TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper

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BRIEFLY

CBI Raid On Tehsildar Bahu

JAMMU. Jun 29 (Agencies): The CBI Is Carrying Out Raids In The Office Of Tehsildar Bahu Raju Samyal In Connection With Certain Irregularities

More details awaited.

PM extends his wishes to pilgrims on commencement of Amarnath Yatra

NEW DELHI, Jun 29 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended his heartfelt wishes to the pilgrims embarking on the holy Amarnath Yatra on Saturday.

The annual pilgrimage to the Amarnath shrine began today. This year, the 52-day-long pilgrimage would culminate on

August 19. "My heartfelt best wishes to all the pilgrims on the commencement of the holy Amarnath Yatra. This yatra associated with the darshan and worship of Baba Barfani infuses immense energy in the devotees of Lord Shiva. I wish that all the devotees may prosper with his blessings. Jai Baba Barfani!" PM Modi

wrote on X. Earlier, the first batch of Shri Amarnath Yatra pilgrims reached Baltal base camp in Jammu and Kashmir's Gander-

bal on Friday. A pilgrim at Baltal base camp said, "Being in the first batch gives us the opportunity of first darshan. Local Kashmiris and Security Forces personnel here are very helpful."

Another Amarnath Yatra pilgrim at Baltal base camp said that it is difficult to express the happiness he feels about being selected in the first batch of pil-

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Rain lashes parts of Himachal, 3 roads closed for traffic

SHIMLA, Jun 29 (Agencies): Rain lashed parts of Himachal Pradesh on Saturday and an "orange alert" was issued for heavy downpour and thunderstorm in the state from June 30 to July 2, the meteorological centre here said.

Dharampur received 62.4 mm of rain followed by 52.4 mm in Dharamshala, Kasauli 39 mm, Jubbarhatti 33.6 mm, Baijnath 20 mm, Tissa 17 mm, Sainj 13 mm, Shimla 11.2 mm, Solan 10.2 mm and Chopal 10 mm, the MeT centre said.

Three roads in Kangra, Kullu and Kinnaur districts were closed for traffic and 76 transformers have been disrupted in the state, according to the data provided by the state emergency operation centre.

5 Army personnel die in eastern Ladakh after tank gets stuck in river

(Agencies): Five soldiers, including a junior commissioned officer (JCO), were killed during a tank exercise on Friday night in eastern Ladakh after their Russian-origin T-72 was swept away by the raging waters of the Shyok River near Saser Brangsa, officials aware of the matter said on Saturday.

Attempts to rescue the tank crew by a squad of combat engineers failed because of the strong currents, the officials said. The soldiers belonged to the 52 Armoured Regiment deployed at Daulat Beg Oldi (DBO), India's northernmost military base near the contested Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China, HT has learnt.

The rescue squad, consisting of nine soldiers, attempted its mission in a BAUT (boat assault universal type) but returned after finding itself in a precarious situation in the swollen river and could not save the men, said one of the officials cited above, who asked not to



"Such crossings are carried out during drills after factoring in the river conditions. The turn of events was totally unexpected because of what seems to be a flash flood," said a second official, who also requested anonymity.

Indian Army regrets loss of five brave personnel while being operationally deployed in Eastern Ladakh. Rescue operations are underway."

Officials said the army will release the names of the five soldiers after their families have been informed.

"Deeply saddened at the loss of lives of five of our brave Indian Army soldiers in an unfortunate accident while getting the tank across a river in Ladakh. We will never forget exemplary service of our gallant soldiers to the nation. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. The nation stands firm with them during this hour of grief," Union defence minister Rajnath Singh wrote

The incident comes at a time when the military standoff between India and China in eastern Ladakh is now in its fifth year, with no indication of an immediate resolution to the outstanding problems along the contested LAC even as India is hoping that ongo-

ing negotiations with the neighbour will help restore the status quo ante of April 2020.

Last August, nine soldiers were killed when an army truck, part of a three-vehicle convoy, veered off the road and plunged into a deep

gorge near Kiari in Leh. The tank incident took place near Saser Brangsa through which the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is building a new road to provide much-needed alternative connectivity to the remote DBO outpost. Work on the Sasoma-Saser La-Saser Brangsa-Gapshan-DBO road gathered momentum four years ago in the backdrop of escalating military tensions between India and China.

The construction of the 130-km road from Sasoma in the Nubra Valley to DBO near the Karakoram Pass is in its final phase. The existing 255-km Darbuk-Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldi (DS-DBO) road runs close to

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Ayodhya Ram Path waterlogging: UP govt suspends 6 officials, undertakes repair works

UTTAR PRADESH, Jun 29 (Agencies): The Uttar Pradesh has suspended six officials under various departments following potholes in the recently constructed Ram Path leading to Ayodhya Ram Mandir.

The Uttar Pradesh government has suspended six officials of civic agencies for gross negligence following road cave-ins and waterlogging at several sections of the newly-built Ram Path in Ayodhya. Authorities said repair works have been carried out in the stretch.



cials are Dhruv Aggarwal (executive engineer), Anuj Deshwal (assistant engineer) and Prabhat Pandey (junior engineer) of the **Public Works Department** (PWD) and Anand Kumar Dubey (executive engineer), Rajendra Kumar Yadav (assistant engineer) and Mohammad Shahid (junior engineer) of the Uttar Pradesh Jal

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NEET-UG results row: CBI conducts searches at 7 locations in Gujarat

NEW DLHI, Jun 29 (Agencies): The CBI was conducting searches at seven locations in Gujarat in the NEET-UG paper leak case, officials said

on Saturday. They said the operation began in the morning at the premises of suspects spread across four districts -- Anand, Kheda,

Ahmedabad and Godhra. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Friday arrested the principal and the viceprincipal of a school in

Jharkhand's Hazaribagh and a journalist of a Hindi newspaper in connection with the National-Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test - Undergraduate (NEET- UG) paper leak, officials had said.

Ehsanul Haque, the principal of Oasis School, was made the city coordinator of Hazaribagh for the medical entrance exam conducted by the **National Testing Agency** (NTA) on May 5, they

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5 policemen injured in mob violence during antiencroachment drive in Kathua

JAMMU, Jun 29 (Agencies): Five policemen were injured in a mob violence on Saturday during an anti-encroachment drive in Jammu & Kashmir's Kathua district.

Officials said that the anti-encroachment drive Turn to page 9

communal frenzy, 24 held: Police

MUMBAI, Jun 29 (Agencies): Police have arrested 24 persons in connection with the killing of more than 60 bovine animals, including cows, in Seoni district of Madhya Pradesh last week, officials said on Friday.

Eight of the arrested accused are from Nagpur, where the conspiracy to



kill these animals was hatched to whip up communal frenzy, the police

Carcasses of 18 cows

with their necks slit were found in Vainganga river near Pindrai village in Seoni, while those of 28 cows and oxen were found in Kakartala forest area under Dhuma police station limits in the district on June 19 and 20. More such carcasses were found in the district later.

