 9697140407, 7006872727



Smt. Raj Dularie Suri


TENTH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED FATHER **LATE OMKAR NATH RAINA (BOBAJI)** S/O LATE DEVI LAL RAINA OF WALABHAMA, PASHALGAN, A/P H. NO.25, SEC.6, JAWALAJI COLONY GANGVAL, JAMMU ON 17TH JUNE 2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 26TH OF JUNE AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AT 08.30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
SHYAMA PIYARI -WIFE
SWARAN KUMAR RAZDAN -SON
SMT. DAZY RAZDAN -DAUGHTER-IN-LAW
DAUGHTERS AND SON IN LAWS:-
DAZY W/O SUNIL KUMAR BHATT
CHAMPA W/O SANJEEV PANDITA
SISTER:-
PHOOLA PANDITA W/O LATE P N PANDITA
BROTHERS & BHABIS:-
SHIBAN KRISHAN RAINA & SANI OSH RAINA
RAVI JI RAINA & PRIMIJA RAINA
SHRAWAN KUMAR RAINA & LALITA RAINA

CONTACT NO:
9086563249, 9419143154,
9419121641, 9419173752



LATE OMKAR NATH RAINA (BOBAJI)

SATSANG & ARDAS

ਤੁਹਾ ਦੀ ਕੀਰਤੀ ਸੰਗਤ ਮਰਣਾ। ਗੁਰ ਤੇ ਸਮਝ ਕਿਸਾ ਫਰਟਾ ॥

O God, It is You who has created the process of birth and death. One, who comes to know the truth from the Guru, there remains nothing for that one to be afraid of.

You are requested to join us in **SATSANG** and **ARDAS** congregation to be held as per the programme given below in remembrance of **Late S. BRUNANDAN SINGH BALI** S/o Late S. MUTWAL SINGH BALI R/O Ushkara Batamulla / H. No. 18, Sector B, Sainik Colony, Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 26-05-2024.

24-06-2024 (Monday) 1630 hrs to 1800 hrs (4:30 PM to 6 PM) at Gurdwara Singh Sabha Sainik Colony, Jammu.

IN PROFOUND GRIEF
Smt. Nainder Kour (Wife)
S. Rajinder Singh Bali & Smt. Rajinder Kour (Son and Daughter-in-law)
S. Manmeet Singh Bali & Smt. Sarjeet Kour (Son and Daughter-in-law)
S. Beant Singh Bali (Brother)
Dr. Feja Singh Bali & Smt. Pushpinder Kour (Brother and Sister-in-Law)
Smt. Mahinder Kour W/o Late S. Janki Singh Bali (Sister-in-law)
S. Harikant Singh, S. Naal Karwal Singh, S. Gurdasp Singh,
(Sons of Late S. Anoop Singh & Late Smt. Jeet Kour (Sister))
S. Kamraj Singh & Mrs. Manmeet Kour (Children of Late S. Hoshier Singh (Brother) & Late Smt. Upkar Kour)
Bhai, Omer Singh & Smt. Aagya Kour (Brother-in-law and Sister-in-law)
Tanika Bali, Gaurandeep Singh Bali, Rohitpreet Singh Bali. (Grand Children)



LATE. S. BRUNANDAN SINGH BALI


OBITUARY/TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely death of our mother **Smt Veena ji Bhat W/o Sh Rattan Lal Bhat** originally R/o Village Wadipora Handwara Kashmir A/P Ashok Vihar Phase 2 Gurugram Haryana.

Tenth Day will be performed at 7 AM on the 28th. June 2024 at Gauri Shanker Mandir New Palam Vihar Gurugram Haryana.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Husband : Sh. Rattan Lal Bhat
Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law
Sh. Hiralal & Sushmaji
Son & Daughter in law
Ashok & Sarla
Ajay & Poonam
Amit

Grand Children
Ishan, Isha Anoushka, Shivam, Divya, Akshar, Meghan, Kartik, Archit, Mehar, Bavi
9810920888, 9419703535



Smt Veena ji Bhat

OBITUARY AND TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that our beloved **Sh. Sham Lal Dhar S/o Late Sh. Sarwanand Dhar**, originally R/o Vorekhopora Gazigund, Kashmir, left for heavenly abode at Ahmedabad Gujarat on 17.06.2024.

Mourning will be observed at B-32(A) Bharat Nagar, Bantala Jammu from 22.06.2024. **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 26.06.2024 at Muthi Ghat (Near office of Director Education) at 9 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Ranjini Dhar (Wife)
Kapil Dhar (Son)
Daughter and Son-in-law
Smt. Meenakshi and Sh. Indar Kumar Kandoo
Smt. Roopji Ji Koul (Sister)
Sh. Omkar Nath Dhar (Brother)
Sh. H.N. Dhar and Smt. Asha Ji (Brother and Sister-in-law)
Sh. S.N. Dhar and Smt. Seema Ji (Brother and Sister-in-law)
Grandsons: Mehar, Ishaan, Kandoo.

Contact numbers: 9622342883, 9509102801, 8454044604 and 9665525744.



SH. SHAM LAL DHAR

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief, we would like to share that **Smt. Sheela Bhat W/o Sh. Badrinath Bhat**, erstwhile resident of House No. 25, Shastri Nagar, opposite Degree College Bemina, Srinagar, left this materialistic world for "Vaikunth Dham" on 17/06/2024 at her present residence; 102, Sector 45-A, Chandigarh.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 26th June 2024 at Lakhmpur, Kurali-Ropar Road at 8:30 am. **Assembly** will be held at our residence House No. 102, Sector 45A, Chandigarh.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Bhat Parivar # 9888369961



Smt. Sheela Bhat

TENTH DAY / KIRYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Jyoti Gupta** on Tuesday, 18th. June 2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on Wednesday, 26th. June 2024 at 11.00 a.m. at our residence 238-A, Shastri Nagar, Jammu.

Kiryra will be performed on Saturday, 29th. June 2024 at 12.00 Noon at our residence 238-A, Shastri Nagar, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Nand Kumar Gupta - Husband
Dr. Geeta & Dr. Arun Gupta - Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law
Srishti & Abhinandan - Daughter-in-Law & Son
Henna & Nishant - Daughter & Son-in-Law
Neelam & Vijay Nagpal - Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law
Monika & Harish Gupta - Sister-in-Law & Brother
Vivek Gupta - Brother
Lata & Sanjay Gupta - Sister & Brother-in-Law
Swati & Hitesh - Niece & Son-in-Law
Aditya, Sheena & Anshul - Nephews & Niece
Aahaan - Grandson
& SAMAST PARIVAAR

94191 - 13007
70062 - 14173
98992 - 21435



Late Smt. Jyoti Gupta

10TH DAY KRIYA

The 10th Day Kriya of our beloved Mother **Smt. Basanti Hakim W/o Shri Hira Lal Hakim**, originally from Malayar, Habba Kadal, Srinagar, Kashmir and presently residing at Flat No. 204, Mokdong Tower, Omak Heights, Sector-86, Faridabad, Haryana who left for her heavenly abode on Tuesday, 18th June, 2024 at Faridabad will be performed at 10.00 A.M on Thursday, 27th June, 2024 at Chhota Haridwar, Muradnagar, Uttar Pradesh.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Hira Lal Hakim (Husband)
Sanjeev and Neelma Hakim (Son & Daughter in law)
Renu and Sanjiv Pandita (Daughter & Son in law)
Ravinder and Sunita Hakim (Son & Daughter in law)
Jawahar Lal Hakim (Brother in law)
Sukrit, Saarth, Sagan, Kirat, Roema, Rashli, Vishant, Vanshu (Grand children)
Hakim and Pandit (Malyun) Family
Mob: 9811478571




Smt. Basanti Hakim

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Roop Krishan Bhan S/o Late Sh. Govind Joe Bhan R/o Midoora Tral Kashmir**, who left for heavenly abode on 18th June 2024.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 27th June 2024 at 9.30 AM at Shiv Temple, Pandith Mohalla Midoora Tral Kashmir.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Gija Bhan -Wife
Bhabhi & Brothers
Smt. Gulji & Sh. Shiban Lal Bhan
Smt. Rajni & Sh. Suresh Kumar Bhan
Daughter & Son in Law
Smt. Radhika Bhan & Sh. Vikas Hangloo
Rohani Bhan- Daughter
CHILDREN: Sushel, Shivani, Hritik, Sneha, Janan, Pari
MOBILE NO: 9419079486, 9697466968, 9697561378



SH. ROOP KRISHAN BHAN


TENTH DAY/KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SH. JAGDISH CHANDER SHARMA S/O LATE SHRI KR SHARMA R/O HOUSE NO.1 BHARAT NAGAR EXT OPPOSITE POONCH HOUSE TALAB TILLO JAMMU WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 16-06-2024 (SUNDAY).**

THE TENTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED ON 25-06-2024 (TUESDAY) AT OUR RESIDENCE AT 11AM.

THE KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 26-05-2024 (WEDNESDAY) AT OUR RESIDENCE AT 12 NOON.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
SMT LAJYA SHARMA (WIFE)
(DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AND SON)
SMT CHETNA SHARMA AND SH VIKAS SHARMA (SON-IN-LAW AND DAUGHTER)
SH AJIT MOHAN RAJ AND SMT VAISHALI SHARMA (GRAND CHILDREN)
SIDDHARTH, VAIBHAVI, TANYA, ALEYNA
MOB: 9419100127




SH JAGDISH CHANDER SHARMA
06-04-1943 TO 16-06-2024

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Shri Maharaj Krishan Aima S/o Lt. Brj Lal Aima** resident of Drabayar, Habba Kadal, Kashmir presently at Flat No. B-604, Belleza Cooperative housing society, Malwadi, Hadapsar, Pune, who left us on 18th of June, 2024 for eternal journey to heavenly abode.

TENTH DAY gathering will be performed on 27 th of June 2024, (Thursday), at our residence from 11:00 am to 12:00 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt Rita Aima - Wife
Daughter and Son in Law
Anupama and Sandeep Raina
Archana and Akhil Tirsal
Dileep and Gija Aima- Brother and Sister in law
Ashok and Atri Aima- Brother and Sister in law
Raj and Upinder Ogra- Sister and Brother in law
Nirmala and R. K Kaul- Sister and Brother in law
Veena and Rajesh Sharma- Sister and Brother in law
Contact No.- 7507786467, 7507700018, 6005922339



Shri Maharaj Krishan Aima

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh Bansi Lal Khanna S/o Late Sh Charan Dass Khanna R/O H.No. 739, Lane No. 2 Near Ram Leela Ground Janipur Colony Jammu** who left for heavenly abode on 17-06-2024.

10th Day shall be performed on 26-06-2024 (Wednesday) at 10 AM to 11 AM at Tri Murti Mandir Janipur Colony.

Kriya will be performed on 29-06-2024 (Saturday) at our residence at 12 Noon.

Uthala will be performed on 01-07-2024 (Monday) from 4.00 PM to 5.00 PM at Arya Samaj Mandir Near Ram Sharanam Ashram, Janipur Colony, Jammu.

Grief Stricken
Sudha Khanna -Wife
Nitin Khanna & Preeti Khanna -Son & Daughter-in-law
Nikhil Khanna -Son
Mobile: 6005682146, 7006143382



Sh Bansi Lal Khanna

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, it is inform the sad demise of **Sh Dina Nath Pandita (Nath Jee)** S/o Late Isher Dass R/o Chandiyan Pajan, Vessu Kashmir, at present H No. 130/E, Sec 2, Near M Dass School, Durga Nagar Jammu on 21.06.2024 (Friday).

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 30, Jun-2024 (Sunday) at 8:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Ashok Kumar Pandita (Son)
Veerji Pandita (Son)
Daughters & Son in law
Smt Jaya Raina W/o Late O N Raina (Vessu)
Smt Babli Koul W/o A K Koul (Ponrwa Verinag)
Smt Sweety Raina W/o Chunil Lal Raina (Mughimarg)
Bhabis & Brothers
Smt Sham Rani & Late Priithavi Nath Bhat
Smt Mohani Ji & Soorn Nath Bhat
Smt Sorni Ji & Churni Lal Kandoo
Sisters & Jija Ji's
Smt Churni Ji & J N Pandita (Batpura)
Smt Shanta Gagri & Late P N Bhat (Zangulpura)
Smt Mohani Ji & Late D N Bhat (Devssar)



Sh Dina Nath Pandita (Nath Jee)

Grand Children & Great Grand Children
Mob: 7006961273, 7889675989, 9419216006

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Kamyogi Smt Piyari Bhat W/o Lt. Shri Mohan Lal Bhat R/o Katoosa Kulgam** at present C-501, Pioneer Park, Sector 61, Gurugram, who left her eternal journey on June 18, 2024.

TENTH DAY shall be performed on June 27 at Ganga Ghat of Chhoti Haridwar Musod Nagar, Gazabad at 8:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
(Son in law & Daughter in law)
Sh Deep Kumar Bhat & Sheela Bhat
(Son in law & Daughter in law)
Sh Raj Kumar Bhat & Sheela Bhat
Daughter and Son in law
Smt Baby Ji & Sh M. K. Bhan
Smt Princy J & Sh Sanjiv Koul
Smt Dazy ji & Sh Swarn Razdan
Sister in Law
Smt Chand Rani W/o Lt Sh Kashi Nath Pandita
Smt Shanta ji W/o Lt Brj Nath Pandita
Smt. Kashi ji W/o Bansi Lal Pandita

Smt Shama ji W/o Lt Jagar Nath Koul (Sister)
9851538832, 9419206680,
9086563249, 9847053052



Smt Piyari Bhat

FIFTH DAY

With heavy hearts, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Tripta Gupta W/o Late Sh. Sat Paul Gupta (Retd. RTO Dharamshala)** of Chamba who left for heavenly abode on 23-06-2024

FIFTH DAY will be performed at Panj Mandir, Channi Himmat, Jammu on 26th of June 2024 (Wednesday) Between 10 AM to 11 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
BHABIS AND BROTHERS
Smt. Lalita Gupta & Late. Om Prakash Mahajan
Late. Smt. Subhash Gupta & Sh. Darshan Mahajan
Smt. Sharda Gupta & Er. V. K. Gupta
Smt. Rajni Mahajan & Sh. K.K. Mahajan
Smt. Pinky Mahajan & Sh. Raman Mahajan
SISTER AND BROTHER-IN-LAW
Smt. Chand Kamal Sethi & Dr. Kamal Sethi
Contact No: 9858502520, 9697189282, 9419145474, 9419241656, 7006941700, 9906391340



SMT. TRIPTA GUPTA

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LG Mishra takes part in ULLAS Mela to declare Ladakh fully functional literate UT in India

Top News Report

LEH, June 25: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) took part in ULLAS Mela organised by the Ministry of Education, Government of India in collaboration with School Education Department, UT Ladakh, at the Sindh Sanskriti Kendra (SSK) Leh to declare Ladakh a Fully Functional Literate Union Territory in the Country.

To achieve the target of 100% literacy by 2030, the Government of India has implemented a centrally sponsored scheme called Nav Bharat Saksharta Karyakaram or New India Literacy Programme (NILP) for the period of Financial Years 2022-2027.

ULLAS is the short form of Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society and holds the motto of Jan-Jan Sakshar. The scheme is targeted at all non-literates of age 15 years and above.

Congratulating all those above 15 years who are literate now along with the trainers, the LG called the declaration of Ladakh as a fully functional literate union territory a landmark achievement for the region.

He stated that the enthusiasm shown by old age people to learn to read and write amazes him.

He congratulated the trainers for bringing all those willing to learn to read and write in a single place and also appreciated the initiatives taken by the Ministry of Education to improve standards in Ladakh.

Stating that all these programmes are part of the National Education Policy (NEP)-2020 envisioned by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi to highlight the importance of education, the LG recalled the challenges faced by students to enroll in educational institutions, which would happen only once a year and now initiatives have been taken

to enroll students twice a year. He informed about initiatives the UT Administration took to improve education standards in Ladakh, particularly the detachment of teaching/non-teaching staff, ensuring that no government schools in Ladakh remain headless and maintaining the student-teacher ratio.

Highlighting that Ladakh has achieved the goal of making the region a fully functional literate UT in 2024 itself, the LG stated that the challenge now is to remove the mental barrier of society to look for government jobs.

He also stated that society must teach the youth to become job providers instead of job seekers to reduce the unemployment gap.

He further stated that Ladakh requires more entrepreneurs and startups and asked the Ministry of Education to think of a comprehensive plan in this regard. The HLG expressed hope to see the new literates making

their presence felt in society and also show the path to future generations to take society forward.

The LG felicitated new literates from Leh and Kargil on the occasion. He also released the Annual Report of School Education Department, UT Ladakh.

Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, Gol, Sanjay Kumar, termed the day a 'Red Letter Day' for Ladakh and congratulated the people of Ladakh along with the new literates. Calling books as windows to the outside world, he highlighted the special features of the New India Literacy Programme. He also highlighted various initiatives being taken by the Ministry of Education to improve education standards in Ladakh.

Principal Secretary, School Education Department, UT Ladakh, Sanjiv Khairwar welcomed the guests and highlighted various initiatives taken

by the department to improve the literacy rate in Ladakh. Director, School Education Department, UT Ladakh, Tsering Paldan, gave the thank you speech.

A film on the journey of ULLAS Programme in Ladakh was also screened on the occasion. Earlier, the LG inspected the mobile science lab along with stalls set up by different schools from UT Ladakh. He also interacted with teachers.

Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC Kargil, Dr Mohd Jaffer Akhoun; Advisor to the HLG, Dr Pawan Kotwal; Executive Councillor, LAHDC Kargil, Zakir Hussain; Principal Secretary, Sanjiv Khairwar; ADGP Ladakh, Dr SD Singh Jamwal; Joint Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Gol, Archana Sharma Awasthi; officials, teachers and lecturers from School Education Department along with new literates were present during the function.

Dimple labels August 5, 2019, as a black day in J&K's history



Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, led a significant protest rally aimed at restoring Jammu & Kashmir's statehood before the assembly elections.

Sunil Dimple accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of imposing an undeclared emergency in Jammu & Kashmir and across India since coming to power in 2014.

He criticized BJP for what he described as a dictatorial approach towards the restoration of the Dogra state in Jammu & Kashmir.

Dimple labeled August 5, 2019, as a black day in J&K's history, referring to the abrogation of Article 370 by the BJP government.

He condemned BJP's actions on that day, accusing them of destroying the demography, history, identity, and culture of Jammu & Kashmir.

He claimed that since August 5, 2019, there has been an undeclared emergency in Jammu & Kashmir under BJP rule.

He alleged widespread misuse of power by central agencies like ED, CBI, IT, and the police to suppress dissent and manipulate local governance.

Dimple highlighted the consequences of the abrogation of special status, including the division of J&K into two union territories without consulting the local population.

He criticized the suppression of voices, arrests of leaders and

activists, and prolonged internet shutdowns.

He mentioned their struggle for statehood and assembly elections, citing a Supreme Court Chief Justice's verdict as a pivotal moment achieved after extensive protests and legal battles.

The protest rally included several leaders such as Rupesh Bhat, Sachin Soli, Sat Sharma, Arjun Anand, Bunty Dogra, and others, indicating broad support for their cause.

Govt unmoved as power, water crisis deepens across Jammu region: Uday Chib, Hari Singh

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Uday Bhanu Chib, former Youth Congress President of Jammu and Kashmir and presently the National General Secretary of the Indian Youth Congress (IYC), along with Hari Singh Chib, Vice President of the Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC), raised grave concerns about the worsening power and water crisis in the Jammu division.

Amidst a sweltering heat-wave, several areas of the Jammu division are grappling with severe water and power shortages, a situation that the authorities have failed to address adequately.

The senior Congress leaders voiced these concerns while addressing a workers' meeting held at Upper Barnai Mohallah.

Pandit Luxmi Chand, Congress leader and President Ward No 65, apprised the senior Congress leaders of the problems faced by the people in the area, primarily due to the acute shortage of power and drinking water. He said that the Public



Health Engineering (PHE) supply is available only once every 3-4 days, and even then, only for a few minutes. This dire situation has compelled many to purchase water tanks for drinking purposes. He also expressed their dissatisfaction with the damaged condition of the lanes and drains in their locality, further exacerbating their plight.

Uday Bhanu Chib stated that the ongoing heat-wave has only intensified the suffering of the people in Jammu and the present dispensation has miserably failed to address people issues. He termed it as an unacceptable that in this day and age, people are forced to purchase water for their basic needs. The govern-

ment must take immediate action to address these issues and provide relief to the suffering masses."

Uday Chib said that the BJP led Government at the Centre has miserably failed to live up to the expectations of people of Jammu and Kashmir. He appealed to Govt to ensure availability of basic facilities like ration, power, health, education sector & unemployment which is the right of general public.

Hari Singh Chib said that the condition of the infrastructure in our locality is deplorable. The damaged lanes and drains are a testament to the neglect by the authorities. He observed that the government's apathy towards the power and water crisis is deeply concerning, urging

the authorities sitting at the helm of affairs to take swift measures to alleviate the people's hardships."

Hari Singh stated that there is a strong resentment among people against the Government as the BJP leadership has failed to fulfill its promises that were made at the time of both Parliamentary and the Assembly elections.

Har Singh appealed to the people of the area to support the Congress Party in the ensuing Assembly Polls in J&K as the Party alone can ensure justice in every sphere of life and equitable development of all regions.

Prominent among those who were present include Romesh Singh Manhas, Parshotam Kumar, Vijay

Bhat, Mohan Lal Sharma, Kuldeep Singh, Madan Mohan Mehra, Ram Pal, Sudesh Kumar, Amar-nath, Tilak Raj, Kuldeep Raj, Nikhal Sharma, Ankit Verma, Sahil Verma, Sahil Singh, Bachan Singh, Surinder Kumar, Madan Singh Chib, Jung Bahadur Singh, Neeta, Pummy Manhas, Kaka Ram, Soni Manhas and Kamal Singh.

Dark Days of Emergency remind us of how Congress subverted basic freedoms: Rekha

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: On the occasion of the 49th anniversary of the imposition of the emergency, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan directed sharp criticism at the Congress while addressing the karyekartas, saying that the dark days of the emergency reminded how the Congress Party trampled over the Constitution of India. BJP announced on Tuesday, a nationwide program to commemorate the emergency imposed on June 25, 1975, by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Rekha Mahajan condemned the misuse of power and suppression of democratic freedoms during that period, attributing the survival of democracy to the sacrifices of those who fought to restore constitutional norms.

Rekha Mahajan emphasized that today is a day to pay homage to all those great men and women



who resisted the emergency. The Dark Days of Emergency remind us of how the Congress Party subverted basic freedoms and trampled over the Constitution of India, which every Indian respects greatly. She further said that just to cling on to power, the then-Congress government disregarded every democratic principle.

Rekha Mahajan further shared, "Just to cling on to power, the then Congress government disre-

garded every democratic principle and made the nation into a jail. Any person who disagreed with Congress was tortured and harassed. Socially regressive policies were unleashed to target the weakest sections."

She added that those who imposed the emergency have no right to profess their love for our Constitution. "These are the same people who have imposed Article 356 on innumerable occasions, got a bill to destroy

press freedom, destroyed federalism, and violated every aspect of the Constitution," Rekha added.

Rekha asserted if democracy is still alive in this country today, the credit goes to those people who struggled to restore democracy, went to jail, and had to undergo so much physical and mental torture. She said the coming generations of India will remember their struggle and their contribution to protecting democracy.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

The Deputy Chief Engineer/BR/Workshop, Northern Railway, Jalandhar Cantt. for and on behalf of President of India invites Open-tender under Signle Packet System for the under noted work:-

Tender Notice No.: OT-14-JRC-2024	
Name of work	Supplying, fixing and testing of shear stud connectors of 25mm dia and 200mm length conforming to relevant IS codes for fabrication of girders in Northern Railway, Bridge Workshop, Jalandhar Cantt.
Approx. Cost (₹)	₹1,61,58,546.24
Earnest Money (₹)	₹2,30,800/-
Date of Opening	15.07.2024
Bidding start date on IREPS	01.07.2024 to 15.07.2024
Cost of Tender Form (₹)	0.00
Completion Period of work	9 Months
Date & Time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15:00 hrs. on dates shown against each and opening of tender thereafter at 15:00 hrs. on same date
Website Particulars where complete details of tender can be seen & downloaded	The detailed e-tender notice is available on Northern Railway website i.e. www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in and tender document is available on www.ireps.gov.in
No.: 80-W/30/Bridges/Invitation Dated : 21.06.2024 1886/2024	

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD(R&B) PROJECTS
DIVISION III JAMMU
E-mail: kenpwdprojectdiv3jmu@gmail.com

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-NIT NO: - 130F 2024-25 DATED: - 20-06-2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited on **percentage basis** from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for the following works: -

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (In lacs)	Cost of doc. (In Rs.)	Earnest money (2% of Adv. Cost)	Time of Completion	Class of Contractor
1.	Repair and Renovation of Govt Qtr No 33-A at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. CNO100-NP	4.99	600/-	2%	45 Days	A, B, C & D
2.	Repair and Renovation of Govt Qtr No 24A at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. CNO101-NP	11.78	600/-	2%	75 Days	A, B, C & D
3.	Providing and fixing of Soundproof UPVC windows at Kothi No-04, Ghulami Bagh, Jammu. CNO102-NP	2.50	600/-	2%	30 Days	A, B, C & D
4.	Repair/ Renovation of Govt Qtr No 11-B at Poonch House, Talab Tillo, Jammu. CNO103-NP	4.99	600/-	2%	45 Days	A, B, C & D
5.	Repair/ Renovation of Govt Qtr No 91-P at Poonch House, Talab Tillo, Jammu. CNO104-NP	5.25	600/-	2%	45 Days	A, B, C & D
6.	Repair/ Renovation of Govt Qtr No 15-C at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. CNO105-NP	6.92	600/-	2%	60 Days	A, B, C & D
7.	Repair/ Renovation of Govt Qtr No 47-C at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. CNO106-NP	6.00	600/-	2%	60 Days	A, B, C & D
8.	Repair/Removal of damaged concrete jali from building towards Road / Block A New Set 1 to 24) at Ahata Amar Singh Jammu. CNO107-NP	5.00	600/-	2%	45 Days	A, B, C & D
9.	Providing, Laying flooring behind Block C including sewerage line, manholes, manholes covers and allied works at Ahata Amar Singh Jammu. CNO108-NP	2.50	600/-	2%	30 Days	A, B, C & D

1. Bidding documents consisting of pre-qualification criteria, specifications of the work, Bill of Quantities, set of terms and conditions of contract and other relevant details can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.

Schedule of tender:

A	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	20-06-2024
B	Period of downloading of bidding documents	21-06-2024 from 1200 Hrs to 27-06-2024 upto 1630 Hrs
C	Bid submission Start Date	21-06-2024 from 1200 Hrs
D	Bid submission End Date	27-06-2024 upto 1630 Hrs
E	Date of opening of Technical Bids (online)	28-06-2024, 1200 Hrs in the office of the Executive Engineer, PWD(R&B) Projects Division III, Jammu

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. name of work e-NIT No. & dt: duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favouring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Projects Division III, Jammu and upload the same i.e. treasury challan Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BGpledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Projects Division III, Jammu. The date of both should be between publishing and Closing of NIT. The CDR/FDR/BG shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of L1 be submitted to the Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Projects Division III, Jammu within 03 (three) days after the date of issuance of the Letter of Acceptance **NO: R&B/Project Div. III/DB/1183-95 Dated: 20-06-2024**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Projects Division III
Jammu.

DIP/J-1827/24

EDITORIAL

The Rise of
NFTs

In recent times, Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) have emerged as a revolutionary force in the digital realm, transforming how we perceive and trade digital assets. These blockchain-based tokens represent unique items or pieces of content, ranging from digital art and music to virtual real estate and even tweets. The meteoric rise of NFTs has sparked a global conversation on their potential impact, raising both excitement and concerns across various sectors.

NFTs function on blockchain technology, offering a secure and transparent way to authenticate ownership and provenance of digital assets. Unlike cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, which are fungible and interchangeable, each NFT is distinct and cannot be replicated. This uniqueness is encoded into smart contracts, ensuring that ownership and transaction history are permanently recorded on the blockchain.

At the heart of the NFT phenomenon lies its ability to redefine digital ownership. Artists, musicians, and creators can now monetize their digital works directly, bypassing traditional intermediaries and gaining greater control over their intellectual property. This democratization of creativity has empowered individuals worldwide, allowing them to capitalize on their digital creations in unprecedented ways.

However, the rapid ascent of NFTs has also stirred criticisms and concerns. Environmental impact is a significant issue, as the energy-intensive process of minting and trading NFTs on blockchain networks like Ethereum has drawn scrutiny for its carbon footprint. Additionally, questions about the intrinsic value of NFTs persist, with skeptics questioning whether digital assets lacking physical form can justify their often exorbitant prices.

From a cultural perspective, NFTs are reshaping how society perceives and values digital art and collectibles. Museums and galleries are increasingly exploring NFT exhibitions, while traditional collectors navigate the integration of digital assets into their portfolios. Moreover, the legal landscape surrounding NFTs remains complex, with ongoing debates over copyright, licensing, and intellectual property rights in the digital age.

Looking ahead, the future of NFTs appears promising yet uncertain. Innovations in blockchain technology could address environmental concerns and enhance scalability, potentially broadening the utility and accessibility of NFTs. Regulatory frameworks are also evolving to accommodate the unique challenges posed by digital assets, aiming to foster a balanced ecosystem that protects creators and investors alike.

In conclusion, while NFTs represent a groundbreaking advancement in digital ownership and creative expression, they also present profound challenges and opportunities. As the technology matures and societal attitudes evolve, navigating the complexities of NFTs will require careful consideration of ethical, environmental, and regulatory factors. Ultimately, the full impact of NFTs on the digital economy and cultural landscape will unfold in the years to come, shaping a new era of digital innovation and ownership.

After recent poll results, will we witness a change in 'Godi Media'?

By: Aakar Patel

After 2014 India became familiar with the phenomenon of the "Godi Media", a phrase coined by the Magsaysay Award-winning journalist Ravish Kumar. It refers to the media in the lap of the Prime Minister, whose name rhymes with Godi.

In his book of a few decades ago, American scholar Noam Chomsky wrote that the media in democratic nations was not really independent and did not do the task of informing the public, particularly about the overreach of the State. Instead, it engaged in what he called "manufacturing consent" in favour of the government and business interests. He said the mass media are ideological institutions carrying out propaganda, by reliance on market forces, self-censorship and without overt coercion, through a particular model.

The defining aspects of such a model were the following. First, that the media was owned by corporate interests; second, that its revenue model depended on advertising; third, that the government made it dependent by giving access only to a select few pliant reporters and anchors and by withholding licences; fourth, that this compromised and pliant media marginalised dissent and attacked the political Opposition, acting as a government mouthpiece; and fifth, it created "bogeyman" distractions that took attention away from real

issues.

As may be noted by alert readers, all these conditions apply to the media in India. On some of these, such as licencing and advertising, the media is even more dependent than that in the West. Having said that, it is quite revealing to see that the revenues of India's six listed news media companies has not risen in the last decade. The total sales of these companies in 2014 was Rs 6,325 crores and the total in 2023 was Rs 6,691 crore. The total profits in 2014 were Rs 761 crores and in 2023 they were Rs 254 crores.

Adjusted for inflation, these six listed companies (representing some of the nation's largest news channels and newspapers) are half the size they were in 2014.

So, the question really is: why is the "Godi Media" acting against its own interests? They have not only made no money or benefited in their business, but actually shrunk. There are several reasons that are obvious. Two of them are that the nature of the media has changed in the last 20 years. Online advertising has taken a large share and most of this is money that goes to two companies, Google and Facebook. The other reason is that the economy has not been in good shape, particularly the part of it related to consumption. Neither of these is disputable. However, I felt that to understand what was going on, I spoke to people in the channels. I asked them four questions: What incentives are there

for channels to back the government and attack the Opposition? To what extent are news channel operations dependent on advertising (and other favours) from the government? Do ratings generally indicate audience preference for content that is communally polarising over that which might be conventional news? Do ratings indicate audience preference for journalism that bolsters and justifies the government?

The answers I got were interesting. To the first two questions, the replies were that "if there were ways to make money, media would find a way to do so with a taller spine" and that "political pressure is not the number one cause, it is the broken revenue model". The broken model refers to the shrinking of media revenues that we have seen. Another reply was that "revenue from government has become dependency to large extent given falling revenues overall", and so one could not antagonise the hand that was feeding one.

Another reason was that large parts of the media were now owned by magnates like Gautam Adani and Mukesh Ambani, for whom the media was a side business and served a larger purpose.

On the second set of questions related to content, they said that there was no evidence to suggest that divisive or communal material received more TRP ratings compared to other stories, but material that was polarising did

not lead to any dip in viewership, meaning that it was acceptable to the audience. Sometimes, however, what was in the news at the moment received "pick-up" when it was broadcast as hate speech. For instance, when the government associated Muslims with the Covid-19 pandemic, it triggered a slew of coverage that alleged Muslims were deliberately spreading the coronavirus. They also said that the overt majoritarianism under Narendra Modi has produced a condition where "existent bigotry is given a platform to be amplified", as many channels now show. Interestingly, there was no evidence to show that supporting the government and attacking the Opposition produced higher viewership or was popular, so there was another motive for doing so.

This was the feedback that I was given when I asked what people inside why the "Godi Media" was doing what it was doing and I hope it helps readers understand the phenomenon a little more.

Lastly, the election results mean that the Opposition can no longer either be ignored or attacked in the way that it has been. For this reason, it will be interesting to see how it behaves from here on and whether there is any change in its behaviour. One hopes there is because as a journalist one has been witness to what has been undoubtedly the worst and most shameful phase of Indian journalism. It is a phase that we need to put behind us for the betterment of our democracy, our politics and our society.

How to Start UPSC Preparation From Zero Level

By: Vijay GarG

Starting your UPSC preparation from scratch might seem overwhelming, but with the right approach, dedication, and resources, you can build a strong foundation and increase your chances of success. Check the best preparation strategy to prepare UPSC from zero level.

Preparing for the UPSC (Union Public Service Commission) exam can be a daunting task, especially if you're starting from scratch. However, with the right approach and dedication, you can build a strong foundation and increase your chances of success. In this guide, we'll take you through a step-by-step process to prepare for the UPSC Exam from a beginner's level.

If you're starting to prepare for the UPSC exam from scratch, it's important to have a clear and focused approach. First, learn about the UPSC exam format, what you need to study, and what's expected. Create a study plan that covers all the subjects and topics thoroughly.

Make sure you understand the basic ideas and know what's happening in the world. Use good study materials, books that are recommended, and online sources you can trust. Practice taking practice tests and looking at past year's papers to see how well you're doing.

Keep going, manage your time well, and if you need to, ask teachers or coaching centers for help. Stick to a regular schedule, keep up with what's going on in the world, and keep a positive attitude while you're getting ready for the exam.

Prepare Yourself

Getting your mindset ready for UPSC preparation is crucial for success. Start by setting clear goals and understanding the significance of the exam.

The UPSC IAS exam is quite challenging due to its lengthy timeline, spanning about a year, including various stages and pre-preparation phases. Mental readiness is vital for candidates as this is one of India's toughest competitive exams. To navigate the obstacles and succeed, a strong mind and body are essential.

Know the Exam Pattern

In the initial stages of beginning your UPSC preparation from scratch, it's crucial to comprehend the UPSC Exam Pattern. This understanding enables

candidates to efficiently manage their study time and focus on the right areas. The UPSC IAS exam consists of three main stages: the Preliminary Examination, the Main Examination, and the Interview.

Understand UPSC Syllabus

The UPSC syllabus is like a roadmap that tells you what topics and areas will be tested in the exam. It's like having a treasure map to guide you in your preparation journey.

By understanding the UPSC syllabus, you'll know exactly what subjects you need to focus on, which will save you time and effort. So it is very crucial to understand UPSC Syllabus to prepare well for UPSC Examination.

Choose Best Mentor

A mentor plays a crucial role in guiding and motivating UPSC aspirants. For those who are beginning their journey from scratch, having a mentor is especially valuable. Successful IAS toppers often attribute their achievements to the guidance of a mentor.

It's essential for newcomers to seek guidance from an experienced mentor who can help identify mistakes and provide the right direction for improvement. So, if you're just starting out, finding a knowledgeable mentor is a must-do to enhance your chances of success.

Their personalized approach and insightful feedback make them a top choice for those seeking effective guidance on their UPSC journey.

Create Proper Study Routine

A study routine is like a well-organized plan that helps you manage your time effectively and cover all the necessary topics. To create a proper study routine, start by setting realistic goals and allocating specific time slots for different subjects.

Break down your study sessions into manageable chunks to stay focused and avoid burnout. Remember, consistency is key, so stick to your routine and make adjustments as needed. A well-structured study routine will not only boost your productivity but also enhance your chances of success in the UPSC exam.

Read Newspaper

In the realm of UPSC exam preparation, cultivating the habit of reading newspapers is a powerful strategy. Daily newspaper reading is a key practice that can greatly enhance your performance in the exam.

The UPSC often includes questions

related to Current Affairs, and staying updated through newspapers provides you with vital insights into the latest news and events. Choosing a reliable newspaper that aligns with UPSC requirements can significantly bolster your readiness, even in the crucial interview phase. So, make newspaper reading a regular part of your routine for effective UPSC preparation.

Choose Optional Subject

Selecting the most suitable optional subject is a crucial decision in your UPSC exam preparation journey. The optional subject you pick carries significant weight, contributing 500 marks to the Mains examination.

When it comes to choosing the best optional subject for UPSC, it's essential to delve into the subject's syllabus and scope. These 500 marks can significantly influence your overall performance and final selection.

Hence, take your time to evaluate different optional subjects, considering your interests, strengths, and the subject's relevance to your chosen career path. A thoughtful and informed choice in this area can have a substantial impact on your UPSC success. Study NCERT Books

NCERT books are a valuable asset in your UPSC exam preparation journey. Learning how to effectively engage with NCERT books is key, as they present information in a clear and organized manner, making them excellent resources for building a strong foundation.

These books are especially helpful for beginners, aiding in the establishment of fundamental knowledge. Over the years, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has frequently included questions directly sourced from NCERT books in their exams.

Make Proper Notes

Creating effective study notes is a crucial aspect of your UPSC exam preparation. When making notes for UPSC preparation, focus on capturing key points, important facts, and relevant examples. Keep your notes well-structured and in your own words to enhance understanding. Mind maps, which use diagrams to represent interconnected ideas, are a great way to simplify complex subjects and aid in memorization.

Solve UPSC Previous Year's Question Papers

Solving UPSC previous year's question papers enables candidates to assess

the exam's difficulty level and question patterns. This process also offers insights into crucial topics and trends that aspirants should focus on. Engaging with these question papers not only enhances your self-assurance but also helps in devising a strategic and effective preparation approach.

Practice Answer Writing

While note-taking is essential for the Prelims stage, the Mains examination requires candidates to provide comprehensive and well-structured answers. Practice the 7-5-3 Rule of Answer Writing.

Through consistent answer writing practice, candidates can develop their ability to articulate their thoughts clearly, present arguments logically, and address the question's core aspects. This practice not only boosts confidence but also enhances time management skills and the capacity to think critically.

Prefer Best Study Resource

To prepare effectively, candidates must gather and organize both foundational and advanced UPSC Books.

UPSC Magazines such as Yojana, Kurukshetra, and Economic & Political Weekly are indispensable for the IAS exam. Moreover, valuable resources can be found on government websites like PIB and PRS, as well as through national television programs.

Practice Mock Test

By practicing mock tests, you get accustomed to the exam's format, time constraints, and question types. This practice helps in identifying your strengths and areas needing improvement, allowing you to fine-tune your study plan accordingly.

Stay Positive And Stay Healthy

The journey might get tough, but maintaining a positive mindset is crucial. Take breaks, exercise regularly, and get sufficient sleep. A healthy body and mind enhance your ability to absorb information. Remember, setbacks are a part of any journey. If a topic proves difficult or a mock test doesn't go well, don't be discouraged. Use these moments as learning opportunities. Analyze what went wrong, adjust your approach, and bounce back stronger.

(Vijay GarG Retired
Principal Educational
columnist Malout)

JKBOTE receives high volume of queries as admission deadline June 29 approaches

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: With the last date to apply for admission to three-year diploma courses fast approaching on June 29, 2024, the JK Board of Technical Education (JKBOTE) has witnessed a significant surge in queries from aspiring students.

The Deputy Registrar's office at Jammu on Tuesday was flooded with inquiries, which were promptly addressed by Registrar Er Kuldeep Singh Bhatia, Deputy Registrar Reeta, and Avinash Abrol, under the direction of Er Shaista Shamim, Secretary,



JKBOTE.

To facilitate the applicants, a single-window system was established, enabling the team to efficiently process and

verify application forms on the spot. The Board is committed to ensuring a seamless admission process for all candidates.

"We are pleased to see such a high level of interest in our diploma courses," said Er Kuldeep Singh Bhatia, Registrar, JK Board of Technical

Education.

"To date, we have received an unprecedented more than 5,000 applications, a testament to the growing popularity of our programs. Our IT team, headed by Er. Suhail Hussain, Deputy Registrar at Srinagar, along with Abid Nazir wani and Shabbab Gul Hamid, is working diligently to address all queries and ensure a smooth and hassle-free admission process for all applicants."

Aspirants are urged to submit their applications before the deadline of June 29, 2024, to secure their spot in the coveted diploma programs.

Er. Sajad congratulates Nadda on appointed Leader of the Rajya Sabha

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, June 25: Er. Sajad Reshi, IT Head J&K, BJP Minority Morcha, extended his heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the BJP National President and Union Minister, respected J.P. Nadda on his recent appointment as the Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha.

In his congratulatory message, Er Sajad Reshi stated, "We are immensely proud of J.P. Nadda's appointment as the Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha. His extensive political, administrative, and parliamentary experience will undoubtedly bring significant benefits to the



House. Under his leadership, we can expect a renewed focus on issues of public interest and a robust enhancement of legislative processes." Er. Sajad Reshi expressed confidence that J.P. Nadda's stewardship will foster a dynamic and effective legislative environment, promoting the welfare and progress of the nation. His visionary approach and dedication to public

service are expected to drive substantial positive changes in parliamentary proceedings and policy-making.

"As we celebrate this significant appointment, we look forward to the advancements and contributions that J.P. Nadda will bring to the Rajya Sabha. His leadership will be instrumental in addressing key issues and furthering the development agenda of our country," Er. Sajad Reshi added.

The BJP Minority Morcha, along with its members and supporters, stands in solidarity with J.P. Nadda and extends unwavering support as he embarks on this important role.

Dr. Chitrakar selected in jury in online painting and exhibition

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Gold Master International Academy of Arts and Literature organized an International Art Exhibition and awarded a high-level prize to Dr. Heeralal Chitrakar.

The Gold Master Academy of Arts and Literature in Hungary hosted a two-day online painting and handicraft exhibition on June 23-24, 2024. This exhibition was exclusively for Academy members.

The exhibition welcomed artworks in various categories including painting, graphics, sculpture, wood carving, and crafts. Artists were allowed to register with up to two works each.



To participate, artists needed to provide technical descriptions for each artwork, including title, material, size, technique, artist's name, and country. Artworks without these descriptions were not eligible for awards.

The theme of the artworks was free, but the exhibition strictly prohib-

ited nude, political, and religious works.

The jury panel included internationally recognized painters Maria Liptak and Prof. Dr. Heeralal Chitrakar. Dr. Chitrakar, being part of the jury, signifies his role in evaluating and possibly awarding artworks during the exhibition.

The exhibition was supervised by Dr. Sheikh Shahjahan. It was inaugurated on June 23, 2024, at 05:00 AM Hungarian time.

Dr. Heeralal Chitrakar was mentioned as a high-level prize recipient, indicating recognition for his artistic achievements and likely his role as a respected figure in the international art community.

Samsung launches Stunning Music Frame in India at Rs 23,990

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, on Tuesday unveiled its Music Frame in India.

A wireless speaker that looks like a work of art, the Samsung Music Frame comes with new features such as Dolby Atmos and wireless music streaming at just Rs 23,990.

The stylish wireless speaker blends seamlessly into living spaces like never before by doubling as a picture frame. Just like a real frame, the Samsung Music Frame allows users to display personal photos. Listening to music while looking at a framed photo of a precious memory or a piece of art adds new levels of depth to users' experiences.

The Samsung Music Frame will be available

across Samsung.in and Amazon.in and across select offline stores starting today. "Modern consumers are increasingly seeking products that not only blend functionality and aesthetics, but also add visual appeal. This trend is driven by a desire for products that reflect their personality and style, and enhance the overall ambience of their living space.

The new Music Frame epitomizes exceptional technology in the form of a picture frame with its unique, elegant design while delivering a cinematic audio experience," said Mohandeep Singh, Senior Vice President, Visual Display Business, Samsung India.

The Music Frame offers users the convenience of wire-free listening while delivering supe-

rior sound quality that fills any space with rich, clear audio. Its personalized, framed artwork enhances home decor, reflecting Samsung's passion for leveraging cutting-edge technology to elevate living spaces. This makes it a powerful addition to any household, providing stunning visual appeal and exceptional audio performance, all in one elegantly crafted device. Immerse in a three-dimensional audio experience that surrounds from every angle, creating a lifelike soundscape that enhances listening pleasure. Be it watching a movie, listening to music, or playing games, Dolby Atmos technology elevates the audio experience to new heights, pulling users into the heart of the action. Enjoy balanced and consistent audio qual-

ity from any corner of the room, ensuring an optimal listening experience regardless of location. The speaker eliminates uneven sound distribution and promotes crystal-clear audio throughout the room, making every seat the best seat in the house. The Music Frame offers effortless control with built-in voice assistants like Alexa and Google Assistant. Users can simply speak commands, and the Music Frame responds, enabling play, pause, track skipping, and volume adjustment without any manual intervention. This feature provides hands-free convenience and seamless control over the audio experience. Tailor the audio experience to the specific room environment with advanced room analysis and optimization technol-

ogy. SpaceFit Sound Pro analyzes the acoustics of the room and adjusts the sound output accordingly, ensuring optimal audio quality tailored to the space. This technology transforms one-size-fits-all audio into personalized sound perfection. Users can utilize Q-Symphony for richer stereo sound by placing two Music Frames on either side of their TVs. For surround sound, users can place a soundbar in front of their TV and a Music Frame on the opposite wall to act as a rear speaker. With the Smart Things app, users can set the equalizer settings to their preferences. Experience audio that adapts to the content in real-time, delivering clear voices and detailed sounds optimized for every scene and volume level.

Annual festival organized at Tirupati Temple Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: The Tirupati Temple celebrated its annual festival with great enthusiasm. The day included rituals like Ashtothra Kalashabhisekham (a ritual involving pouring sacred water over the deity), homam (a fire ritual), and a special puja dedicated to Lord Venkateswara.

Devotees participated in a procession and received blessings from Lord Venkateswara after having Darshan (sacred viewing) of the deity. The activities began with puja led by Krishna Sai archaka Pandit and Superintendent RC Subramanyam, along with other temple pandits.

Superintendent Subramanyam mentioned that the Ashtothra Kalashabhisekham and homam started at 8:30 AM and concluded by 12:30 PM. The ceremony was conducted on the auspicious occasion of Shravan Nakshatra, adding to the sanctity of the event.



Subramanyam expressed happiness over the cultural richness brought by the Tirupati Temple, which offers a glimpse of South Indian traditions to the devotees. He described the experience as heavenly. Sai Krishna and Temple Inspector Sai Krishna encouraged enthusiastic participation in the rituals and urged the administration to facilitate easier access to the temple, suggesting the initiation of a bus service for devotees and tourists alike. The event was attended by various individuals

involved in the temple's activities, including Ramesh Babu, Amit Shukla, Neeraj Shukla, Ravi Teja, Surya Parkash, Anurag Patu, Goutam Pandey, Chandan Prasad, and Keshwa Ramgopal Sharma, all contributing to the successful organization of the festival.

Overall, the annual festival at the Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu was marked by religious fervour, cultural richness, and community spirit, making it a significant occasion for devotees and participants alike.

Ganesh Sharma selected for "Artists of the World in Convergence" Brazil

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Ganesh Kumar Sharma, eminent senior contemporary internationally acclaimed Sculptor of Jammu and Kashmir UT has been selected for "Artists of the World in Convergence" International art exhibition organized by World Art/ Liesel Cerna Studio, Brazil.

The International art exhibition brings together 138 talented, eminent, senior contemporary artists belongs to 42 countries of the world. Each artist brings the richness of their unique culture and perspectives.

The exhibition is a vibrant tapestry of the colours, shapes and emotions, highlights poetic paintings, innovative Sculptures and multimedia installations that transport everyone to all new worlds. Each work is a testament to the creativity and vision of its creators.

Ganesh Sharma, the

only Sculptor of Jammu and Kashmir UT, selected and participated in this prestigious, unique international art exhibition which goes w.e.f. 20th May 2024 to 24th of June 2024 in world wide on all platforms of the Liesel Cerna Studio, Brazil.

The management team and administration team and Directors, Congratulated to all 138 selected artists for their exceptional contributions and said their participation is a true testament of talent and vision, it is a privilege to provide this magnificent gathering of creative minds and celebrate the unifying of art.

Ganesh Kumar Sharma working for promotion of art and culture of Jammu and Kashmir UT from more than forty five years and recipient of so many States, National and International awards and honors across the world, and have brought so many laurels to Jammu and Kashmir UT.

Local Gujjars encroach RDD land in Kulgam's Nowbugh village, RDD in silent mode

Top News Report

KULGAM, June 25: Local Gujjars of Kund encroached Rural Development Department (RDD) land illegally at Nowbugh Kund area of Kulgam district and started construction on it without availing proper permission from the concerned department.

Sources said the land was transferred by Revenue Department to Rural development department (RDD) in 2007 for construction of hutments for survivors of 2005 snowstorm in Nowbugh, Kund of Kulgam district, but after the completion of hutments there remain some patches of land at the site as vacant which is under RDD but the land mafia (Gujjars) is enjoying a field day and they continue to grab same land and started illegal construction on it without



any permission from the concerned department.

Locals said that these encroachers are Local Gujjars, they accused the authorities of the RDD of being in league with the land mafia in the construction of illegal structures.

"The district administration should intervene to stop the encroachment of the land," said, a local resident.

Block Development Officer (BDO) Devsar, Arif Ayaz, when contacted said that he had

issued orders for the necessary action after the issue was brought into our notice and we have taken the issue seriously and that the action will be taken against those involved.

Meanwhile, a joint team of revenue and RDD led by Naib Tehsildar Nawbug, Qazi Mushtaq visited to the spot and have taken cognisance of the issue and said strict action would be taken against these encroachers for violating the govt norms.

22nd Asian U-20 women's Volleyball Championship Kuldip Magotra to represent Indian team as Manager

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Volleyball Association of J&K (VAJK), Kuldip Magotra has been appointed Manager of the Indian Under-20 women team heading for 22nd Asian Championship to be held in China from July 1 to 9, 2024.

The appointment has been made by the adhoc committee of the Volleyball Federation Association (VFI) of India considering the experience of administrator from J&K. Meanwhile, VAJK

thanked the adhoc committee of VFI led by Chairman, Rohit Rajpal, who is also an Executive Council Member IOA, and Alankanda Ashok, Joint Secretary, IOA and Member of adhoc committee of VFI.