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60 cows, oxen killed in MP to create Police fix GPS Tracking Anklet on **Bailed-Out terror accused in Budgam**

(Agencies): With an aim to enhance surveillance and maintain order, police in Jammu and Kashmir's Budgam district installed a GPS tracking anklet on a terror accused out on bail. Police said, acting on

the directions of the Court, they successfully installed a GPS tracking anklet on Mudasir Fayaz, an indi-

SRINAGAR, Jun 29 vidual accused of aiding by significantly r militancy in Kashmir.

"This pertains to case FIR No: 150 of 2022 under Sections 18, 23, 38, and 39 of the UAPA, read with Sections 7/25 of the Arms Act of PS Chadoora." police said.

The GPS devices allow authorities to meticulously monitor the movements of high-risk offenders, therethe likelihood of further criminal activities.

"The installation of the GPS tracking anklets on the accused ensures that their movements can be tracked in real time and their entry into prohibited areas or leaving the geographical boundaries as set in the court order can be monitored," police said.

AAP workers

stopped from

marching to BJP

office in Jammu over 20 detained

JAMMU, Jun 29 (Agen-

cies): Over 20 workers

of the Aam Aadmi Party were detained on Sat-

urday after they tried to

hold a protest outside the

BJP headquarters here

against the arrest of party

convenor and Delhi Chief

Minister Arvind Kejriwal,

A group of AAP activ-

ists led by led by party

leader Om Prakash Kha-

juria assembled near

Trikuta Nagar as part

of the nationwide pro-

test against the arrest

of Kejriwal and tried to

move towards the BJP

office but were stopped

The officials said over

20 workers were detained

after they refused to dis-

perse and tried to con-

tinue their march towards

Kejriwal was arrested

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by the Central Bureau of

by police, they said.

the BJP office.

Investigation (CBI)

officials said.



TENTH DAY KRIYA

OUR FAMILY MOURNS THE LOSS OF OUR MOST RESPECTED AND BELOVED SH. S.K. RAINA JAWAHIR (KING JI) S/O LATE SH. J.L. RAINA ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF VILLAGE AVIL, KULGAM AND PRESENTLY AT G-70A SHANTI NAGAR TOPH SHERKHANIA BEHIND ASHAGAS AGENCY JAWMU, WHO LEFT FOR HEAVEND ABODE ON 22.062024.
TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 01.07.2024

(MONDAY) AT MUTH GHAT AT 8:30 AM

GRIEF STRICKEN-SMT. GEETANJ LI RAINA (WIFE)

VARDAN RAINA (SON)

SHIVAM RAINA (SON) DAUGHTERS AND SONS-IN-LAW, SMT. SHIKSHA & SH. ABHINAV DHAR -8850121536 SMT. DIKSHA & SH. SUNIL BHAT -8178781649

DR. SHAGUN RAINA (DAUGHTER) SMT CHUNI RAINA & SMT. SHEELA RAINA (AUNTIES)

SH, VIJAY KUMAR KOUL (BROTHER IN LAW)

(SISTER & BROTHER IN LAW) SMT. SEEMA GANJOO & SH. SUNIL GANJOO 600 57 53 528

(SISTERS IN LAW & BROTHERS)

SMT. RAINU RAINA & SH. SANJAY RAINA (9419117919)

SMT & SHAK RAINA

SMT. & SH. KULDEEP RAINA (9419000782)

SMT, & SH, RAVINDER RAINA

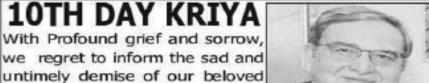
SMT. & SH. DIL EEP RAINA

SMT, & SH, ASHWANI RAINA SMT, & SH, AJAY RAINA



SH. S.K. RAINA JAWAHIR (KING JI)

(NEPHEWS) DR. SUHAAS GANJOO SANYAM GANJOO ADVAIT, DRISHTI & AVIKA SAMAST AVIL BARADARI



Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088. TENTH DAY will be performed at Garh Ganga (UP) on 30th

Shri. Rakesh Zutshi (Director-

Youngmen Tours Pvt. Ltd and

Hotel Surya, Bhaderwah- J&K),

presently at: H.No 1B, Block AD,

Zutshi, Mattoo, Kaul, Dhar, Kher, and Razdan

+91-9810189448, +91-9810354745, +91-9810378807

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

beloved Sh. Yash Pal (Master) Sio Late Sh. Chajju Ram Rio H.No. 13, Sec. 4, Upper Roop Nagar, Jammu (Opp. Dr. Thappa-

TENTH DAY will be performed on 27,05,2024 (Thursday) at 11 AM at our residence.

KRIYA will be performed on 28.06,2024 (Friday) at our residence at 12 Noon.

UTHALA will be performed on 01.07.2024 (Monday) from 5 PM to 6 PM at AAP SHAMBU MANDIR, Upper Roop Nagar Jammu. GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Son & Daughter-in-Law

Daughters & Sons-in-Law Smt. Kiran Bala & Sh. Mahesh Chander Shamia Smt. Neele m & Sh. Bharet Bhushan Sharma

Smt. Madhu & Sh. Vijay Bhushan Dubey Brother & Sister-in-Law

Sister & Brother-in-Law

Smt. Rano Devi & Late Sh. Om Prakash

Grand Children: Sanat Magotra, Apurva Magotra, Akshita-



SH. YASH PAL (MASTER)

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED FATHER SHRI ROSHAN LAL BHAN S/O LATE DINA NATH BHAN R/O SAFAKADAL CHANAPORA (SRINAGAR) AT PRESENT HINO 114, SECTOR 3. DURGA NAGAR, ROOP NAGAR WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY

TENTH DAY SHALL BE HELD ON 30TH JUNE AT MUTHIGHAT 9.30 AM NEAR DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION JAMMU.

GRIEF STRICKEN VEENA BHAN-WIFE ASHTOSH BHAN & SONIA BHAN RAHUL BHAN & HARSHA BHAN DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW

MOB.NO: 7006893328, 7506444216



SHRI ROSHAN LAL BHAN

TENTH DAY KRIYA

demise of our beloved mother Smt. Nirmala Razdan (Jigee) W/o Sh. Radha Krishen of Baghi near furniture Shop Jammu on 21st June, 2024. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 30-06-2024 at Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of School Education at 8.30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN Sh. Radha Krishen Razdan - Husband

Son & Daughter-in-law

Sh. Ashok Kumar Razdan & Smt. Reeta Razdan Grand Daughter & Son-in-law

Smt. Rimjim Razdan & Sh. Mithun Koul

Mr. Sumit Razdan - Grand Son Contact Nos: 0191-2531692, 9682342841, 9419307228



RAZDAN (JIGEE)

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 Chandian 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)

Daughters & Son in law Smt Jaya Raina W/o Late O N Raina (Vessu) Smt Babli Koul W/o A K Koul (Ponzwa Verinag) Smt Sweety Raina W/o Chuni Lal Raina (Mughimarg)

Bhabis & Brothers Smt Sham Rani & Late Prithavi Nath Bhat Smt Mohani Ji & Soom Nath Bhat

Great Grand Children Mob: 7006961273, 7889875989,

BARKHI

IN LOVING MEMORY OF LATE SMT. NIRMAL BANGOTRA One year has passed since you left us for heaven! abode. The void you had left behind will remain foreve your blessings, simplicity and guidance will always remain ource of inspiration for all of us. We will always cherish the fond memories you left within us.