Kuldip Magotra, former member of J&K State Sports Council, has also been honoured by VFI earlier in various capacities to represent India as Technical delegate in 1986 in the 5th Asian Junior Volleyball Championship held at Bangkok (Thailand), as Manager in 7th Asian Senior Volley-

ball Men Championship at Seoul (South Korea) in 1989, in SAF Games held at Kathmandu (Nepal) in 1999, in International Volleyball popularly known as 'Rashid Gold Cup Championship at Dubai in 2006, Indian Junior Women Volleyball team in 15th Asian Junior Volleyball Women Championship being held at Ho Chi Minh City of Vietnam from September 12 to 20, 2010, in 18th Narsultan Nazar Bayen President's Cup International Men's Volleyball Tournament at Amity (Kazakhstan)

in August 2011, in 18th Asian Senior Men's Volleyball Championship at Tehran in August 2015 and AVC Cup for Men Volleyball Championship at Thailand in 2022.

Besides aforesaid achievements, Kuldip Magotra, an awardee of J&K State Sher-e-Kashmir Gold Medal in the year 1987, also nominated as Competition Director in Khelo India School Games (KISG) volleyball event at Delhi in 2018.

Magotra's vast experience in hosting four National Championships

i.e. Sub-Junior in 2008, two Juniors in 1990 and 2022, Senior in 1995 J&K State as 'Organising Secretary' has been recognized by Sports fraternity' as well as Volleyball Federation of India.

The Volleyball Association of J&K has complimented Kuldip Magotra on his selection for this prestigious International assignment and wished the Indian Volleyball team for best performance.

Magotra left today for New Delhi for onward journey with the team to China on June 29, 2024.

Godrej Appliances Rated No. 1 in After-Sales Service

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Godrej Appliances, business unit of Godrej & Boyce, has been rated No. 1 in 'After-Sales Service' by the surveyed respondents in the home appliances category, as per a custom study commissioned by Godrej Appliances and conducted by NielsenIQ spanning across 12 Indian cities.

The custom study aimed to assess overall satisfaction with the after-sales service provided by consumer durable brands. Among the surveyed respondents, Godrej Appli-

ances attained the highest net promoter score, the highest relationship strength index, and the highest overall satisfaction in after-sales service. The respondents were current appliance owners (refrigerators, washing machines, microwave ovens, air conditioners) who have experienced after-sales service.

Speaking on this accomplishment, Kamal Nandi, Business Head and Executive Vice President - Godrej Appliances, part of Godrej & Boyce, said, "At Godrej, customer delight is our utmost priority. Our products undergo rigorous

quality checks, and we are committed to offering best-in-class appliances and after-sales service, to our valued customers. This recognition of 'No.1 After-Sales Service' rating for the third time is a testament to our commitment towards customer satisfaction and delight. We have invested significantly in our after-sales service and have been providing extensive training programs to our service experts. Automation at the backend is another focus area to strengthen service."

As Gippy Grewal launches Ardaas Sarbat De Bhale Di teaser, he says the story came to him out of nowhere and in 15 minutes his mind processed it all

Ardaas, meaning prayer in English, became more than just a spiritual act for Gippy Grewal — it transformed into a successful Punjabi film that reshaped his career. In 2016, Gippy shifted gears from acting and production to writing and direction. The reason was to become a part of meaningful storytelling.

The first installment, Ardaas resonated deeply with audiences, prompting the sequel Ardaas Karaan in 2019, which was equally well-received. Now, five years later, Gippy is back with Ardaas Sarbat De Bhale Di, the third part of this much-loved franchise.

The story for the latest installment came to Gippy most unexpectedly, he explains with the intent to highlight God's will. At the launch of its teaser, Gippy says, "This story was the toughest to execute but it came to me in 15 minutes. I was sitting with my friend and we were talking about what to do next. He asked me if I had a story in mind. I said no. We left the discussion there. Exactly 15 minutes later, and I am not lying, I had this story



in my mind. Next thing, we sat and discussed it for seven hours straight. Within days, we were working on it."

The film boasts of an ensemble cast that includes Gippy Grewal, Gurpreet Ghuggi, Jasmine Bhasin, Nirmal Rishi, Prince Kanwaljit Singh, Raghveer Boli, Seema Kaushal, Rupinder Rup, Gurpreet Bhangu among others.

Most of them have been on this journey from the first instalment of the film. Jasmine Bhasin, who is the lead actress, is among the few new entrants. And for her,

this movie means a lot because, "Getting a chance for the first time can be attributed to luck or good networking, but when someone is willing to work with you again, that shows they trust your craft and like your work ethics. I feel honoured to work opposite Gippy again. He is one of the biggest Punjabi stars and I couldn't have asked for more," says a happy Jasmine. The entire cast and crew share a similar sentiment of gratitude for the film and their experiences. Each one of them believes it's

their ardaas for good work that translated into becoming a part of the project.

Gurpreet Ghuggi, who has seen all the phases of Punjabi film industry, talks about his role. "These days, we hear a lot about motivational speakers. I think in Ardaas or Ardaas Karaan or this third part now, my character is a kind of motivational speaker but his knowledge isn't bookish, it's his life lessons." But to see Gippy wear the director's hat, Ghuggi had his doubts. "At the start I was a bit skeptical because it's such a serious subject. I thought it wasn't his genre. Comedy or a light film felt more like his genre to me then."

Things changed in no time. Ghuggi adds, "My very first take of the first scene gave me this confidence that I was in safe hands. He focused on such minute details that I started enjoying working with him right on the first day. Another thing I really appreciate is that he is not stubborn as a director. He listens to his actors and wherever required, he brings changes."

Ardaas Sarbat De Bhale Di is releasing on September 13.

Adah Sharma: My fans motivated me for my singing debut



A quick glance at Adah Sharma's Instagram page can tell how much she loves singing and dancing. And now, all set to make her singing debut, the actor is releasing her first song soon. Talking to us exclusively, Adah says it was her fans who motivated her to take this plunge. "Whenever I used to put post where I'm singing, everything was live sound or a rough video. Whether it's me playing the ukulele on my terrace with the crows in the background or playing piano at my home and singing, everything is live and never pre-recorded. My fans always used to say that I should release my own song, so here I am. They were my motivation," says the actor, who has been seen in recent projects such as The Kerala Story, Bastar: The Naxal Story, Sunflower 2 and Commando.

"I was so busy in the past year, but before I

got into another project, I thought I should release something. A friend named Ontoy worked with me on the music, and my whole team was there with me to help with anything that I needed," adds Adah, who has collaborated with PETA India to gift a mechanical robotic elephant, Baladhasan, to the Pournamikavi temple in Kerala.

Interestingly, the 32-year-old didn't opt for anything mainstream or conventional to begin her singing stint, instead she picked a religious track to embark on this new journey. "I chanted the Shiv Tandam Stotram in a live session on Instagram from a temple -- it got so many millions of views on YouTube and Instagram. It was so impromptu. I felt the first thing should be this only, kehte hain na harr kaam bhagwaan ka naam leke start karte hain," says Adah, adding that the track will be a refreshing version with some really

cool beats. "You could dance to it, do kathak, meditate or even go into a trance while listening to it. I hope we made a version that people feel like listening to again and again. We shot it in the most basic and simple way, not using any fancy gadgets. The ocean and nature were very important and Shiv Tandav is about the elements of nature, so we have shot according to that. I can't wait to share it with everyone," says an excited Adah.

Here, the actor reveals that she consciously decided to not attach her first song or studio to any music label to avoid the commercialisation that happens in the industry. "I thought my first song should be so personal that it should go through my social media handles. I didn't want anyone externally to come and tell me how I can make my song more commercial. I didn't want anyone discussing anything about views, likes, and shares," she reasons, and adds, "If it will be on my own pages, there won't be any interference and I have a good following, that's not an issue. I wanted it to be direct from my heart to the audience. I have got an offer though, the talks are going on, if something really nice comes my way, I would love to sing in a film as well, let's see."

When asked if there are any plans for the future to take her singing career forward, and she concludes by saying, "I have learnt classical carnatic music for 11 years as a child, no one knows that yet. Playback is a very cool thing, but as an actor I feel it is a bonus if you sing your songs on your own, I hope I can do that in the future. I love singing and dancing. Even if I don't get a chance to do those in my movies, I will still continue to do it side by side."

Kangana Ranaut's Emergency Set for September 6 Release, Promises A Gripping Tale of Indian Democracy

After multiple delays, actress-turned-politician Kangana Ranaut's upcoming film Emergency is finally set to release on September 6.

The actress, who had previously announced the postponement of her movie due to her Lok Sabha 2024 election campaign, took to Instagram on Tuesday and shared that the film is all set to hit the big screen. Kangana also shared a new poster along with the announcement.

Talking about the same, Kangana said, "I am deeply inspired by William Shakespeare's Macbeth, the essence of Emergency is the destruction

wrought when ambition goes unchecked by moral constraints. It is undoubtedly the most sensational chapter of Indian democracy, and I am eagerly awaiting its worldwide release on September 6, 2024."

Upon sharing the poster, Kangana captioned it, "The Beginning of the 50th Year of Independent India's Darkest Chapter.

Announcing #KanganaRanaut's #Emergency In Cinemas on September 6, 2024. The Explosive Saga of the Most Controversial Episode of the History of Indian Democracy, #EmergencyOn6Sept in cinemas worldwide."

The film tells the story of former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, portrayed by Kangana. The Emergency was declared in 1975 and lasted for 21 months, due to perceived internal and external threats to the country.

Apart from Kangana, the film also stars Anupam Kher, Milind Soman, Shreyas Talpade, Mahima Chaudhry, and the late Satish Kaushik, among others.

Produced by Zee Studios and Manikarnika Films, the film's music is composed by Sanchit Balhara, with the screenplay and dialogue written by Ritesh Shah.



Alec Baldwin attorneys argue damage to gun during testing was unacceptable destruction of evidence

Alec Baldwin's defence attorneys argued on Monday that damage done during FBI testing to a revolver that killed a cinematographer on the set of the Western 'Rust' has stripped them of the ability to put on a proper defence at the actor's forthcoming trial, and asked a New Mexico judge to dismiss the involuntary manslaughter charge against him.

"They understood that this was potentially exculpatory evidence and destroyed it anyway," Baldwin lawyer John Bash said during a virtual court hearing. "It's outrageous and it requires dismissal."

Prosecutors argued that the gun breaking into pieces during testing was "unfortunate" but that Baldwin's team still has plenty of evidence for a defence and did not meet their burden for having the case thrown out.

Judge Mary Marlowe Sommer said she expects to issue a ruling on the motion to dismiss on Friday. During the fatal rehearsal on October 21, 2021, Baldwin was pointing the gun at Halyna Hutchins on a movie-set ranch when it went off, killing her and wounding director Joel Souza, who survived.

Sheriff's investigators initially sent the revolver to the FBI only for DNA testing, but when an FBI analyst heard Baldwin say in an ABC TV interview in December that he never pulled the trigger, the agency told the local authorities they could conduct an accidental discharge test.

The FBI was told to go ahead,

and tested the revolver by striking it from several angles with a rawhide mallet. One of those strikes caused the gun to break into three pieces.

The FBI had made police and prosecutors aware that the test could do major damage to the gun, which hadn't been tested by the defence, but the authorities went ahead with the test without bothering to disassemble it and photograph its parts first, thus eliminating their most critical evidence in the case, Baldwin's lawyers argued.

"We can never use our own expert to examine that firearm," Bash said.

The prosecution argued that the gun was not destroyed as the defence said.

"The parts are still available," special prosecutor Erlinda Johnson said. "The fact that this gun was unfortunately damaged does not deprive the defendant of ability to question the evidence."

But Baldwin's lawyers said the damage done to the top notch on the revolver's hammer rendered the most important testing impossible.

They argued that if Marlowe Sommer declined to throw out the case, she should at least not allow any of the technical gun analysis to be presented at trial.

Baldwin's attorneys gave long and probing cross-examinations to the lead detective, an FBI forensic firearm investigator and the prosecution's independent gun expert

in testimony that was likely a dress rehearsal for the high profile trial, where Baldwin, who was not on the online hearing, will be appearing in person.

The special prosecutors running the case argued that those cross-examinations proved that the defence has plenty of gun evidence.

"They have other reasonable available means to making their point," Johnson said.

She added that all available evidence, from witness testimony to video of Baldwin firing the gun in movie footage, showed that the gun was in good working order on the day of the shooting, and that police had no reason to believe its internal workings could provide exonerating evidence.

Prosecutors plan to present evidence at trial that they say shows the firearm "could not have fired absent a pull of the trigger" and was working properly before the shooting.

Defence attorneys are highlighting a previously undisclosed expert analysis that outlines uncertainty about the origin of tool marks on the gun's firing mechanism.

Baldwin has pleaded not guilty to the involuntary manslaughter charge, which carries a maximum sentence of 18 months in prison.

Armorer Hannah Gutierrez-Reed was convicted in March of involuntary manslaughter for her role in the shooting and was sentenced to 18 months in prison.

Shabana Azmi on actors having huge entourage: I used to have a three-member team

Rising costs of film shoots have often come under the scanner with several filmmakers lamenting that actors need to be more considerate in terms of the fee they charge as well as the large entourage that accompany them everywhere. "I find it astonishing that producers pick up these crazy tabs," says veteran actor Shabana Azmi, comparing the scenario with the West where the producers have control over who is required in the crew.

She adds, "In Hollywood, I have never seen anything like this except for personal trainers. The main dress designer, hairdresser and makeup artiste are all appointed by the producer's team, [and no actor needs to bring their person staff]."

Recently, film bodies including Indian Motion Pictures Producers Association and Producers Guild Association met with other film bodies and leading talent management agencies to discuss the movie budgets, which



are going out of control. One of the main areas of concern was actors' personal team size and the expenditure that the producers have to bear.

While for many mainstream actors, moving without their team feels unimaginable, Azmi recalls the time when she would travel in buses instead of luxury cars. "During the 1970s and 1980s, I only had a

three-member team -- a hair dresser, a make up artist, and the driver. In low budget films, we had nobody. At the most the unit makeup man and hair dresser," shares the actor, adding that in case of projects with a limited budget, "I used my own clothes, used the unit's hair and makeup person and always stayed in the same hotel as the unit."

In fact, the 73-year-old actor, who has been part of iconic films such as Arth, Khandhar, Masoom, Godmother among several others, goes on to recall an interesting incident from the shooting days of her 1983 film Mandi. "I remember (late actor) Smita Patil and I had been given separate cars for the shooting of Mandi.

In two days, we gave them up and travelled in the bus with all the actors because they were having so much fun while singing and playing silly games!" she recounts, sharing another anecdote where she bought her director an air ticket "when I realised he was travelling by train".

But that is not all, Azmi reveals that back in the day, even the producers had actors' support, if anything went haywire. "A couple of times, (late actor) Sanjeev Kumar and Shatrughan Sinha paid for the schedule, which was going to be cancelled because of funds shortage," she ends.

PM Modi leads BJP's offensive to counter Opposition's Constitution narrative on 1975 Emergency anniversary

Hitting out at the Congress, Modi says 'those who imposed the Emergency have no right to profess their love for our Constitution'

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday flagged the dark days of Emergency to attack opposition Congress as anti-Constitution with the BJP top brass launching a nationwide offensive on the issue and demanding an apology from their political rivals.

"Today is a day to pay homage to all those great men and women who resisted the Emergency. The #DarkDaysOfEmergency remind us of how the Congress Party subverted basic freedoms and trampled over the Constitution of India which every Indian respects greatly," Modi said, adding that a party that suspended all freedoms had no right to speak of the Constitution.

The prime minister said, "Just to cling on to power, the then Congress Government disregarded every democratic principle and made the nation into a jail. Any person who disagreed with the Congress was tortured and harassed. Socially regressive policies were unleashed to target the weakest sections." Attacking the Congress leaders who have been accusing the government of undermining the Constitution, the PM said "Those who imposed the Emergency have no right to profess their love for our Constitution."



These are the same people who have imposed Article 356 on innumerable occasions, got a Bill to destroy press freedom, destroyed federalism and violated every aspect of the Constitution."

He said the mindset which led to the imposition of the Emergency is very much alive among the same Party which imposed it.

"They hide their disdain for the Constitution through their tokenism but the people of India have seen through their antics and that is why they have rejected them time and again," the PM said.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said the Congress has a long history of killing democracy

and repeatedly attacking it.

"The Emergency imposed by Congress on this day in 1975 is the biggest example of this. The arrogant, autocratic Congress government had suspended all kinds of civil rights in the country for 21 months for the sake of power of one family.

"During this period, they had imposed censorship on the media, made changes in the Constitution and tied the hands of even the court. I salute the struggle of countless satyagrahis, social workers, workers, farmers, youth and women who protested from Parliament to the streets against the Emergency."

BJP president J P Nadda said on 'X' that those who claim to be the guardians of Indian democ-

racy today had spared no efforts to suppress the voices raised in the defence of constitutional values.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the Emergency, imposed by the then-prime minister Indira Gandhi in 1975 before she lifted it in 1977 and called for elections, is a black chapter in Indian democracy which cannot be forgotten.

Later in the day, BJP president J P Nadda will address an event at party headquarters titled "dark days of democracy."

In Uttar Pradesh, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, speaking to the media for the first time since BJP's poor show in Lok Sabha elections, asked the Congress to apologise to the country for the excesses of the Emergency.

The BJP's trenchant criticism of the Congress came amid a coordinated campaign by opposition parties to paint the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as working against the Constitution.

The Congress and other opposition members carried copies of the Constitution in Parliament on Monday as the first session of the 18th Lok Sabha began.

Modi on Monday also invoked the imposition of the Emergency to target the Congress and called upon people to ensure that it is never repeated.