Barkhi of Late Smt. Nirmal Bangotra Wo Sh. M.F. Bangotra (Retd. C.E.O) Rio Kamdhenu Horrz, Toph Sherkhania, Jammu on Sunday, 30th June 2024 at Shri Guru Ravi Dass Temple, Krishna Nagar, Opposite GGM Science College, Jammu.

Satsang Time: 12:00 Noon -1:00 PM Langar Parahad: 1:00 PM - 03:00 PM DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY Sh. M.R. Bangotra (Retd. C.E.O.) - Husband

Daughters-in-law & Sons Er. Kanchan Bangotra (JKAS) Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes and

Er Arun Bangotra, Principal Government Polytechnic Jammu Er. Vieta & Er. Sachin Bangotra

Dr. Shallu (AlIMS, Jammu) and Sh. Sandeep Bangotra (Cluster Head YES Bank) Bhabhia & Brothers-in-law

Smt. Pushpa Devi W/o Late Sh. Tulsi Ram Bangotra (Ex-MLA) Smt. Sudesh Kumari W.o Late Sh. Shyam Bangotra (Retd. J.E)

Smt. Madhu Bangotra & Sh. Ashok Bangotra

Grand Daughters & Grand Sons Relatives & Friends

(M) 9419112442, 9419137366, 8146578174

Late Smt. Nirmal Bangotra

Smt. Chander Lata

10TH DAY / KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and somew, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother Smt. Chander Lata Wio Late Dr. Jiwa Nand Sharma R/o Ward No. 5, College Road, Kathua on 18th June, 2024.

10th Day will be performed on 27th June, 2024, Thursday at 11.00 am at our residence. Kriya will be performed on 29th June, 2024, Friday at our resi

Uthala will be performed on 1st July 2024, Monday from 4-5 P.M. (Venue Arya Samaj Mandir Kathua) **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Mr. Ajay & Mrs. Monika Sharma (Son & Daughter-in-law) Mr. Rajinder & Mrs. Swama Shama (Son & Daughter-in-law) Mrs. Renu (Priya) & Mr. Vivek Magetra (Daughter & Son-in-law)

(Pujari Bawe Wali Mata) Mrs. Anu & Mr. Sunii Sharma (Daughter & Son-in-law) (Property Dealer)

Mrs. Prakriti (Tannu) & Mr. Anil gupta (Daughter & Son-in-law) (BA Enterprises) Nephews

Smt. Pushpa Devi Wo Late Sh. Om Parkash (Daughter-in-law & Nephew) Smt. Suresha & Sh. Surinder Kumar (Daughter-in-law & Nephew)

Smt. Padma & Sh. Manchar Lal Sharma (Daughter-in-law & Nephew) Grand Children: Paavani, Dhairya, Shriyan, Vasu, Nandit, Damini, Anmol, Aagman, Eklavya

M/s Kathua Medical Store (9419150827) M/s Prakriti Option Works (9419151698)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform about the sad demise of our beloved Smt Chuni Ji Khar W/o Late Prithvi Nath Kher R/o Achan Pulwama Kashmir at present H No. 426/2 Vinayak Nagar Upper Muthi Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 26th June at 6 a.m.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 5th July, 2024 at Muthi Ghat near Director

School Education's office at 8 a.m. Grief Stricken:

KHAR, DHAR, RAINA, BHAT, KOUL PARIVAR'S 8493885464, 9469460071, 9419148486, 9810294696 9149835632, 9419121979, 9469233566, 7889362046

ISAD DEMISE/TENTH DAY

It is informed that Smt Rani Ji (Uma Shori) W/o Late Makhan Lal Handoo originally resident of Kani Kadal Chota Bazar Srinagar at present H No. 110, Sect 2, Govind Nagar Revenue Complex Road, Camp Gole Gujral Talab Tiloo Jammu breathed her last on

Tenth Day will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education on 4.07.2024 (Thursday) at 8:30 am.

Grief Stricken: Son and Daughter in law Ravinder Handoo & Smt Rekha Handoo

M. No. 7006964298 Kiran Handoo (Daughter)



Smt Chuni Ji Khar

Smt Rani Ji (Uma Shori)

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SOR-ROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD AND UNTIMELY DEMISE OF ADV. KAMALJIT SINGH JASROTIA S/O DEWAN SINGH JASROTIA.

TENTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED ON 28 JUNE 2024 AND KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 1ST JULY 2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN SMT. RADHA JASROTIA -MOTHER

MRS. PUNAM JAMWAL -WIFE MR. PARDEEP SINGH -BROTHER SHIVAM JASROTIA -SON SHAMBHAVI JASROTIA -DAUGHTER



ADV. KAMALJIT SINGH **JASROTIA**

10TH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Shakunta Devi Wio Lt. Sh. Bodh Raj Gupta, Rio 656, Darugiran Mchalla, Kanak Mandi, Jammu on 19th of June, 2024. 10th Day will be performed on 28/05/2024 (Friday) from 10.00 am to 11.00 AM and Rasam Pagri, Uthala will be performed on 01/07/2024 (Monday) from 4 pm to 5 pm at Laxmi Narayan, Mandir, Dakki Sarajian, Jammu, Kriya shall be performed at 12.00 Noon on 1.07/2024 Monday at our

residence. **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Sh. Krishan Gopal and Smt. Shakuntala Rani (Devar and Devrant) Sh. Sanjay Gupta & Smt. Arti (Son and Daughter in law) Sh. Surinder Gupta & Smt. Pooja Gupta (Son and Daughter in law) Smt. Saloni Gupta (Daughter in law) Wo Lt Sh. Guishan Gupta

Smt. Ramni (Daughter) Wio Late Sh. Naveen Chadha Smt. Sanjogita Gupta (Daughter) Wio Late Sh Vijay Gupta Smt. Sulbha and Sh. Suresh Gupta (Daughter & Son in law) Scianaya , Anvesha & Jivyansh (Grand Children) 9419155854, 9419303251

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform about the sad demise of our beloved father, Sh. Baskar Nath Raina, S/o Lt. Sh. Shiv Ji Raina, R/o Meemander, Shopian and at present at R4 E 106, Life Republic, Kolte Patil, Marunji, Pune-411057.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 03/07/24 at Indrayani River Ghat, Alandi, Pune at 10:00 AM To 11:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Arric Rainyi Rani (Wife)
Smt. Sunita & Sh. Ashok Kumar Raina (Daughter-in-Law & Son)
Smt. Shiwan & Sh. Arandeep Raina (Daughter-in-Law & Son)
Smt. Shiwan & Sh. Jyotimoy, Baine (Daughter-in-Law & Son)
Contact No: 9887178665/ 9643458089/9818166694 Grand Children: Aradi, Ayush, Arah, Samarth & Dew SAMAST PARTVAR: RAINAS, BHATS & GANDOS



Raina

Mr. Jagdev Singh Chib

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father Mr. Jagdev Singh Chib S/o Late Puran Singh R/o H.No. 62, Sainik Colony, Sector-D, Jammu near Tiny Tots School Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 19-06-2024.