Faces In Congress Have Changed But Its Character Remain Same: Yogi Adityanath



LUCKNOW, Jun 25 (Agencies): On the occasion of 50 years of Emergency, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that although the faces in Congress have changed, their character and gestures remain the same.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said, "They tried to completely strangle democracy by locking up all the leaders of the opposition parties of that time, including Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Morarji Desai, Jayaprakash

Narayan, Lal Krishna Advani and all the leaders of the Opposition. After 50 years, the faces in the Congress have changed, but its character, its gestures are still the same, as was seen in 1975."

He said that the then Congress government strangled the Constitution of India.

He further said, "A dark chapter of India's parliamentary democracy took place exactly 50 years ago on this day late at night, when the then Congress government conspired to

completely end democracy by strangling the Constitution of India. Congress government led by Indira Gandhi tried to destroy India's democracy in the darkness of the night of June 25, 1975."

The UP Chief Minister blamed the Congress for stalling the proceedings of the Parliament.

"The way they made amendments to the Preamble and tried to destroy it. They snatched the fundamental rights of the people. They eroded the rights of the judiciary. They talk about democracy, but they visit abroad and criticise democracy, raise questions about the election process, and blame the EVM for their defeats. Congress forcefully enforced Article 370. Those who are trying to stall the proceedings in Parliament have they ever obeyed the Constitution," he added.

Congress chief Kharge calls for restoration of true democracy, criticises PM Modi's statement on 1975 Emergency

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): In a sharp critique of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's governance, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday accused the ruling administration of undermining democracy and the Constitution over the past decade.

Kharge's response came to PM Modi's statement recalling the Emergency declared by the then Congress prime minister Indira Gandhi in 1975 to suppress civil liberties, citing Article 352 of the Indian Constitution on June 25.

"The mindset which led to the imposition of the Emergency is very much

alive among the same party which imposed it. They hide their disdain for the Constitution through their tokenism but the people of India have seen through their antics and that is why they have rejected them time and again," PM Modi wrote a post on X.

"Those who imposed the Emergency have no right to profess their love for our Constitution. These are the same people who have imposed Article 356 on innumerable occasions, got a Bill to destroy press freedom, destroyed federalism and violated every aspect of the Constitution," he added.

Kharge highlighted a

series of actions that he termed as an "undeclared Emergency", including the misuse of investigative agencies against opposition leaders, toppling elected governments, and passing significant laws without proper consensus.

Kharge questioned the democratic values of the Modi government, pointing out the suspension of 146 opposition MPs and passing of critical laws such as the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, without adequate parliamentary debate. He criticised the imposition of controversial agricultural laws, which led to prolonged protests.

The Congress presi-



dent further lambasted the BJP government for hasty decisions like demonetisation and the abrupt lockdown during the pandemic, citing a lack of cooperation and transparency.

He also condemned the unilateral relocation of statues of national icons like Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Mahatma Gandhi from

the Parliament premises.

Kharge emphasised Congress' commitment to democracy and the Constitution, contrasting it with what he described as the BJP's disregard for these principles. He called on the nation to reflect on these issues and urged for a return to genuine democratic practices.

Delhi High Court stays bail granted to Arvind Kejriwal in money-laundering case linked to 'excise scam'

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): The Delhi High Court on Tuesday stayed the trial court order granting bail to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in the money laundering case stemming from the alleged excise scam.

A vacation bench of Justice Sudhir Kumar Jain said the trial court failed to appreciate the material placed before it by the Enforcement Directorate and did not apply its mind while deciding the AAP leader's bail plea.

The judge also said the trial court ought to have given adequate opportunity to the agency to argue its case.

"The operation of the impugned order is stayed," the bench said.



The trial court had granted bail to Kejriwal on June 20 and ordered his release on a personal bond of Rs 1 lakh.

ED moved the high court the next day and contended that the trial court's order was "perverse", "one-sided" and "wrong-sided" and that the findings were based on irrelevant facts.

The excise policy was

scrapped in 2022 after the Delhi lieutenant governor ordered a CBI probe into alleged irregularities and corruption involving its formulation and execution.

According to the CBI and the ED, irregularities were committed while modifying the excise policy and undue favours extended to the licence holders.

Atishi ends hunger strike after hospitalisation, says AAP

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): Delhi Water Minister Atishi ended her indefinite hunger strike after her health deteriorated and she was hospitalised early on Tuesday, the ruling Aam Aadmi Party announced.

Atishi was taken to the Lok Nayak Jai Prakash (LNJP) Hospital after her blood sugar levels dropped to 36. AAP claimed Atishi's blood sugar levels plummeted to 43 at midnight and further dropped to 36 by 3 am. AAP party also shared images and visuals of the AAP leader being taken to the hospital late at night.

AAP MP Sanjay Singh said they will write to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and will also raise the issue of Delhi's water crisis in Parliament with opposition parties.

"Atishi was on a hunger strike for 5 days. Her health was deteriorating. Doctors had been asking her to break the strike. Her health started worsening last night... Her lowest sugar level was 36. Doctors suggested that she had to



be admitted immediately otherwise she might lose her life... She was admitted to LNJP at 3.30 - 4 am in the ICU... She is still in the ICU... We are also writing to the PM to release Delhi's water... The indefinite hunger strike is being stopped, but we will raise our voice in the Parliament..." Sanjay Singh said.

Atishi was on an indefinite hunger strike for the past four days against the Haryana government for not releasing 100 million gallons per day (MGD) of water, creating a water crisis in the national capital. She demanded that Haryana release Delhi's rightful share of water.

Doctors from LNJP Hospital had examined Atishi on Monday and advised her to get admitted due to adverse

health effects from her indefinite hunger strike.

Sharing an update on Atishi's health, Dr Suresh, Medical Director at LNJP Hospital, said, "Changes were detected in her ECG, and ketones were found in her urine, leading to her being admitted to the ICU. She was advised to get admitted to the hospital yesterday, but she refused. Her sugar level is low. All blood tests have been conducted, and the results are normal. She is currently stable."

As Delhi grapples with water shortage, Atishi has accused the BJP-led Haryana government of not releasing 100 million gallons per day (MGD) of water, impacting over 28 lakh people in the national capital.

Bail matters shouldn't be adjourned unnecessarily, says Supreme Court, hopes High Court will decide Satyendar Jain's plea on July 9

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): Observing that bail matters should not be adjourned unnecessarily, the Supreme Court on Tuesday said it hoped the Delhi High Court will decide the bail plea of jailed former AAP minister Satyendar Jain in a money laundering case at the next hearing.

A bench of Justices Manoj Misra and SVN Bhatti made the observation while disposing of Jain's plea against the high court's decision of adjourning the hearing of his bail application for six weeks.

"It goes without saying that bail matters are not to be unnecessarily adjourned. Therefore, we hope and trust that the high court shall take its call on the next date of hearing," it said.

The high court has listed Jain's bail plea for hearing on July 9.

During the hearing, senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for Jain, said he has challenged the



long adjournment order.

Singhvi said a substantial question of law has arisen from the case as to whether an incomplete charge sheet can be filed by the investigating agency to defeat an accused's right of default bail.

He said a similar matter was under consideration of a three-judge bench of the apex court and urged the vacation bench that Jain's bail plea be tagged with it.

Justice Misra told Singhvi that the bench is sitting in combination of two judges and therefore cannot decide

the issue which is pending consideration of the three-judge bench.

"Let the issue be decided by the high court and then we will take it up. The high court will deal with the merits of the case taking into account the factual aspect," the bench said, adding that the impugned order before the court is just a one line adjournment order.

It said that the three-judge bench of the top court is considering a point of law and it may not be appropriate for a two-judge bench to deal with it.

The bench ordered, "This petition is against an order of the Delhi High Court adjourning the hearing of the bail application to July 9. Mr. Singhvi submits that the question of law which would govern the decision of the High Court is engaging the attention of a 3-judge bench of this Court and therefore it is appropriate that this matter is tagged with that matter."

"We do not find any merit in the submission because the high court will decide the matter on its own merits and if the petitioner is aggrieved with the high court's order, he can challenge it."

On May 28, the high court had sought the response of the Enforcement Directorate on Jain petition and asked it to file a status report on the investigation.

The court had also called for the nominal roll of Jain from prison and listed the matter for further hearing on July

9. Nominal rolls maintained in jails contain among other things the conduct of a prisoner.

Jain is accused of having laundered money through four companies allegedly linked to him. He has challenged a trial court's May 15 order by which he was denied default bail in the case.

Jain has contended that the ED failed to conclude the investigation in all respects within the statutory period and the prosecution complaint (charge sheet), which was incomplete, was filed in an attempt to deprive him of his right to default bail under the provisions of Section 167(2) of the CrPC.

The ED arrested Jain on May 30, 2022 in the money laundering case based on a CBI FIR lodged against him in 2017 under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

He was granted regular bail by a trial court on September 6, 2019, in the case lodged by the CBI.

Israel bombs Gaza as US warns against wider war

Thousands of Lebanese and Israeli civilians from the border areas of their respective nations have been forced to seek refuge away from the fighting in recent months.

JERUSALEM, Jun 25 (Agencies): Israel kept up its bombardment of Gaza on Tuesday after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the "intense phase" of the war was winding down, as the United States urged its ally to avoid further escalation along the Lebanon border.

Israeli forces launched more deadly strikes, with 13 people killed across two schools and a home hit in Gaza City, according to the Hamas-run territory's civil defence agency.

With Israel planning to redeploy some soldiers from Gaza to the Lebanese border, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Monday pressed the country's defence minister not to allow the violence to spiral.

Blinken "underscored the importance of avoiding further escalation of the conflict and reaching a diplomatic resolution that allows both Israeli and Lebanese families to return to their homes," spokesman Matthew Miller said after the meeting in Washington with Defence Minister Yoav Gallant.

There has been daily cross-border fire between Israel and Lebanon's Hezbollah since the outbreak of the Israel-Hamas war on October 7, with fears growing in recent weeks that it could turn into another major front.

In the latest fighting, Iran-backed Hezbollah on Monday said it targeted three Israeli military sites over the border.

Israel's military said its warplanes hit militant infrastructure in the Baalbek area of eastern Lebanon.

Thousands of Lebanese and Israeli civilians from the border areas of their respective nations have been forced to seek refuge away from the fighting in recent months.



"A war must happen to push Hezbollah away from the border," said Helene Abergel, a 49-year-old resident displaced from the Israeli border town of Kiryat Shmona.

"Dragging Israel into destruction"

In Gaza, Israeli strikes have destroyed much of the territory's infrastructure and left residents struggling to survive.

Netanyahu said the military will soon end the "intense phase" of operations in Gaza's southern Rafah, which prompted vast numbers of civilians that had sought refuge there to flee once again.

The development "doesn't mean that the war is about to end", Netanyahu told Israel's Channel 14 on Sunday.

The prime minister is facing mounting protests in Israel for failing to secure the release of 116 hostages seized on October 7 who remain in Gaza, 42 of whom the army says are dead.

"I think Netanyahu is dragging Israel into destruction," demonstrator and former spy Gonen Ben Itzhak told agency.

The premier on Sunday again rejected the permanent ceasefire demanded by Hamas during on-and-off talks involving the US

and other mediators.

"The goal is to return the kidnapped and uproot the Hamas regime in Gaza," Netanyahu said.

Hamas's October 7 attack on southern Israel that sparked the war resulted in the deaths of 1,195 people, mostly civilians, according to an AFP tally based on Israeli official figures.

Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed at least 37,626 people, also mostly civilians, the health ministry in Hamas-ruled Gaza said.

In Washington, Israel's defence minister was greeted with shouts of "war criminal" by a few dozen protesters as he left the meeting with Blinken.

Gallant also held talks with CIA chief Bill Burns, the key US pointman in negotiations to free the captives.

Gallant emphasised "Israel's primary commitment to return the hostages, with no exception".

Netanyahu vowed in his interview that "we will win", but United States officials have raised doubts over Israel's goal of completely destroying Hamas.

'We are totally trapped' In southern Gaza, Rafah city

centre lies deserted after most residents and people who had gone there seeking safety fled the advance of Israeli troops.

"There is no more water or food. We are totally trapped," said Haitham Abu Taha, among the very few Palestinians who have returned.

Abu Taha, 30, spoke of the "danger of quadcopter drones which mercilessly target anyone walking" in the streets.

The distress of the 2.4 million people in the narrow strip of land that is Gaza, already impoverished before the war, has increased with the fighting.

United Nations agencies have repeatedly warned of dire shortages of vital supplies, while on Monday France and Jordan called on Israel to lift all land-based "restrictions" on aid deliveries.

Philippe Lazzarini, head of the United Nations agency for Palestinian refugees, said "the breakdown of civil order" in Gaza has led to "rampant looting and smuggling".

The UNRWA chief said such instances impede aid deliveries to a territory confronted with "catastrophic levels of hunger".

UNRWA, which coordinates nearly all aid to Gaza, has been in crisis since January, when Israel accused about a dozen of its 13,000 Gaza employees of involvement in the attacks that sparked the war.

Families of those killed in Hamas's October 7 attack inside Israel sued UNRWA on Monday, alleging it facilitated the unprecedented bloodshed, according to court documents.

An independent review of UNRWA, led by French former foreign minister Catherine Colonna, found some "neutrality-related issues" but said Israel had yet to provide evidence for its main allegations.

EU kicks off membership talks with Ukraine, Moldova

LUXEMBOURG, Jun 25 (Agencies): The European Union formally launches accession negotiations with Ukraine and Moldova on Tuesday, setting the fragile ex-Soviet states off on a long path towards membership that Russia has tried to block.

The landmark move is aimed in particular at sending a vote of confidence in Ukraine's future as Moscow has momentum on the battlefield almost two-and-a-half years into the Kremlin's invasion.

"These are truly historic moments. Ukraine is and will always be part of a united Europe," Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky said when the EU's 27 countries last week signed off on starting the talks.

"Millions of Ukrainians, and indeed generations of our people, are realising their European dream."

Ukraine -- followed by its neighbour Moldova -- lodged their bids to join the EU in the immediate aftermath of Russia's all-out assault in February 2022.

The start of the talks in Luxembourg still only marks the beginning of a protracted process of reforms strewn with political obstacles that will likely take many years -- and may never lead to membership.

Standing in the way along that journey will be not just Russia's efforts at destabilisa-

tion but reticence from doubters inside the EU, most notably Hungary.

So far, however, Ukraine -- represented at the talks by Deputy Prime Minister Olga Stefanishyna -- has won plaudits for kick-starting a raft of reforms on curbing graft and political interference, even as war rages.

"It's a great credit to the Ukrainian government that they've made such progress so fast in the time of war towards accession," Ireland's foreign minister Michael Martin said on Monday.

"And I think it reflects a level of competence and genuine commitment on behalf of the Ukrainian government to joining the European Union."

Complex process Russia's war in Ukraine has reinvigorated a push in the EU to take on new members, after years in which countries particularly in the Western Balkans made little progress on their hopes to join.

The EU in December 2023 also granted candidate status to another of Russia's former Soviet neighbours, Georgia.

It likewise approved accession negotiations with Bosnia and has talks ongoing with Serbia, Montenegro, Albania and North Macedonia.

The meetings with Ukraine and Moldova on Tuesday will set off

a process of screening of how far laws in the countries already comply with EU standards and how much more work lies ahead.

Once that is done the EU then has to begin laying out conditions for negotiations on 35 subjects -- from taxation to environmental policy.

It appears unlikely that there will be progress onto the next step in the coming six months, when Hungary -- the friendliest country to Russia in the bloc -- holds the EU's rotating presidency.

The start of the talks resonates powerfully in Ukraine as it was a desire for closer ties with the EU that sparked protests back in 2014 that eventually spiralled into the full-blown crisis with Russia.

The talks also come at a tense time in Moldova after the United States, Britain and Canada warned of a Russian "plot" to influence the country's presidential elections in October.

Wedged between war-torn Ukraine and EU member Romania, Moldova's pro-Western authorities frequently accuse the Kremlin of interfering in its internal affairs.

President Maia Sandu has accused Moscow -- which has troops stationed in a breakaway region of the country -- of aiming to destabilise Moldova ahead of the vote.

China Probe Carrying Samples From Far Side Of Moon Returns To Earth

BEIJING, Jun 25 (Agencies): China's Chang'e-6 lunar probe landed on Tuesday in the northern Chinese region of Inner Mongolia, making the country the first to bring back samples from the moon's far side.

The reentry capsule touched down at 2:07 p.m. Beijing time (0607 GMT), according to state broadcaster CCTV, carrying lunar soil collected earlier in the month by the probe after a successful landing on the moon's South Pole-Aitken Basin, an impact crater on the side of the Moon that always faces away from Earth.

Soon after the capsule landed, Zhang Kejian, head of the China National Space Administration, announced the successful completion of the Chang'e-6 lunar mission. Chinese President Xi Jinping said the mission's completion was a "landmark achievement" in China's quest to become a space and scientific powerhouse.

The Chang'e-6 probe was launched on May 3 on a Long March 5 rocket from the Wenchang Satellite Launch Center on the southern island of Hainan. According to CCTV, the samples will be transported by air to Beijing for analysis.

While it is yet not known whether the planned 2kg of samples were successfully returned, whatever the amount, the samples will be closely analysed by Chinese and foreign scientists, who believe



that they will reveal new details about the formation of the Earth, moon, and solar system.

Samples from the Chang'e-5 mission, which brought back lunar samples from the near side of the moon, led to the discovery of new minerals and more accurate ranges for the moon's geological age.