10th Day shall be performed on 28-06-2024 (Friday at H.No. 62, Sainik Colony, Sector-D, Jammu, nea iny Tots School Jammu from 10 AM to 11 AM. Kriya/Uthala will be performed on 01-07-2024 (Monday) at 12 Noon at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN Valshno Devi - Wife Son & Daughter-in-law Chander Dev Singh & Isha Kulbir Singh Chib & Deepali landana & Ashok Singh Manhas - Daughter & Son-in-law

Mobile No.: 7051111615, 9596363449

10TH DAY / KRIYA/UTHALA With profound grief and somow, we regret to inform the sad demisie of our beloved Mother Smt. Chander Lata Wo Late Dr. Jiwa Nand Sharma Río Ward No. 5, College Road, Kathua on 18th

10th Day will be performed on 27th June, 2024, Thursday at 11.00

am at our residence. Kriya will be performed on 28th June, 2024, Friday at our res Uthala will be performed on 1st July 2024, Monday from 4-5 P.M.

(Venue Arya Sama) Mandir Kathua) GRIEF STRICKEN Mr. Ajay & Mrs. Monika Sharma (Son & Daughter-in-law)

Smt. Chander Lata

Mr. Apry & Mrs. Moniko Shamma (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Mr. Rajirder & Mrs. Swamme Shamma (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Mrs. Renu (Priya) & Mr. Vheek Magotra (Doughter & Son-in-law)
(Pujari Bawe Wali Mata)
Mrs. Anu & Mr. Sunii Shamma (Daughter & Son-in-law) (Property Dealer)
Mrs. Praktri (Tannu) & Mr. Anii gupta (Daughter & Son-in-law) (BA Enterprises)

Nephews
Smt. Pushpa Devi Wio Late Sh. Om Parkash (Daughter-In-Iaw & Nephew)
Smt. Pushpa Devi Wio Late Sh. Om Parkash (Daughter-In-Iaw & Nephew)
Smt. Suasha & Sh. Surinder Kumar (Daughter-In-Iaw & Nephew)
Smt. Padma & Sh. Marohar Lai Shama (Daughter-In-Iaw & Nephew)
Grand Children: Panwani, Dhaiya, Shriyan, Vasu, Nandit, Damini, Annol, Aagman, Eklavya
Mis Kathua Medical Store (8/49/15/02/1)
Mis Prakriti Option Works (9/4/915/16/8)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

We inform you with heavy heart and teary eves that our beloved mother Smt Rani Devi Pandita W/o Late Shridhar Joo Pandita originally resident of Hackcherpora Nagri Malpora Kupwara (Kashmir) at present HNo 33C Laxmi Vihar Lane 9 Toma Bohri Jammu has left for heavenly abode on June 25 2024.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 3rd July (Wednesday) 2024 at 8:00 AM at Muthi Ghat near Directorate Education Office Muthi Jammu

GRIEF STRICKEN Son & Daughter In Law Revinder Kumar Pandita and Sunita Pandita Sanjay Kumar Pandita and Sangeeta Pandita Suresh Kumar Pandita and Pushpa Pandita

Sapna, Ruby, Sujal, Harsh, Danish, Naira and Ridhi Contact: 9906979250, 7006864269, 9149611707

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our mother Smt. Roopawati/Laxmishori Pandit

W/o Lt. Keshev Nath Pandit originally

resident of Siver Lolab Kupwara 8 presently at Block No. 158, Flat No. 2. ane No. 25 Jagti Township Nagrota Tenth Day shall be performed on 01-07-2024 Monday at Muthi Ghat near

Smt. Roopawati/ Director School Education at 8.30 am. Laxmishori Pandit Sh. A.K. Bhat & Smt. Reeta- Son & Daughter-in-Law Sh. M.L. Pandit & Smt. Sudesh- **Son & Daughter-in-Law** Smt. Veena Peshin W/o Late B.L. Peshin- **Daughter & Son-in-Law** Smt. Bimla Bhat & Sh. G.L. Bhat- Daughter & Son-in-Law

Subash Raina, Urmila Salaria, Promila Kaul, Avtar & Shobha Bhat,

Smt. Anju & Sh. Sunil Dhar- Daughter & Son-in-Law Deeply Missed By Thusoo Parivar Sh. P.L. Thusoo & Smt. Gopi Shori Thusoo Tel.: 9911306230, 9149781874, 9796052035

OBITUARY ate Sh. Gopi Nath Raina left for her heav enly abode on 27th June, 2024. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Gaur Shankar Wandir, New Palam Vihar Gurgaon on 6th July 2024, at 8.00 am.

Mourning at: Tower 9, 1801 Vipu Belmonte, Golf course Rd, Gurgaon. 9811051615, 9419160115 IN GRIEF Bansi & Nancy Raina.

Rakesh & Jyoti Kaul, Sanjay Raina, Ritu Raina Aarti & Marz, Shivani & Ishet, Rahul & Alka, Shikha & Rishi, Priyanka & Gunjan, Ankush, Shubdha & Abhishek, Kanika & Sauren Adhir & Rajshri, Shailja & Ashish, Ashim, Niyati, Drishti & Taaruk

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sac lemise of our beloved father Sh Bansi Lal

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.

Channa S/oLate Sh Charan Dass Khanna R/o

No. 739, Lane No. 2 Near Ram Leela Ground

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

lanipur Colony, Jammu. Grief Stricken Sudha Khanna -Wife Nitin Khanna & Preeti Khanna -Son & Daughter-in-law Nikhil Khanna -Son

Mobile: 6005682146, 7006143382 10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform he said demise of our beloved SMT. PREM LATA Wis Lt. Sh ASHOK MAGOTRA RVo LANE NO 2, RAM JANK! ENCLAVE, UDHEYWALA. 10TH DAY will be performed on 30th June, 2024, Sunday at 11.00 AM at our residence.

Sundayat 11.00 AM at our residence.

KRIYA will be performed on 1st July, 2024,

Mondayat 12:00 Noon on at our residence.

UTHALA will be performed on 1st July 2024,

Monday from 5-6 P.M. (At our residence, LANENO

2, RAM JANKI ENCLAVE Besides Grand Reves anquet Hall, Udheywala). RIEF STRICKEN

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sint Vaishno Devi (Mother)
Mr. Vismit Magorta & Mrs. Anu (Son & Daughter-In-law)
Mr. Anksh Shama & Mrs. Shuchi (Son-In-law & Daughter)
Mr. Parkh Sarthi Khajuria & Mrs. Sumita (Son-In-law & Daughter)
Lt. Gham Shyam and Mrs. Nimmala (Brother-In-law & Sisten-In-law)
Lt. Smit & Lt. Sh Rattin Magorta (Brother-In-law and Sister-In-law)
Srit. Manish Magorta & Smit Kanchan (Brother-In-law and Sister-In-law)
Smit. Smith Kesar & Sh. Inderject Kesar (Sister & Brother-In-law)
Smit. Smith Shama & Sh. Thak Raj (Sister & Brother-In-law)

ntt. Kanila Sistemia di Sin. Ilitak kigi jakwar a brother-in-law) mt. Saniosh di Sh. Om Parkabi (Sister & Brother-In-law) ntt. Raj Kumari (Shoobil) di Sh. Mannichan Kishan (Sister & Brother-In-law) h. Kiddeep (Knijuria & L. Sm. L. Suman (Brother & Sister-In-law) r. Rajinder Khajuria & Padma Jyoti (Brother & Sister-In-law)

Grand Children: Kushagra Saanvi, Vivensh, Mechan I Lers Adda (Janipur) 9023296445, 9419181678

SMT. PREM LATA

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the contents on their own before acting there upon."



June, 2024 at 0800 HRS. GRIEF STRICKEN:

Clinic) who left for heavenly abode on 18.06.2024.

Sh. Virinder Kumar & Smt. Suman Sharma

Sh. Bal Krishan & Smt. Makhnu Devi



ABODE ON 21ST JUNE.

SONS AND DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW

ANURADHA& PRANEET

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad Sunder Chattabal presently at 21 Toph Sher Khania

SMT. NIRMALA



Veerji Pandita (Son)

Smt Soni Ji & Chuni Lal Kandroo Sisters & Jija Ji's Smt Chuni Ji & J N Pandita (Batpura) Sm t Shan ta Gagri & Late PN Bhat (Zangulpura) Sm t Mohan i Ji& Late DN Bhat (**Devsar**)



(Nath Jee)

Grand Children &



SKUAST-J organizes Interactive Meet on Inspiring budding females on scientific careers

Top News Report

JAMMU June 29: SKUAST Jammu on Saturday organized a pioneering event titled "Interactive Meet on Inspiring budding females on scientific careers," focusing on Women in Science. The program was conducted under NAHEP-IDP with the esteemed guidance of Vice Chancellor, Dr. B. N. Tripathi.

The event commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by dignitaries and a warm welcome and introduction by Dr. Hema Tripathi, the coordinator. Dr. B. N. Tripathi emphasized the critical role of women empowerment and gender equality

for sustainable development. He underscored the challenges women face balancing family and professional responsibilities, advocating for shared responsibilities between genders.

Dr. Anuradha Agrawal, Principal Scientist and National Coordinator NAHEP, ICAR-New Delhi, delivered an insightful presentation on "Modern Trends of Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)." She engaged in an interactive session discussing the significance of women in STEM fields, encouraging young girls to pursue STEM educa-

tion. Dr. Agrawal also

addressed challenges and proposed strategies for creating an inclusive and supportive environment for women in STEM

Dr. Hema Tripathi focused on "Women in Agriculture Education," highlighting the evolution and achievements of women in agriculture education post-Independence. She discussed the recent advancements in agricultural education quality and the increased enrollment of women in higher education across India, especially in agricultural sciences.

Dr. Chamma Awasthi, Scientist-D from the Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi, enlightened participants on various career opportunities for women in STEM. She elaborated on national and international schemes funded by DST, India, aimed at supporting women in science and technology.

The program also featured a panel discussion on "Career Growth Opportunities and Capacity Building of Women in Science." The panelists included Ms. Anju Shalla, Dr. Sahar Masood, Dr. Shalini Suri, Dr. Moni Gupta, and was moderated by Dr. Puja Rattan. They explored avenues for career advancement and capacity building for women in scientific fields.

and Coordinator NAHEP and more than 250 girl students along with 50 female faculty members attended the event. Dr. Puja Rattan, the organizing secretary, delivered the Vote of Thanks, while Sweeta Manhas and Mridul Sharma facilitated the proceedings.

The event proved to be a significant platform for empowering women in science, fostering dialogue on career opportunities, and promoting gender inclusivity in STEM education and workforce. It underscored SKUAST Jammu's commitment to advancing women's participation and leadership in scientific fields.

Patients with painful varicose veins treated via Laser Ablation & Foam Sclerotherapy at Fortis Mohali



Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: A 35-year-old Jammubased man has been experiencing throbbing pain in his legs due to bilateral varicose veins (swollen and tortuous veins) along with extreme heaviness. swelling and leg pain.

The skin around his ankles had also darkened (stage C3). Unable to bear the pain, the Patient approached Dr Ravul Jindal, Director, Vascular Surgery, Fortis Hospital Mohali, recently.

An ultrasound of the Patient's leg (doppler scan) was done which showed impaired valves.

Dr Jindal diagnosed his condition as Bilateral Leg Varicose Veins (swollen and tortuous veins). The Patient underwent successful laser treatment of the diseased vein with Laser Ablation and Foam Sclerotherapy of varicosities recently.

Laser Ablation is used to treat and manage varicose veins from chronic venous disease, while Foam Sclerotherapy is

conducted to treat bulging varicose veins and spider veins. The Patient was discharged on the same day of the procedure and returned home walking. He is leading a normal life today.

Discussing varicose veins, Dr Jindal, said, "Varicose veins can occur in any part of the leg, but are mostly found on thighs and calves due to strenuous and long hours of continuous standing. The disease points towards a malfunction of venous system and should be evaluated by a vascular

surgery specialist."

Stating that varicose veins can be treated successfully through the latest technological advancements, Dr Jindal, added, "A wide range of advanced treatment options are available for varicose veins. The procedure is less painful and takes about 30 minutes. A patient has an early recovery and can go home within an hour of the procedure. Also, there are fewer medications and postprocedure care.

Online portal for IGNOU July 2024 admission cycle to close on June 30; many new programmes launched

tal Media, Biochemistry,

Facilities and Service

IGNOU has recently

launched programmes

in MBAABM-Master of

Business Administration

(Agribusiness Manage-

ment), MBACN-Master of

Business Administration

(Construction Manage-

ment), MBALS-Master

of Business Administra-

tion (Logistics & Supply

Chain Management),

MBAHCHM-Master of

Business Administra-

tion (Health Care and

Hospital Management),

MSCHSC- M. Sc. (Home

Science - Community

Development and Exten-

sion Management),

DFDR-Diploma (Fash-

ion Design and Retail),

PGDRPC-Post Graduate

Diploma (Rehabilitation

Psychology), CESEIHI-

Certificate (Early Child-

hood Special Educa-

tion Enabling Inclusion

- Hearing Impairment),

CESEIVI-Certificate

(Early Childhood Special

Education Enabling Inclu-

sion - Visual Impairment),

CESEIID-Certificate

(Early Childhood Spe-

cial Education Enabling

Management.

Dr. Vikas Sharma, Pl

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: The online portal for admission to IGNOU programmes ranging from UG, PG, Diploma, Certificate programmes for July 2024 admission session for the academic year 2024-25 closes on 30th June, 2024, as per the University schedule. IGNOU had announced admissions on May 1, 2024.

Seeking applicants can access the online SAM-ARTH admission portal at www.ignou.ac.in or directly follow the link https:// ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in. Candidates aspiring for admission will be able to complete their admission process on this portal before the deadline.

IGNOU offers admission to various UG, PG, Certificate, Diploma, PG Diploma programmes in distance learning and online education mode and as per the new UGC guidelines, candidates can now study two online or offline programmes at the same time.

Learners seeking admission must provide their own email ID and mobile number at the time of registration even if they are submitting their admission forms online from a Cyber Cafe.

Learners must exercise caution and be vigilant while submitting their admission forms. They must note their User ID and Password for future

It is pertinent to mention here that IGNOU had launched 39 new programmes in the year 2023 including Fouryear undergraduate programmes (FYUP) in Commerce, Economics,

History, Political Science, Public Administration, Sociology, Anthropology, Hindi, Sanskrit, Urdu, Social Work, Philosophy, Journalism & Digi-

dates who wish to be a member of IGNOU extended family must avail this opportunity and apply for any of the programmes of their choice immediately well before the portal closes", said Dr. Jai Prakash Verma, Regional Director.