The success of the Chang'e-6 mission could give China's lunar and space exploration program, already in close competition with the United States, greater pull among foreign governments and scientists.

China's retrieval of samples from the moon's far side comes as the exploration of lunar resources and the militarization of space are becoming increasingly pressing questions shaped by geopolitical tensions.

NASA administrator Bill Nelson this year expressed concern at China's lunar exploration program and described an intensifying "space race" between the two superpowers.

"I'm glad there has been a resurgence in this (space) race, but of course, I would like to see us racing alongside each other and togeth-

er," said Neil Melville-Kenney, a technical officer at the European Space Agency (ESA) who is working with Chinese researchers on one of the Chang'e-6 payloads.

As the European Union and China are at loggerheads over a wide range of geopolitical issues, from trade to the war in Ukraine, European space agencies and scientists are working closely with Chinese counterparts on data and samples collected by China's lunar missions.

"We know that (the far side of the moon) is literally a different place, it is made of different materials than the near side of the moon, it has a different history... it's really of fundamental scientific importance to get these samples back," Melville-Kenney said.

The engineer added that the ESA will meet with the China National Space Administration in October to discuss further collaboration.

"This collaboration that we have at the moment (with China) is a small step, this was started quite a while ago, perhaps the situations were a little bit different then. Going forward I hope there will be more collaboration," he added.

Elon Musk welcomes 12th child, says 'our friends and family knew' about birth

SAN FRANCISCO, Jun 25 (Agencies): Tech magnate Elon Musk welcomed his 12th child, his third with Neuralink Director Shivon Zilis, and said the baby's birth was not a secret, as all his friends and family were aware of it. He also denied reports that he "secretly fathered" the baby.

Musk stated that not issuing a press release about his 12th child would have been "bizarre". The name and gender of the baby was not revealed.

"As for 'secretly fathered', that is also false. All our friends and family know. Failure to



issue a press release, which would be bizarre, does not mean 'secret,'" he was quoted as saying by Page Six.

This is Musk's third child with Zilis, who is working for his brain implant firm. Musk's twins, Strider and Azure, were born in 2021.

Musk first married Justine Wilson in 2000 and the couple has five children. The couple divorced in 2008. He then married actor Talulah Riley in 2010 and they divorced in 2016. In 2018, Musk dated Canadian musician Grimes and the couple has three

children before they separated in 2021.

children before they separated in 2021.

The 52-year-old billionaire has voiced his concerns about declining birth rates, highlighting that many countries were below the replacement rate and that the global trend suggested a further decline.

"Many countries are already well below replacement rate, and the trend is that almost all will be. This is simply a fact, not a 'debunked theory,'" he told Page Six.

He said that "2.1 kids is the replacement rate, and obviously the world as a whole will soon drop below that point".

In an interview with Page Six in July 2022, Musk backed having "big families" and said he wanted many children so that he could spend them with them and be a good father.

Even at that time, Musk had tweeted that a "collapsing birth rate was the biggest danger civilisation faced".

Apart from Musk's three children with Zilis, the tech magnate shares twins Griffin and Vivian and triplets Kai, Saxon and Damian with his Justine Wilson Their eldest child, Nevada, died of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) at 10 weeks.

North Korea Sends More Trash-Filled Balloons Towards South Korea

SEOUL, Jun 25 (Agencies): North Korea has sent hundreds more trash-filled balloons southward, Seoul's military said Tuesday, the latest in a series of border barages that have sparked a tit-for-tat propaganda campaign.

Pyongyang launched about 350 balloons Monday evening, Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said, adding that around 100 had landed in the South, mainly in northern Gyeonggi province and the capital Seoul.

The bags attached to the balloons contained "mostly paper waste", the military said, adding that they posed no safety risk to the public,

according to their analysis.

"The South Korean military is ready to carry out its psychological warfare immediately," the JCS said, adding the response "all depends on North Korea's actions".

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol said the North's latest round of trash-carrying balloons was a "despicable and irrational provocation" in a speech marking the anniversary of the start of the Korean War.

He slammed a deal between Pyongyang and Moscow, signed last week by Russian President Vladimir Putin during a state visit to North Korea,



as a "blatant violation of UN Security Council resolutions".

"Our military will maintain a steadfast readiness to ensure that North Korea does not dare to challenge South Korea under any circumstances and will respond overwhelmingly and decisively to any provocations from the North," Yoon added.

Pyongyang has already sent more than a thousand balloons carrying trash southward in what it says is retaliation for balloons carrying anti-regime propaganda floated north by activists.

In response, Seoul has fully suspended a tension-reducing military deal and restarted some propaganda broadcasts from loudspeakers along the border.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's sister and key government spokeswoman Kim Yo Jong warned earlier this month that if the leaflet drops and loudspeaker broadcasts continued, Seoul would "undoubtedly witness the new counteraction of the DPRK".

Experts said border tensions could potentially escalate quickly.

"Since the South has met the first condition -- which is the leaflet scattering -- if the government were to resume loudspeakers, we would likely see the 'new counteraction' that was mentioned," said Park Won-gon, a professor at Ewha Womens University.

Brig Cheema honours three ex-NCC cadets for commissioning as Flying Officers



Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Brig PS Cheema, honoured three ex-NCC cadets who were commissioned as Flying Officers in the Indian Air Force in a ceremony took place at NTA

Nagrota.

Three ex-NCC cadets who were honoured include Flying Officer Charanjit Singh Gill, son of Sub Avtar Singh (Retd) and Seema Devi, ex-NCC cadet of 2 J&K BN (MAM College); Flying Officer

Pulkit Ratra, son of Pawan Kumar and Suman Ratra, ex-NCC cadet of 2 J&K BN (GGM Science College); and Flying Officer Zubiksha Thakur, daughter of Mulkh Raj and Seema Devi, ex-cadet of 2 J&K Girls BN (GCW

Udhampur).

The Flying Officers shared their journeys from NCC cadets to Flying Officers with 500 NCC cadets undergoing training. Their stories served as motivation for the cadets, emphasizing the role of NCC

training in achieving their goals.

21 SSB aspirants also benefited from the experiences shared by the Flying Officers, who will continue to mentor them.

Brig Cheema praised the achievements of the Flying Officers and encouraged the cadets to strive for excellence. He shared his own experiences to inspire them further. As a token of appreciation, Brig Cheema presented medallions to the Flying Officers. The ceremony highlighted the significant role of NCC in shaping the future of young aspirants, demonstrating its value in fostering leadership and commitment.

Mehfil-e-Ghazal programme held at GDC Kishtwar

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, June 25: The Department of Urdu, Government Degree College Kishtwar and GDC Chatroo, in collaboration with Tahreek Baqa-e-Urdu Chenab Valley, held a significant event at the GDC Kishtwar auditorium. Talat Parvez Rohella, IAS, Commissioner of Inquiries, was the Chief Guest of the event. His profound words fostered a sense of unity and collaboration among all participants. The formal proceedings began with a warm welcome address by Gulab Safi, member Tahreek Baqa-e-Urdu, followed by a vote of thanks from Dr. Sehresh Gazal, Head of the Environmental Science Department. A highlight of the event was an interactive session with students from various

schools and colleges, where they discussed stress management, goal achievement, and target focus with the esteemed Chief Guest. The Chief Guest's insightful responses provided fresh vision and inspiration, deeply resonating with the audience. The highlight of the evening was the felicitation of Talat Parvez Rohella (IAS) by Prof. Basharat Iqbal, Principal of GDC Kishtwar, with a certificate of honor and a prestigious Rasanishatjanbaaz Award from Tahreek Baqa-e-Urdu Chenab Valley, recognizing his commendable contributions. Special recognition was also extended to individuals such as Dr. Tariq Tamkeen (HoD Urdu, GDC Chatroo), Rehman Ali Rehmat (renowned Kashmiri Poet), Dr. Zahoor Din (HOD Urdu, GDC

Kishtwar), Mushtaq Dev, Rashid Zafar Doolwal and Gulab Saifi for their invaluable support and dedication. The event's atmosphere was further elevated by a mesmerizing live musical concert featuring Bilal Falak and Sohail Akhtar. Their soulful renditions of folk music created an atmosphere of joy and harmony, captivating the audience. The active participation and enthusiasm of dignitaries, faculty members, and students from Mothers Pride and Balneketan were pivotal in making the event a resounding success. Their support and engagement showcased the power of collaboration and community spirit. The event garnered media coverage, ensuring the message of unity and cultural exchange reached a wider audience.

NC committed to protect Constitution of India: Vijay Lochan Guarantees constitutional & socio-economic rights of weaker sections

Top News Report

KATHUA, June 25: In a significant display of commitment towards the upliftment of weaker sections of society, Vijay Lochan, Chairman of the JKNC SC Cell, reaffirmed the National Conference's dedication to protect the Constitution of India and ensuring the socio-economic progress of marginalized communities.

He made these remarks while addressing a day-long convention organized by the Party's District Committee Kathua Urban.

The meeting commenced with Ajit Kumar, District President of Kathua Urban, briefing senior Party functionaries about the numerous challenges faced by the border dwellers and the weaker sections of society. His detailed presentation set the stage for a comprehensive discussion on strategies to address these pressing issues.

Addressing the party workers, Vijay Lochan highlighted that the recent Lok Sabha poll results have significantly bolstered the morale of the party cadre, serving as a clear testament to the people's faith and confidence in the National Conference's leadership and its agenda for the state. He emphasized that this renewed vigor should be harnessed to gear up for the forthcoming



ing Assembly elections.

"The aim of today's meeting is to deliberate on election strategies aimed at securing the best possible outcomes for the party," Lochan stated. He called on the party cadre to mobilize efforts to secure victories, particularly in the reserved seats within district Kathua. He urged them to ensure that the National Conference's key achievements and future plans are effectively communicated to the electorate.

The Senior NC leader underscored that the people have high expectations from the National Conference, highlighting the Party's responsibility to fully address their aspirations. He assured that if the NC is voted into power, it will steadfastly work towards empowering the weaker sections of society, in line with the Constitution of India as envisioned by Baba Saheb Ambedkar.

Vijay Lochan reiterated the National Conference's commitment to social jus-

ice and equality, serving as a rallying call for party members to dedicate themselves to the upcoming electoral challenges with renewed enthusiasm and resolve.

Subash Chander Azad, District President of JKNC SC Cell, assured the senior functionaries of the Party of his unwavering commitment to ensure the victory of Party in the reserved seats in district

Kathua. He emphasized the importance of grassroots engagement and promised to strengthen the party's presence in the district.

Subash Chander highlighted ongoing efforts to mobilize support and raise awareness about the National Conference's initiatives aimed at social justice and equality. He called for collective efforts to ensure success in the upcoming Assembly elections, urging party members to work tirelessly to secure a decisive victory for the National Conference in Kathua.

Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone and K.K Bakshi District Secretary Kathua Urban, asked party workers to strengthen the hands of Party President Dr Farooq Abdullah and

Vice President Omar Abdullah. They emphasized the need for unity and collective effort in bolstering the party's leadership. They urged members to actively participate in outreach programs and community initiatives to build a robust support base.

Highlighting the achievements and vision of the National Conference, They called on party workers to dedicate themselves to the upcoming electoral challenges, ensuring a decisive victory that would further the cause of social justice and equality under the guidance of their esteemed leaders.

Among those who were present include: Jagga Ram, Jank Raj, Balbeer Kumar, Basant Kumar and others.

Senior Congress leader visits Suchetgarh

Top News Report

R S PURA, June 25: Senior Congress leader and former BDC Dilip Kumar on Tuesday visited Sera Chak Talhar and thanked the voters who voted for the Congress party in the Lok Sabha elections and said that the Congress party has been successful in gaining a lead from the Suchetgarh assembly constituency. During his visit to Sera Chak Talhar village of Suchatgarh area, the Con-

gress leader and former BDC chairman said that the Congress party has received full support of the people in the Lok Sabha elections and the morale of the party workers has also increased a lot after these elections.

He said that all the party workers worked unitedly and the result of that is that the Congress party has been successful in gaining a lead from these assembly constituencies.

He said that the Congress party is also fully

prepared for the upcoming assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir and the Congress party will create history by winning from the Suchetgarh assembly constituency.

He said that the Congress party is constantly working for the betterment of the people and has been successful in raising issues related to the people.

On this occasion, he demanded from the government that at present the farmers of the area should

get adequate amount of electricity and water.

He said that in view of the upcoming elections, a special public relations campaign will be run by the Congress party in the area and more and more people will be connected with the Congress party.

During this, Charan Jeet Bhagat, Chaman Lal, Bachchan Singh Saini, Sagar Kumar, Dr Rampal Channi, Lambar Dhar, Bachchan Lal, Ashok Kumar and others were also present.

At the same time it demanded that the government must create permanent posts for sanitary and sewerage workers in municipalities and pan-

chayats and regularise of all contract workers in the arena working for over two decades.

BMS demanded that the government starts entrepreneur development centres in all district headquarters. India is a young country with lots of potential. Entrepreneurship development will help India grow while also fulfilling aspirations of the young India.

BMS demanded that the 08th pay commission must be constituted with appropriate persons as part of the commission soon. BMS demanded enhancement of the income tax limit to give relief to the middle class.

It was a really productive consultation. The Finance Minister has given ample time out of her busy schedule and listened to and interacted with all trade unions patiently after which she responded positively to our demands.

BMS demanded that the central government must take quick steps to fill all vacancies under the central government which currently stand close to 20 lakhs.

At the same time it demanded that the government must create permanent posts for sanitary and sewerage workers in municipalities and pan-

GODOWN FOR RENT
Corner Plot Size 100 ft x150 ft (3 Kanals) at Kirthali, Bari Brahmana Private Commercial Registered Land with 40 ft both side lane having 6000 Sq. ft Covered Shed Height 15 ft Opp. ITC Godown. **94197-01575**

FROM PAGE 1

It's Birla Vs Suresh for Lok Sabha Speaker Post

leaders to endorse the NDA nominee but in vain.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said this has come barely 24 hours after the prime minister called for consensus.

Ramesh said, "Convention has been that the Speaker is elected unanimously and the deputy speaker's post goes to the Opposition."

He accused Prime Minister Modi of breaking this tradition.

"It is actually no surprise. He has still not woken up to the reality of the 2024 poll verdict which was a PPM defeat for him—personal, political and moral," he posted on X.

Sources said over 10 sets of nominations were filed in support of Birla's candidature, including from Prime Minister Modi, Union ministers Shah, Singh and Nadda, and BJP allies like TDP, JD(U), JD(S) and LJP (R).

Three sets of nominations were filed in support of Suresh, a Dalit leader.

IGP Kashmir calls for vigilant patrolling along highways for safe, secure Amarnath Yatra

He also instructed the officers to ensure robust night dominations to prevent any untoward incidents during the night.

IGP Kashmir also reviewed the schedule and cutoff timings for the vehicle bound as well as foot yatra which is crucial for maintaining a structured and secure flow of pilgrims along the designated routes.

He also directed that mock drills be conducted based on SOPs to evaluate their effectiveness on the ground and identify areas for improvement.

Besides, DIG south Kashmir & DIG central Kashmir were directed to assess the High-Density Counter Operation Plans in their respective zones for ensuring comprehensive security coverage and timely response of potential threats.

He stressed to further strengthening the security grid and check on anti national elements (ANEs) and terrorist associates by generating the actionable intelligence.

IGP Kashmir urged all officers to remain vigilant and proactive in their duties, emphasising the importance of coordination and timely response to any potential threats.

He also directed the officers to ensure robust security measures at all camping sites by installing CCTV Cameras at all strategic locations.

The IGP stressed upon the officers the importance of ensuring adequate manpower at each yatra camp.

The meeting concluded with the IGP expressing confidence in the capabilities of the police to provide safe, smooth & secure environment for the yatra, ensuring that pilgrims can undertake their spiritual journey with great fervour & peace of mind.

In 2022, Jammu and Kashmir Police had

carried out raids at the residences of three lawyers, including Qayoom, in connection with the murder of Qadri.

In September 2023, State Investigation Agency (SIA) had announced a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh for those providing information leading to the arrest of the persons involved in the killing of senior advocate of J&K High Court Babar Qadri.

A case FIR No 62/2020 U/S 302 IPC 7/27 IAA 13/16/18/20/39 UA PA was registered into the killing at P/S Lal Bazar Srinagar now SIA Kashmir.

Indian Army holds first-ever dental camp at Siachen Glacier

anniversary of the famous 'Operation Meghdoot' which was carried out by the Indian forces to gain control of the Siachen glacier by thwarting Pakistan's efforts to capture it.

The operation by the Indian Army and Indian Air Force was carried out on April 13, 1984, in what was one of the biggest operations carried out by the Indian forces.

Helicopter service from Jammu to Vaishno Devi Shrine begins

The new helicopter service was started on the directions of the shrine board chairman and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, according to the officials. Garg said based on the operation's feed-

back from the pilgrims, the board will be approached for its expansion in the future.

"The private service is introduced on pilot basis with two sorties so that the pilgrims can visit the shrine for darshan in the morning and return in the same flight in the evening at a cost of Rs 35,000 per passenger, which includes battery car service from Panchi to Bhawan, darshan and ropeway ticket to Bhairav temple," the board CEO said.

"The second package offers next day return and the charges are Rs 60,000 per person. The service also includes participation in special prayers. So, there are two types of packages and a total of 25 people can avail this service daily," Garg said.

He said the Panchi helipad, due to its lower elevation compared to Sanji Chhat, will be less affected by bad weather conditions.

"The next two months (monsoon period) will be a learning opportunity for us as well as the helicopter service operators which will help us to better understand and enhance the service further," he added.

"The service is highly comfortable and we are feeling lucky to be among the first to avail it," a pilgrim, who had come for darshan from Madhya Pradesh and accompanied by six family members, said.

He said the helicopter took off from Jammu at around 11 am and reached Katra in 10 minutes.

"The service is good for those facing time constraints, elderly and children," the devotee, who wished not to be identified, said.

Jammu base camp gets 3-tier security ahead of annual Amarnath Yatra

"Adequate security arrangements have been made for the yatra. Three-tier security measures have been put in place for the base camp in the Bhagwati Nagar area in Jammu," Jammu Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Dr Vinod Kumar said.

The SSP said that lodgment and registration centres in Jammu City are also under strict security.

Police have also secured the highway through which the yatra will pass every day.

"Security arrangements and area dominations have been enforced on the highway, and all points from borders have been plugged," the office said.

"Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) have been activated, high-rise buildings dominated, and the security machinery is in law and order mode. All measures are in place for an incident-free yatra," he said.

Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas in Jammu serves as the primary base camp for pilgrims nationwide before they proceed to the cave shrine of Amarnath in the Himalayas of south Kashmir.

The yatra will be carried out on the 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in the Anantnag district and the 14-km shorter but steeper Baltal route in the Ganderbal district.

As part of the security measures, the security wing has assumed control of the area and barred public access.

"Body scanners and CCTV cameras, including large 360-degree cameras, have been installed to monitor the camp and its surroundings round-the-clock," officials said.

Several companies of the paramilitary are being deployed for security, they said.

Religious tourism has great potential in J&K: Kavinder

Urges Govt to ensure upkeep, renovation of heritage temples

Top News Report

ANANTNAG, June 25: Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, highlighted the immense potential of religious tourism in Jammu and Kashmir, stating it is a significant contributor to the Union Territory's economy.

He made these remarks while paying obeisance at the ancient Martandey Surya Temple in Mattan, Anantnag district.

Kavinder said, "Religious shrines are a rich part of our cultural heritage. Jammu and Kashmir boasts numerous well-ornamented ancient temples. However, the lack of proper maintenance and conservation has left many of these temples in a dilapidated state. These jewels of our architectural heri-



tage need proper repair and maintenance to be developed into religious tourism destinations."

Kavinder emphasized that the Jammu and Kashmir is abundant with sites of religious significance and tourist attractions, which hold great potential for both pilgrimage and sightseeing tourism. "These places need to be leveraged for tour-

ism to unlock their full potential," he added.

He recommended the expansion of facilities for pilgrims and the promotion of infrastructure projects to enhance connectivity within the different regions of Jammu and Kashmir. "A focused strategy and targeted initiatives are required to fully exploit the tourism potential in the Union Ter-

ritory," he said.

Highlighting the Prasad Scheme initiated by the Modi government, Kavinder noted that it has been instrumental in the integrated development of pilgrimage destinations across Jammu and Kashmir. "The Prasad Scheme has provided a significant boost to religious tourism by improving infrastructure, connectivity, and

facilities at key pilgrimage sites. Such initiatives should be extended to the Union Territory to further promote our rich religious and cultural heritage," he remarked.

The senior BJP leader urged the government to undertake restoration work on all such temples that are in poor condition and require upkeep. Additionally, he appealed to the concerned authorities to compile a list of all places that can be developed for religious tourism.

Later, the former deputy Chief Minister interacted with the management committee of the Martandey Surya Temple, including Ashok Kumar Sidha, President of Martand Tirath Trust, T.K. Tickoo, General Secretary, B.B. Sadhu, Senior Vice President, and Bansilal Mukhi, Vice President.

International Day against Drug Abuse and illicit Drug Trafficking



Top News Report

NAGROTA, June 25: Drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking are significant issues that plague societies worldwide. Drug abuse refers to the harmful or excessive use of substances for non-medical purposes, leading to physical, mental, and social harm. Illicit drug trafficking involves the illegal production, distribution, and sale of drugs, contributing to a range of negative consequences for individuals and communities.

To effectively address the intertwined challenges of drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking, a multi-faceted and holistic approach is essential.

Governments, communities, healthcare providers, law enforcement agencies, and individuals all play crucial roles in prevention, intervention, and treatment efforts. In view of International drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking day the cadets of NCC attending Combined Annual Training Camp (conducted by 4 J&K Bn NCC) at NTA (NCC Training Academy, Nagrota) attended awareness program organised by NCB (Narcotics Control Bureau) in collaboration with NGO (Support) which included a skit which generated awareness of drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking among cadets followed by oath and awareness rally.

Drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking are complex challenges that require a comprehensive and coordinated response from all sectors of society. Drug Abuse has wide-ranging harmful impacts on health & well-being of individuals, families & society. On Int'l Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking, we should put efforts in eliminating drug menace & promote healthy and drug-free society. We cannot allow the world's drug problem to further shadow the lives of millions of people. Together, we can strive to reduce the devastating impact of drugs on individuals, families, and societies around the world.

All Auto Repair and Spares Associations to observe summer holidays from June 27



Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: All Auto Repair and Spares Associations, like every year, this year also observed summer holidays from June 27 to 30, 2024.

"The shops of motorcycles, scooters and three

wheelers will remain closed during these holidays. So all the agencies have been asked to make arrangements for these holidays. It has been kept free, like Hero TVS, Yamaha, Royal Enfield, Honda, all these service centers have been

kept free and whoever is a member of the organization or not, they are requested to keep their shop free during these holidays and enjoy the holidays with your family," Association members said in a press conference here on Tuesday.

Sanjeev Kotwal appointed as General Secretary of SSP J&K UT



Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Col S.S Pathania, Chief Convenor and President Sainik Samaj Party (SSP), J&K UT appointed Sanjeev Kotwal as General Secretary, giving him the onerous responsibility of build up and expansion of party in twin districts of Doda and Kishtwar.

This appointment gained more significance in wake of recent attacks in Bhandarwah and increased movement of terrorists on upper reaches.

Sanjeev Kotwal has the exacting task of building the senior wing. Women wing and Youth wing along with identification of suitable candidates for assembly and municipal elections, which will certainly be held by October 2024.

Bhandarwah, Doda and Kishtwar have been blessed with huge blessings of nature and can be compared with weather, nature's beauty and beautiful sites for tourists, but apathy and indifference by the Tourism Directorate has miserably failed in promoting these beautiful areas.

Sanjeev, an alumni of Sainik School Nagrota, has numerous issues like development of these areas, lack of employment, lack of education, lack of tourism infrastructure, which needs to be highlighted to the administration and government of JKUT.

Constantly increasing terrorist threat and local support being provided along with threat of OGW, Sleeper cells and sympathisers needs a serious consideration

and preventive measures, to instill a feeling of security in the districts of Doda and Kishtwar.

India's nuclear power generation to increase 70% in 5 years: Dr Jitendra

Top News Report

NEW DELHI/JAMMU, June 25: "India's Nuclear Power generation capacity is to increase by around 70 percent in the next 5 years", says Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh while convening a high level meeting to review the 100 days Action Plan of the Department of Atomic Energy here today.

This is the first Atomic Energy related meeting convened by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Dr Jitendra Singh after he reassumed charge as Minister in the Modi Govt 3.0.

Highlighting India's progress in nuclear energy and renewable energy in the energy landscape, Dr Jitendra Singh said "Installed capacity of 7.48 GWe will become 13.08 GWe by 2029, which is over 70 percent increase with addition of 7 new reactors. He also took stock of the already operational projects and gave directions for upcoming plans.

Dr. Jitendra Singh directed the department to integrate and collaborate to harness full potential, by capacity building and sharing of knowledge, resources and expertise.

The Minister emphasised on indigenous development of technology. He said, "Indigenous technology development and promoting energy security should be our priority." He recalled that this government

has allowed Joint Ventures with public sector units, increasing budget through collaboration and use of next generation technologies, and increasing cooperation. Speaking on the ease of doing research and scaling up activities he said we are giving single point approval to promote ease of science and promote ease of living for citizens by application of nuclear technology.

Dr. Jitendra Singh informed that the department is suitably designing the 220MW pressurised heavy water reactor (PHWR) to use a Bharat Small Reactor (BSR) for captive nuclear power generation. He also informed that DAE is also working on Bharat Small Modular Reactor (BSMR) 220 MW to use light water-based reactors by replacing Calandria by pressure vessel.

IIM Jammu hosts Interactive Session with Dr. Gurdeep Raina



Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, organized an interactive session for students, Ph.D. scholars, and incubates at its Jagti Campus on Tuesday.

The session was conducted by Dr. Gurdeep Singh Raina, Assistant Professor, College of Business, Department of Management Marketing, The University of Texas Permian Basin.

The session began with a formal introduction, where MBA students, Ph.D. scholars, and incubates shared their career aspirations.

During his address to the MBA students, Dr. Gurdeep Singh Raina, Assistant Professor, College of Business, Department of Management Marketing, The University of Texas Permian Basin, emphasized the importance of being specific in life, asking questions, accumulation of knowledge, networking, stay-

ing updated with current affairs, understanding business competition, and recognizing disparities across generations and genders.

He highlighted that human development is influenced by both nature and nurture.

In his address to the Ph.D. students, he discussed righteous research practices, research methodology, and the challenges faced by Ph.D. scholars in their first year.

He provided advice on presenting research papers effectively to avoid rejections and discussed the concept of social premium.

Addressing the incubates at the Centre for Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Skill Development, IIM Jammu spoke about the specific challenges faced by entrepreneurs. He covered topics such as positioning, value chain analysis, identifying gaps, offering solution-oriented business approaches, segment identification, and the importance of

field experience.

Dr. Muqbil Burhan, Chairperson, Centre for Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Skill Development, IIM Jammu, provided an overview of the centre's activities and welcomed Dr. Gurdeep Singh Raina to IIM Jammu. As a token of appreciation, Dr. Muqbil Burhan presented a memento to Dr. Gurdeep Singh Raina on this momentous occasion.

Present on the occasion were Dr. Anand Kumar S, Assistant Professor, IIT Jammu, Dr. Vivek Sharma, Chief Innovation Officer, Centre for Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Skill Development, IIM Jammu, and Shri Naren Karunakaran, Consultant at the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, IIM Jammu, along with other officers and staff of the Institute.

With such interactive sessions, IIM Jammu is committed to fostering a dynamic and engaging learning environment that nurtures future leaders, innovative researchers, and successful entrepreneurs.

BJP jeopardizing future of youth by manipulating crucial examinations: Rattan Lal

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) Jammu, has strongly criticized the incumbent government, accusing it of failing on all fronts.

He highlighted the plight of the youth, stating that despite being the future of the nation, they have been severely affected under the present regime.

The senior NC leader was speaking during the joining programme held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan wherein Gurmeet Singh, BJP State Secretary Minority Morcha, along with his supporters, joined the party fold in the presence of Rattan Lal Gupta and other NC leaders.

The joining programme was organized by Sardar Tejinder Pal Singh (Aman), District President Jammu Urban YNC. Those who joined the party fold included Ajay Kumar, Sachin Kumar, Ashwani Bhagat, Aditya, Gagan Attri and others.

Addressing the party workers, Rattan Lal Gupta expressed concerns over rising unemployment and various scandals, including recruitment scams, the NEET scam, and the cancellation of UGC exams, which have left the youth disillusioned.

He said that the BJP government at the Centre is playing with the futures



of our young generation.

He emphasized the urgent necessity of identifying and holding accountable those responsible for jeopardizing the future of our youth by manipulating such crucial examinations.

Rattan Lal Gupta sought a foolproof policy to safeguard the integrity and transparency of prestigious examinations like NEET.

He stressed that such measures are imperative to ensure that the aspirations of our youth, who represent the future of our nation, are not compromised under any circumstances. He said youth is the backbone of the party and the present situation is a matter of serious concern as the government has no policy for the youth, resulting in peak unemployment across the country.

He called for transparent and fair recruitment processes, more investment in education and skill development, and

the implementation of policies that would create job opportunities for the youth.

Seeking support for ensuing Assembly polls, the Provincial President assured the youth of Jammu and Kashmir that if the National Conference is voted to power, it will bring youth-friendly policies that prioritize their education, employment, creation of ample job opportunities through strategic investments and partnerships, strict measures to combat scams in recruitments and support for entrepreneurial ventures by providing financial aid and training.

"Our vision is to empower the youth, to give them the tools and opportunities they need to lead successful and fulfilling lives, he said, adding that the National Conference believes in the power of our young generation and is dedicated to shaping a prosperous future for Jammu and Kashmir with their active participation

and leadership."

Rattan Lal Gupta also welcomed the newly joined members and hoped that their joining will strengthen the base of the Party. He encouraged the new members to actively participate in Party activities and contribute their skills and knowledge to the collective efforts.

Tejinder Pal Singh asked the party cadre to get united for upcoming polls and teach BJP a lesson for its misgovernance bringing misery to the people.

Those who were present include Shahmim Begun DDC Damsal, Kuldeep Sharma, Nitish Gowsami Provincial Secretary YNC, Sahil Kemi District Secretary Jammu Urban YNC, Yasir Ahsan District Vice President, Sahil Singh Chib District Secretary Jammu Rural "A" YNC, Akbir Singh, Amit Sharma Joint Secretary, Tejpal Singh Ward President 58, Gourav Bhagat Ward President Ward No 33 and others.

Afghanistan's fairy tale continues, Rashid's bravehearts make first ever T20 World Cup semifinal

Afghans knock out former champions Australia; will now face South Africa in last-four stage on June 27

KINGSTOWN, Jun 25 (Agencies): The redoubtable Rashid Khan led the way as Afghanistan qualified for their maiden T20 World Cup semifinal with an eight-run win over Bangladesh in a rain-hit Super 8 match here, adding a golden chapter to their cricketing history that has survived war, political ostracization and lack of even a base at home.

In the process, Rashid's maverick team knocked out 2021 champions Australia after having humbled them in their previous Super 8 match. The Afghans will now face South Africa in the last-four stage on June 27.

Opting to bat after winning the toss, Afghanistan's batting stumbled to a below-par 115/5 as Bangladesh bowlers made the most of a tricky pitch, bowling as many as 66 dot balls.

The match was eventually truncated to 19-overs-a-side due to frequent rain interruptions and Bangladesh was given a revised target on 114.

Leg-Spinner Rishad Hossain, 3/26, led the charge while for Afghanistan, opener Rahmanullah Gurbaz hitting a painstaking 43 off 55 balls.

However, Afghanistan showed just why and how they have managed to come this far in international cricket since becoming a full ICC member only in 2017, producing a gritty bowling performance, spearheaded by Rashid (4/23) and pacer Naveen-ul-Haq (4/26).

Their heroics ensured a successful and historic defence of the low score as Bangladesh were bowled out for 105 in 17.5



overs.

Litton Das (54 not out) was the lone warrior for Bangladesh in the game that also featured some questionable delaying tactics by the Afghans when they were ahead on DLS par score.

The Afghans' job was made easy by India, who handed Australia a 24-run defeat last night.

It wouldn't be wrong to say that the Australians have been sent packing from the tournament by India and a team that considers India its home base for the lack of amenities in its strife-ravaged country.

Afghanistan have relied on their opening pair with the bat and bowl to set up their victories and the script was no different on Tuesday.

While Gurbaz and Ibrahim Zadran forged a crucial 59-run stand with the bat, Fazalhaq Farooqi and Naveen picked up wickets upfront.

Farooqi, who has made a habit of snaring early wickets, did exactly that as he sent Tanzid Hasan (0) packing in the

second over which was followed by Naveen's spectacular over in which the pacer claimed the scalps of Bangladesh skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto (5) and Shakib Al-Hasan (0).

Bangladesh were 31/3 when rain halted the proceedings. They resumed play on an aggressive note, clawing their way to 46/3 at the six-over mark.

Rashid then introduced himself and worked his inimitable sorcery. He picked two wickets off his consecutive overs but Bangladesh continued their fearless approach and were ahead on the DLS par score.

However, the Afghan skipper was having none of it and went on to snare two wickets off consecutive balls, to also become the fastest to 150 T20 wickets, going past New Zealand's Tim Southee.

When rain started pouring for the umpteenth time and Bangladesh were trailing on the DLS par score.

Afghan coach Jonathan Trott was seen animatedly asking his

players to slow down from the dugout and all-rounder Gulbadin Naib went down, apparently complaining of cramps. The sudden breakdown was seen as a delaying tactic and prompted on-air commentator to call him "eighth wonder of the world" for recovering within minutes to begin bowling.

Das remained a thorn in Afghanistan's side, standing firm and hammering the ball over square leg to bring up his half-century. However, with wickets falling at the other end, Das was left alone as Naveen returned to remove Bangladesh's number 9 and 10.

As the players began their emotional celebrations, it marked the beginning of a new era for the team, which has missed out on crucial international exposure due to Australia's refusal to host it, citing the Taliban takeover and the poor state of women's rights in the country.

Earlier, opting to bat Afghanistan batters found the going tough with the pitch offering turn and lateral movement.

The pair of Gurbaz and Zadran prioritised their wickets but Bangladesh got their breakthrough in the 11th over as Zadran (18 off 29) attempted to float one over long off. He didn't get enough bat on it and Hossain claimed his first victim.

With the surface aiding some seam and swing, Bangladesh managed to slow Afghanistan down. Skipper Rashid hit two sixes off the last over to steer the Afghans past the 100 run mark.