Inclusion - Intellectual Disability.

All these programmes are specifically designed to address the emerging demand from various govt., private and public sectors keeping in mind the enhancement in career prospects and employability of learners.

"The desirous candi-

AWWA urges Govt to redress pending issues

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: The Anganwadi Workers Welfare Association, affiliated with Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh, convened a press conference to articulate several pressing concerns regarding the treatment and conditions of Anganwadi workers and helpers in the state.

"While the state government has maintained a static monthly share of Rs. 600 for Anganwadi workers and Rs. 300 for helpers since 2010, neighboring states are reportedly disbursing significantly higher amounts ranging from Rs. 8000 to Rs. 10000 per month. This discrepancy is compounded by the fact that the Government of India allocates Rs. 4500 and Rs. 2250 respectively for the same roles, highlighting a longstanding issue of inadequate state-level support," the association member said in a press conference.

Moreover, the association advocates for fair career progression, demanding that promotions to supervisor positions be exclusively



based on seniority, with a call for 100% internal promotions from among Anganwadi workers.

They also stressed the need for summer holidays for Anganwadi centers, mirroring the breaks provided to educational institutions, to better accommodate the needs of the children they serve. Additionally, the associ-

ation sought the publication of a pending graduate seniority list and subsequent promotions for eligible candidates who have not contested it legally. Furthermore, there is a plea for the formulation of a comprehensive retirement policy that includes monetary compensation at retirement, akin to practices in other states, along with provisions for old-age pensions.

Concerns about outdated infrastructure extend to malfunctioning mobile phones provided years ago, necessitating replacements with newer technology to effectively manage increased workload and communication demands.

They directed appeal to the Lieutenant Governor to intervene and address these critical issues affecting the livelihoods and well-being of Anganwadi workers and helpers across the state.

The press conference addressed by the Neelam Sharma General Secretary BMS, Swarna Choudhary, President Roshu Sharma, General Secretary, Shoba Sharma Dy Gen secretary, Sanjokita, Reeta, Chander Prabha.

Gallantry Awardee delivers motivational lecture at Budhal

Top News Report

RAJOURI, June 29: Army organised a motivational lecture by veter-

ans of 'Operation Vijay'. The event was organized as a pre-courser to Kargil Vijay Diwas with an aim of educating the youth about the heroic performance of Indian Army during 'Operation Vijay'.

The event was also aimed to motivate the youth to join Indian Army and to cultivate patriotic fervour in them.

The motivational talks were delivered by Havildar Manjoor Hussain (Retd) & Ex Naik Zamurat Hussain (Retd) (Both part of 'Operation VIJAY').

The event was attended by a strength of 25 x girls, 40 x boys, three Teachers, two ESM & 15 x NCC Cadets. The initiative of the Indian Army was appreciated by the Awam.

The continued and relentless efforts of the Indian Army towards conducting these events has helped in establishing a good rapport between the Indian Army and Awam

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL HYDRAULIC DIVISION RAMBAN NOTICE INVITING 1 ENDER



E_NIT No.13 of 2024-25 DATED 26-06-2024 For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Hydraulic Division Ramban, Jammu invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/Firms/Companies/Joint Ventures/Consortiums between bidder/firm and Financier of Bidders as per Specification given below registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways/MES or any other

The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of Pre-Qualification Criteria, General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2^{nd} consisting of Financial Bid on percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

state Government for below mentioned works at various Water Supply schemes of Jal Shakti (Hydraulic) Division Ramban of Jammu Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

Sl. No.	Particulars of the work	Estimated Cost (₹ in lacs)	Tender Fee	Earnest Money Deposit	Bid Validity	Time of Completion of work (days)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	 Lying, Fitting, Testing and Successful Commissioning of GI/HDPE Pipes for Gravity main & Distribution System of different Nominal Bores along with pipefittings and control valves incl. other allied works. Construction of Civil Structures i.e., RCC Ground Service Reservoirs, Inlet Tanks, Collection Tanks & Zonal Tanks. Repair of existing Ground Service Reservoirs Construction of Protection work Construction of anchor Block and laying of Steel wire rope Construction of, along with other allied works etc. of 04 No. Water Supply Schemes of Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Ramban of Jammu Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 	As per ANNEXURE-1 to this bid document.	As per Annexure – A	2% of Advertised Amount	90 days	As per Annexure - A

AoI Gangyal holds General Body Meeting

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: A General Body Meeting of the Association of Industries (AoI) Gangyal was convened under the chairmanship of Tejwant Singh Reen to address the current challenges faced by existing industries.

The meeting saw active participation from numerous member units who deliberated extensively on the pertinent issues affecting the industrial sector.

President Tejwant Singh Reen commenced the proceedings by expressing gratitude to all attending members of the Annual General Body Meeting.

He provided updates on various meetings held with key stakeholders, including the Lt. Governor of J&K UT, Chief Secretary, Commissioner Secretary of Industries & Commerce, and Director of Industries & Commerce.

These meetings aimed

at resolving critical issues such as Turnover Incentive, Substantial Expansion, and the procurement of industrial goods by government departments. Regarding the Turn-

over Incentive, President Reen highlighted discrepancies in budget allocation versus actual claims as per the Industrial Policy outlined in Government Order No. 127-IND of 2021 dated 21st May 2021

Despite claims amounting to Rs. 206 crore (Rs. 176 crore from Jammu Division and Rs. 30 crore from Kashmir Division) for the year 2021-22, only a budget of Rs. 50 crore was initially allocated. The Association has urged for an increase in budget allocation to meet actual claims.

On the issue of Substantial Expansion, President Reen informed members about ongoing discussions with concerned authorities. including the Lt. Governor, to secure incentives

for units undergoing substantial expansion, in accordance with Government Order No. 117-Ind of 2021 dated 19th April 2021.

Regarding procurement practices, President Reen discussed the shift to Government e-Marketplace (GeM) for government department purchases, which has adversely affected local industrial units that previously supplied products through SICOP. He emphasized the need for a resolution to enable local industries to compete effectively on GeM.

Reen expressed concern that the government appears reluctant to address these pressing issues, despite their significant impact on industrial operations. He noted that government efforts seem focused primarily on establishing new industrial units under the New Central Sector Scheme 2021.

During the meeting, several member units raised concerns about

the poor condition of roads in the Gangyal industrial area. President Reen assured members that this issue has been repeatedly raised with the Managing Director of SICOP, who has pledged to address the road repairs promptly.

The President reiterated the Association's commitment to follow up on this matter with SICOP management.

Reen concluded by thanking all members for their active participation and constructive contributions towards advancing the organization's objectives. He encouraged continued collaboration among members to propel the organization forward in its mission. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair and a reaffirmation of the Association's

dedication to its goals. The meeting was attended by Vice President Sandeep Ohri, General Secretary Pardeep Vaid, and Secretary Ajay Kumar Mahajan.