Rohit Sharma leads the way against Australia, India to face holders England in semifinals



GROS ISLET (SAINT LUCIA), Jun 25 (Agencies): Skipper Rohit Sharma played an innings to remember as India marched into the semifinals of the T20 World Cup with a 24-run win over Australia in their last Super Eight fixture here.

Rohit combined brute force with elegance in his 92 off 41 balls as India amassed 205/5 after Australia opted to bowl on a batting beauty. In reply, Australia ended at 181/7.

Staring at an exit from the competition, Australia showed their familiar fighting spirit in the run chase via skipper Mitchell Marsh (37 off 28), who was back among the runs, and India's

nemesis Travis Head (76 off 43), who played a blinder in the ODI World Cup final last year.

The trio of Kuldeep Yadav (2/24), Jasprit Bumrah (1/29) and Arshdeep Singh (3/37) eventually kept the Australians at bay as India finished on top of Group 1.

After their second loss in three games, Australia have left their fate in the hands of Afghanistan who take on Bangladesh and are also in running for the second semifinals spot from Group 1.

India's third win in as many games in the Super Eight fixed a date with defending champions England in the second semifinal in

Guyana on Thursday. Australia, as expected, showed plenty of fight in the chase before fizzling out in the death overs.

The highlight of the 86-run partnership between Head and Marsh was their exemplary ball-striking ability.

Amid the high-quality hitting from Marsh and Head, Kuldeep's bowling stood out. One of his wickets, though, was purely down to the brilliance of Axar Patel who took a one-handed stunner on the jump at deep square leg to send back Marsh.

With 65 needed off 30 balls and Head in the middle, the match hung in balance before Jasprit Bumrah returned to remove the opener with a slower ball and Australia could not press on thereafter.

Earlier, on the best batting surface of the tournament, Australia put India in to bat and Rohit made the most of the conditions with a sublime knock, comprising seven fours and eight sixes including a recording-extending 200th in the format.

"We don't want to do anything different (in the knockouts), we want to play the same way," Rohit said.

Fuellkrug jumps at chance to steal a draw

FRANKFURT, Jun 25 (Agencies): They all jumped for the ball in a frantic late push for the goal that would save Germany from their first loss at the European Championship, against an impressive Switzerland team.

Defender Nico Schlotterbeck leaped, next to the even more imposing centre-back Antonio Rudiger, who reached highest of all. In front of them both was substitute Niclas Fuellkrug.

The German trio was circled by three Swiss opponents trying to protect a 1-0 lead two minutes into the stoppage time. Six pairs of feet off the ground in unison, straining to be the one to head the ball.

It was Fuellkrug who won the contest, guiding the ball crossed from another substitute David Raum back across Switzerland goalkeeper Yann Sommer into the top corner of the net. The match ended 1-1.

"We risked a lot in this phase because we could have conceded a second goal," Germany coach Julian Nagesmann said about throwing his defenders into attack. "Who doesn't dare to risk, doesn't get to draw."

Germany had already advanced to the Round of 16 before kick-off, but a



draw felt like a win in the circumstances and kept the momentum of impressive wins against Scotland and Hungary.

"When you see how the Germans celebrated their goal that says everything," said Switzerland captain Granit Xhaka, named the Player of the Match.

Switzerland impressed while protecting a 28th-minute goal from Dan Ndoye's clever volleyed shot, and chasing a bigger lead. A second goal was denied by a marginal offside ruling against Ruben Vargas and a fine save by Manuel Neuer from Xhaka's shot.

The point for each team ensured Germany finished top and Switzerland second in Group A. Hungary took third place in the standings with an even later stoppage-time goal to beat Scotland 1-0 in Stuttgart.

Riyan Parag, Abhishek, Reddy get maiden India call-up in Shubman Gill-led team for upcoming Zimbabwe tour

Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Hardik Pandya, Suryakumar, Jadeja and Bumrah have been rested ahead of a gruelling season

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): Youngsters Riyan Parag, Abhishek Sharma and Nitish Reddy were on Monday rewarded for their exploits in the last IPL with maiden India call-ups for the upcoming white-ball tour of Zimbabwe under the captaincy of Shubman Gill.

Senior players competing in the ongoing T20 World Cup in the Americas, including captain Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Hardik Pandya, Suryakumar Yadav, Ravindra Jadeja and Jasprit Bumrah have been rested ahead of a gruelling season.

The Zimbabwe tour comprises five T20 Internationals, beginning July 6.

Besides Parag, Abhishek and Reddy, other IPL performers boarding the flight to Zimbabwe



are Tushar Deshpande, Harshit Rana, Avesh Khan and Rinku Singh among others.

Also featuring in the 15-member squad are Sanju Samson and Yashasvi Jaiswal, who were on the bench during

the T20 World Cup.

Gill and Avesh, who were part of travelling reserves for India's T20 World Cup campaign, were released after the team finished their group stage matches as they were unlikely to feature in

any of the remaining games.

As far as the newcomers are concerned, Abhishek and Parag dominated IPL-17 the most with their brilliant batting.

Punjab batsman Abhishek, who represent Sunrisers Hyderabad in the IPL, had blazed away to 484 runs while Rajasthan Royals' Parag, the first player from Assam to be picked in the senior Indian team, amassed 573 runs.

India's squad for T20I series against Zimbabwe:

Shubman Gill (Captain), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Abhishek Sharma, Rinku Singh, Sanju Samson (WK), Dhruv Jurel (WK), Nitish Reddy, Riyan Parag, Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Avesh Khan, Khaleel Ahmed, Mukesh Kumar, Tushar Deshpande.

At \$300 per day, IOA officials' Paris allowance doubled from last Olympics; athletes to get \$50

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): In a classic case of sports administrators' entitlement, the executive council members of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) will receive \$300 per day in dearness allowance during their stay in Paris for the Olympics even as the Indian athletes will get only \$50 per day.

As per the budget estimate for the Paris Games, the 12 executive council members will get \$300 per day — which is a little over Rs 25,000 — for five days in the French capital. Interestingly, the execu-

tive members were paid \$150 at the Tokyo Olympics. In contrast, the Indian athletes will get the same allowance as they received in the Tokyo Games.

The new dearness allowance rules were cleared during the executive council meeting held on December 26, just a few days after PT Usha took over as the new IOA president. As the president of a National Olympic Committee, Usha will be hosted by the International Olympic Committee in Paris.

The executive coun-

cil members will also be paid \$1000 per day, which is a little less than Rs 90 thousand, for five days.

The only redeeming feature in the budget is that the IOA will be paying a participation allowance of Rs 2 lakh each to the athletes and Rs 1 lakh each to the coaches and support staff.

The IOA will not have to bear the whole burden as a lot of the expenses incurred, especially on the athletes and support staff, will be borne by the Sports Ministry.

Treasurer wants EC

meeting

The budget estimate has once again opened old fissures within the already divided executive council. Usha wrote a letter to all the executive members to give their concurrence on the budget estimate.

"...I kindly request your concurrence on these budget estimates to facilitate timely implementation and smooth execution of our plans. You will notice that this also includes the funds that are sanctioned by the Government of India in support of our teams. Your prompt review and

approval will be highly appreciated, as it will enable us to proceed without any delays," Usha wrote in her letter.

In response, IOA treasurer Sahdev Yadav has requested her to call for an executive council meeting to discuss the budget. "...As the matter concerns financial approval for the Paris Olympic Games, it is my humble suggestion to call an executive committee meeting of Indian Olympic Association to finalise the budget estimates for Paris Olympic Games 2024," he wrote back.

Archers book Paris ticket via rankings

NEW DELHI, Jun 25 (Agencies): India secured men's and women's team quotas in archery for this year's Paris Olympics based on the updated world rankings.

India topped the rankings among the non-qualified nations in the both men's and women's sections to seal their quotas.

India will, thus, be eligible to compete in all the five medal events in Paris — men's and women's team, individual and mixed categories.

In the men's section, India and China made the cut, while Indonesia were the second nation to secure the team Olympics quota in the women's section.

The team events will have 12 sides in each section, while five teams will compete in the mixed competitions. For the first time, team quotas are offered to the top-two nations after the three-leg Olympics qualifiers.

Fab four for Rai, Deepika

Forty-year-old Army

veteran Tarundeep Rai, who made his Olympics debut at Athens 2004, will make his fourth Games appearance.

Former world No. 1 Deepika Kumari, too, will compete in her fourth Olympics on the trot, having made her maiden appearance in London 2012.

Dhiraj Bommadevara, Ankita Bhakat and Bhajan Kaur will make their Olympics debuts, while for Pravin Jadhav it will be his second successive Games after Tokyo.

Pawan inaugurates Divisional Council meet of National Federation of Insurance Field Workers

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: The XVth Biennial Divisional Council Meet of the National Federation of Insurance Field Workers of India (an organization of Development Officers of LIC of India) was held at Anutham Resorts, Kunjwani, here on Tuesday.

The meeting was graced by the presence of Pawan Khajuria, Vice President of BJP JK UT, who attended as the Chief Guest.

Khajuria inaugurated the event by lighting the ceremonial lamp and highlighted the significant



contributions of LIC of India and its Development Officers to the organiza-

tion's growth. The meeting involved extensive discussions on

various issues affecting the Development Officers' fraternity. Distinguished

guests, including N.K. Gupta, Zonal President, and Rakesh Magotra, Zonal Secretary of the North Zone, also attended the event.

During the meeting, the election of the office bearers of NFIFWI took place. Jasbir Singh was unanimously elected as President, and Ajatshatru Khajuria was elected as General Secretary.

Pawan Khajuria congratulated the federation for the successful conduct of the election and emphasized the prominent role of the Insurance Field Workers in the society.

BJP observes Black Day in protest against imposition of emergency by Congress Govt



Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday celebrated Black Day in protest against the imposition of emergency by Congress Government across the country and putting all patriotic leaders behind bars.

Remembering its tenure, BJP District President Poonam Chauhan, BJP SC Morcha District President Chandrapal Chandel, BJP Senior Leader Guruji Raju Chandel, Rajkumar Jha, BJP District Senior Vice President Scheduled Caste Morcha Deepika Chandel, Corporation Councilor Anil God and hundreds of other dignitaries were present.

On this occasion, District President Poonam

Chauhan said that Congress party is completely immersed in corruption and they have always suppressed the voice of democracy. Emergency imposed in the country is an example of that.

Speaking on this occasion, Chandrapal Chandel said that Imposition of Emergency in the entire country by former Congress Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is a sign of cruelty which we are protesting here today.

On this occasion, senior BJP leader Raju Chandel while talking to journalists said that the Emergency imposed by former Congress Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in the entire country by putting all patriotic politicians in jail makes it clear that it was a dictatorship and democracy

was murdered. There can be no bigger example than this where the voice of democracy was suppressed at that time. Such a cruel ruler has never been there in the history of the country nor will be.

Chandel said that during the tenure of Congress, Dalit society was never given any rights and they did not have any freedom for anything. Whoever spoke about the rights of Dalits, talked about the backward, Congress used to suppress him and the movement that took place at that time was crushed by the Congress party. The previous Congress governments have always looted and wasted the country's property etc. and spread corruption all around.

NSF seeks LG to take serious note of gross irregularity in JU

Flays misuse of student's money by JU Admn

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: National Secular Forum (NSF) on Tuesday condemned Jammu University (JU) revealing that student's money is being misused by the University with the administration busy enjoying comforts by using this money.

Roshan Sharma, District President of National Secular Forum said in the press conference that the fees are being increased by 10% every year but there has been no improvement in the facilities for the students. There is not even a water cooler facilities available when the temperature is touching the sky in this sweltering heat.

He said that the administration of Jammu Uni-

versity should install at least 10 Water Coolers at different spots in the premises of University so that students and employees can quench their thirst benefit in this hottest summer.

He further said that Jammu University administration is not going to double benches by accepting the decision of the First Bench in order to give benefit to some of its own blue eyed people, but the cases of those who are not blue eyed, JU Administration shall be taking their cases to the double bench.

He further said that even in the contractual appointments, there is deep nexus between the teaching wing and some departments because teachers are not given where they

are needed, teachers are given where they are not, there is no teaching wing workload seen.

District president also said that new vehicles are being bought with the students' money but no facilities are being provided to the students. There is only one Center Library in the University for the Student to study. No one is thinking in the JU administration to construct new building for facility of students

The District President further said that no rules are being followed for appointments and promotions in the University.

He has appealed to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to constitute a high level inquiry to find out what is going on in the university.

IGNOU launches new programmes in Home Science, Fashion Design, Psychology, Special Education

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has launched new programmes in Management, Home Science, Fashion Design, Psychology and Special Education from the ongoing July 2024 admission cycle.

The newly launched programmes include MBAABM-Master of Business Administration (Agribusiness Management), MBACN-Master of Business Administration (Construction Management), MBALS-Master of Business Administration (Logistics & Supply Chain Management), MBAHCHM-Master of Business Administration (Health Care and Hospital Management), MSCHSC- M. Sc. (Home Science - Community Development and Extension Management), DFDR-Diploma (Fashion Design and Retail), PGDRPC-Post Graduate Diploma (Rehabilitation Psychology), CESEIHI-Certificate (Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion - Hearing Impairment), CESEIVI-Certificate (Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion - Visual Impairment), CESEIID-Certificate (Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion - Intellectual Disability).

Admissions are open twice a year, in the July and January admission cycles, through the official SAMARTH portal of IGNOU <https://ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in> in the link of which is available on the National website of IGNOU www.ignou.ac.in. The last date for the ongoing July 2024 admission session has been fixed for June 30, 2024.

20-Day Translation Skill Internship Workshop started at Dogri Sanstha Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: 20 Days' Translation Skill Internship Workshop started at Dogri Bhawan, Dogri Sanstha, Karan Nagar, here on Tuesday.

It was inaugurated by Dr. Ravinder Tickoo, Principal Govt. Women College Parade Jammu, Prof. Lalit Magotra, President Dogri Sanstha Jammu, Prof. Shashi Pathania, Vice President Dogri Sanstha, Inderjeet Kesar, Vice President Dogri Sanstha Jammu and Pawan Verma, Treasurer Dogri Sanstha Jammu.

Prof. Lalit Magotra while welcoming the Chief Guest Dr. Ravinder Tickoo, students, faculty members and other distinguished Guests said that Dogri Sanstha is always at fore front to contribute for the promotion of mother tongue Dogri. He said that organizing such a workshop with focal point on increasing skill capabilities of students in the language will surely help them in future endeavors professionally. He further

added that the faculty members are adept in the profession and have either served, serving at top positions at Dogri Department, University of Jammu or are well established litterateurs. Their inputs and counseling for how to come up to the expectations of translation in different fields will surely help the students. It's up to the students also how to get benefitted from their expertise. It's an opportunity for them to clear their doubts regarding translation which is going to help them immensely in future career.

While speaking on the occasion as Chief Guest, Dr. Ravinder Tickoo said that such an initiative is very useful for students because internships offer them an opportunity to develop their potential in a right direction. The guidance of established personalities in respective fields is beneficial in career building. He hoped that the students will get benefitted from the workshop and such initiatives will become a regular feature. He also

said that working for own mother tongue is a blessing and one should not miss this opportunity as it offers an opportunity to connect with roots with all emotions and responsibilities towards language and cultural heritage.

The workshop will carry the detailed work on different subjects' news, information literature, journalism, fiction, sub titling, web content, advertisement, prose and poetry. The students will have the blessings of faculty members like Prof. Lalit Magotra, Prof. Veena Gupta, Prof. Shashi Pathania, Prof. Archana Kesar, Dr. Nirmal Vinod, Dr. Banshi Lal Sharma, Dr. Chanchal Bhasin and Jagdeep Dubey.

About 36 students from Govt. Women College Parade and Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Govt. College for Women Gandhi Nagar are participating in 60 hours workshop stretching for 20 days with three hours a day that will conclude on July 14, 2024.

On the inaugural day a Mahila Kavi Goshthi was also organized in which prominent Dogri poetesses Usha Kiran 'Kiran', Vijaya Thakur, Prof. Shashi Pathania and Dr. Chanchal Bhasin captivated the audience with their poetry. The inaugural function was conducted by Pawan Verma and vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Shashi Pathania.

Social Activist Keshav Chopra felicitated



Top News Report

JAMMU, June 25: ADGP Jammu Zone, Anand Jain on Tuesday felicitated Keshav Chopra, Chairman of Samvedna Society, for his significant contributions to social work and humanity.

Also present were Vishal Manhas (Superintendent of Police), Janardan Slathia (Private Secretary to ADGP), Rakesh Kapoor (PA to ADGP), Rajinder Thakur (IT Section Head), and others.

Anand Jain praised Keshav Chopra's selfless efforts in implementing various government-sponsored schemes to benefit the common man.

He highlighted Chopra's dedication and initiative in providing doorstep services, which have positively impacted the needy sections of society.

Keshav Chopra expressed gratitude to ADGP Anand Jain for recognizing his work.

He emphasized that the mission of Samvedna Society is to serve the underprivileged and vowed to continue his

efforts with renewed dedication.

The recognition, Chopra mentioned, serves as motivation for him to further intensify his humanitarian efforts.

Anand Jain extended his best wishes to Keshav Chopra for his future endeavors, acknowledging the importance of continued support and encouragement in sustaining impactful social initiatives.

This ceremony not only honored Keshav Chopra for his commendable work but also underscored the importance of community-driven efforts in addressing social challenges and improving the lives of those in need.

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