Position of funds: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Ramban **CRITICAL DATES**

i) Publish Date 27-06-2024 10000 Hrs, ii) Document Download/Sale Start Date 27-06-2024 10000 Hrs, Date of Pre-bid meeting 27-06-2024 iv) Bid submission Start Date 10000 Hrs. 03-07-2024 Bid Submission end Date 16300 Hrs. Date and Time of Bid Opening 04-07-2024 1400Hrs.

or any convenient date documents accessed and downloaded www.jktenders.gov.in The pre-bid meeting will be held in the office chamber of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Ramban,

through virtual/online mode. The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can

download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Ramban Bids must be accompanied by EMD and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table and shall

Bid Security for an amount @ 2% of Advertised Amount shall be attached with the Bid by the Bidder in shape of CDR/FDR

pledged in favour of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Ramban

The cost of tender documents should be in form of TR/e_challan in favour of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Hydraulic

The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of TR/e-challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover. The bid shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before

the said period or Makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bids hall be declared non-responsive.

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in. Queriesbyemailifanyshouldbemadeatphecejmu@gmail.com, hyddvsnramban@gmail.com

DIP/J-2024/24

No: JS/Hyd/D/R/ 2043-61

Dated:26-06-2024

(Er.Rajeev Ghai) Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (Hydraulic) Division, Ramban

EDITORIAL

COMBATTING POWER THEFT

Power theft, also known as electricity theft or energy theft, is a significant issue globally, impacting utilities, consumers, and economies alike. It refers to the unauthorized and illegal use of electricity without proper payment or metering, often resulting in substantial financial losses for utility companies and governments. This practice undermines the integrity of energy distribution systems, compromises safety standards, and hampers efforts towards sustainable development and energy efficiency.

Power theft occurs due to various reasons rooted in economic, social, and infrastructural factors

High electricity tariffs and economic hardships compel some individuals or businesses to resort to stealing electricity to reduce costs.

to resort to stealing electricity to reduce costs. Inefficient governance, corruption, and lack of enforcement of regulations contribute to a lax environment where power theft can thrive.

Weak infrastructure, including outdated metering systems or lack of proper monitoring mechanisms, makes it easier for individuals to manipulate or bypass meters undetected.

In some communities, power theft may be culturally normalized or seen as a victimless crime, further perpetuating the practice.

Remote or rural areas may have limited access to legal electricity connections, leading to reliance on informal or illegal connections. Power theft manifests in several forms, each

presenting unique challenges to utilities.

Unauthorized alterations to meters to record lower consumption than actual usage. Direct tapping into power lines or distribution networks without proper authorization or metering. Falsifying consumption data or misreporting meter readings to evade payment. Fabricating identities or accounts to obtain electricity illegally.

The consequences of power theft extend beyond financial losses and include broader socio-economic implications.

Utilities incur substantial revenue losses, affecting their ability to invest in infrastructure upgrades and service improvements. Losses due to power theft often lead to higher tariffs for legitimate consumers to cover operational costs, creating an unfair burden on law-abiding users. Unauthorized connections and tampered meters pose safety risks, including electrical fires, electrocution, and damage to property. Overloaded networks due to unauthorized connections can lead to frequent power outages and disruptions in service delivery.

Inefficient use of electricity resulting from power theft contributes to higher carbon emissions and environmental degradation.

Power theft exacerbates socio-economic disparities by depriving legitimate users of reliable electricity access essential for economic activities, education, and healthcare.

Addressing power theft requires a multifaceted approach involving regulatory measures, technological advancements, community engagement, and public awareness.

Strengthening laws and regulations to deter power theft, impose penalties, and prosecute offenders effectively. Implementing smart metering systems, remote monitoring technologies, and data analytics to detect anomalies and unauthorized connections promptly. Educating communities about the impacts of power theft and promoting responsible energy consumption practices. Enhancing cooperation between utilities, law enforcement agencies, and government bodies to improve monitoring and enforcement efforts. Offering incentives for legal connections and energy conservation initiatives to discourage power theft. Governments and regulators play a crucial role in creating an enabling environment through supportive policies, subsidies for legal connections in underserved areas, and investment in infrastructure.

Numerous countries have implemented successful strategies to combat power theft. For instance, initiatives in Brazil involved deploying advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) to reduce losses and improve revenue collection. In India, the "Urja Mitra" app enables consumers to report power theft incidents, enhancing transparency and accountability.

Power theft remains a formidable challenge worldwide, impacting energy sustainability, economic viability, and public safety. Addressing this issue requires concerted efforts from governments, utilities, communities, and consumers to enforce regulations, deploy technology-driven solutions, and promote ethical energy practices. By combatting power theft effectively, societies can ensure equitable access to electricity, promote sustainable development, and safeguard infrastructure for future generations.

Punjab must address root causes of drug abuse

By: Ranjit Singh Ghuman

(Former Professor & Head, Economics, Punjabi University)

DUNJAB has been grappling with a severe drug **L** addiction crisis that has claimed many young lives. Unfortunately, the state lacks comprehensive data on drug addicts and related deaths, their socio-economic profiles, reasons for addiction and its socio-economic costs. A recent report in The Tribune, 'Punjab drug overdose: 14 deaths in 14 days', highlighted the government's failure to curb this menace, indicating that the issue extends beyond overdose; it includes the threat of addiction and premature deaths among the youth. Alarmingly, adolescents are also falling prey to drug addiction. This necessitates a multi-pronged strategy that addresses the root causes of addiction, curbs drug supply and demand, promotes de-addiction and rehabilitation and prevents a rise in the number of drug users.

A recent study conducted by my colleagues Gurinder Kaur and Jatinder Singh and me at the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh, and commissioned by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi, titled 'Dynamics of Drug Addiction and Abuse in India, with a Major Focus on Punjab' (Routledge, 2024), delves into the sociocultural and politico-economic reasons behind drug addiction. The study underlines the need to address the underlying causes comprehensively, in the absence of which sustainable solutions to Punjab's drug menace will remain unattainable. It also reveals an unholy nexus among smugglers, police and politicians (SPP), as evidenced by the indictment of senior police officers and CM Bhagwant Mann's reported admission of some cops' involvement with smugglers, leading to the transfer of 10,000 personnel.

The distribution of intoxicants and drugs during elections further undermines the political will to combat the drug crisis. Successive governments have downplayed the issue. In 2009, an affidavit submitted to the Punjab and Haryana High Court wrongly claimed that 70 per cent of the state's youth were addicted to drugs. The 2016 Hindi movie Udta Punjab magnified the issue, bringing national attention to it. The arrest of dismissed Punjab Police DSP Jagdish Singh Bhola in a multimillion-dollar drug racket in 2013 exposed the extent of the problem. Despite being a key election issue for over a decade, there has been little progress. Even the special task force (STF) reports on drugs, submitted to the high court in 2018, faced administrative and legal challenges, hinting at the SPP nexus.

Following The Tribune's report, the Punjab Government declared another war on drugs. But such declarations have been made before, with little success. Measures like the constitution of the STF under the ADGP in 2017, the arrest of Bhola and a former Cabinet minister and the apprehension of thousands of peddlers and addicts were notable steps. The government also introduced outpatient opioidassisted treatment, drug abuse prevention officers and buddy programmes. However, despite these efforts, the drug menace persists.

Our study also highlights the severe socio-economic ramifications of drug addiction, which burdens the health infrastructure and law enforcement while consuming the most productive years of human capital, leading to premature deaths from ailments like HIV/AIDS.

Punjab's drug supply comes from international and domestic sources. The Golden Crescent (Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan) and the Golden Triangle (Myanmar, Laos and Thailand) are major international sources, with Punjab situated on the transit route of the Golden Crescent. Additionally, opioid-based and synthetic drugs are manufactured and supplied domestically.

Economic factors contributing to drug use and peddling include high unemployment, underemployment, low wages and the lure of quick money from drug peddling. Among affluent households, easy access to money is a factor. Social factors include the consumption of intoxicants by elders, peer pressure, disharmonious family relations, unfulfilled aspirations, frustration, failure, the rise of nuclear families, shrinking community interaction and rising individualism and loneliness. Additionally, a lack of awareness about the harmful effects of drugs and an indifferent civil society exacerbate the problem. Politically, the SPP nexus remains a significant barrier.

Addressing the drug menace requires acknowledging that drug addicts are victims of deeprooted socio-cultural and politico-economic distortions and should be treated as patients, not culprits. Along with the government's three-pronged strategy of enforcement, de-addiction and prevention, emphasis must also be laid on rehabilitation and preventing relapse.

A holistic approach to tackling drug addiction in Punjab should include the following strategies:

(i) Establish a robust data collection system to gather comprehensive information on drug addiction, including socioeconomic profiles, reasons for addiction and the socio-economic costs of addiction. This data will help targeted interventions.

(ii) Intensify efforts to dismantle the SPP nexus. Ensure strict enforcement of laws against drug trafficking and distribution, coupled with swift judicial action against offenders.

(iii) Expand and improve de-addiction and rehabilitation centres, ensuring that they are accessible and adequately staffed. Implement evidence-based treatment protocols and provide psychological and social support to recovering addicts.

(iv) Launch comprehensive campaigns targeting schools, colleges and communities to spread awareness about the dangers of drug use and the importance of seeking help.

(v) Address unemployment and underemployment by creating job opportunities and skill development programmes. Strengthen social support systems to mitigate the socio-economic factors contributing to drug addiction.

(vi) Encourage community involvement in combating drug addiction through local initiatives and support groups. Mobilise civil society organisations to advocate for policy changes and provide support to the affected families.

(vii) Collaborate with neighbouring countries to curb cross-border drug trafficking. Strengthen border security and intelligence-sharing mechanisms to intercept drug supplies.

(viii) Ensure inter-state cooperation, which would provide a real-time exchange of information and data, leading to an effective intervention.

By addressing the drug problem with a comprehensive and coordinated approach, Punjab can make significant strides in curbing drug addiction and its associated socio-economic costs. The war on drugs must be fought with determination, compassion and a commitment to systemic change.

Mirror of Personality

By: Vijay Garg

If we notice that while someone's body language attracts **⊥**us, it is such an important dimension that can take someone to the height of the sky and can also knock someone down to the earth while sitting in the sky. It is because of someone's expressions that we start liking or disliking someone. The people of any country give immense love to even an ordinary person and make someone fall from the illusory world. Body language makes someone special and attractive or popular and someone else from a king to a pauper. noticeIt's a wonderful thing to do. And basically natural. But it is also true that by practicing it gradually, even an ordinary person can become extraordinary. We see this around us. If we look into this subject, many personalities emerge in front of us, due to whose expressions we like, love and love them. We dislike many people because of this gesture. If we like someone then one of the reasons for this is the invisible personal attitude embedded in the personality. nobody does anything to anybodyGives, no one takes anything from anyone. Despite this, personality binds one thread and makes some a hero and others a

zero. If we talk about extraordinary personalities, then many common people who were earlier disliked because of some gland, gradually come to the center stage. Actually, some things about our stars as heroes are positive. For example, the way of communicating directly with the common man is very popular. This was a major flaw in many previous historical heroes, but we remained dogmatic. ,True heroes and public leaders give a new style to the country, which people continue to follow for years. Many personalities around us come into a new style and we become their admirers. As if there was a void, which he has filled. Depression, anger and irritation among the people, which the heroes break in one fell swoop and show a new path by giving different messages. To put it bluntly, some people may have objection to someone's gesture as a hero or public leader. All depends on the style. Ace is often seen in films too These characters are shown who usually played the role of villains and are later replaced as heroes. Actually, according to the traditional image, the hero's face should be clean and there should not be any beard on his face. But now this myth has been broken. Similar is the condition of many of our stars. Usually,

cinematic villains come in a strange costume and the public applauds after seeing them getting beaten by the hero. If we look carefully at all this, it becomes clear that it is the magic of body language that works. Some we like very much and some we don't like at all. There is also a question that if a hero wears a beard, does he turn from a hero to a villain or does his posture become even more impressive? Beard has now become an important part of the posture, whereas today's youth, unlike the public leaders, is giving a touch to his personality by keeping a beard. Whenever a crowd is seen around the heroes, it shows people's attraction towards the stars. A common man can admire such a personality. today this valueIt is said that beard enhances and sharpens one's personality. Perhaps this is a thing of the past when the stars and hero image actors in Indian cinema usually had a clean face and the public kept admiring them. Everything changes with time. Also the deeper meaning of personality and body language. Perhaps many celebrities do not watch films. Had I seen it, I would never have kept my philosophy and style of life as it is today. The question is also whether people's interest is changing? It is believed that before The heroes used to have decent personalities. A hero seemed to be an Indian soul. It seemed that India was speaking. Listening to the voice of one hero, it seemed as if the culture of the country was speaking and another hero seemed to be the pole star of civilization. Similarly, the laughter of a hero is still floating in front of millions of eyes like a lotus flower. But ever since some stars have appeared on the public stage, looking at them one feels that who will listen to them, who will vote for them, who will like them? But there are many things different from what we think.. In fact, wherever we stand, a crowd of people gathers and whatever we want starts happening. Feeling all this, one feels that if they ever come to our cities and towns, what a crowd will gather... people will rush to listen! Will people not leave just because there has been a big change in their posture and facial expressions have become like negative characters?

(Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist MALOUT Punjab)

NHM employee from District Doda retires from service

Top News Report

DODA, June 29: After 17 years of dedicated service to the health department under National Health Mission (NHM), Inayatullah Sheikh, ISM Pharmacist posted at Govt PHC Bhella in Medical Block Thathri District Doda retired from govt service at the age of 65 years.

In this connection, to accord warm and affectionate send off to Inayatullah Sheikh, the NHM Employees under the banner of All J&K NHM Employees Association District Doda organized a grand farewell party in his honor at Shivalik Hotel & Restaurant Doda.

The farewell party was attended by Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh, CMO Doda Dr Om Kumar, Tehsildar Doda Subuh Shad, BMO Ghat Dr Ab Gafoor, President NHM **Employees Association**



Office was also present on the occasion. In a heartwarming ceremony, the staff and officers of the department came together to express their gratitude and appreciation to Inayatullah Sheikh for

his dedicated services. Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh congratulated the retiring official and appreciated his selfless

contribution towards the department during his service tenure, praises his unwavering commitment and tireless work. He sent his best wishes for future pursuits, wishing him a healthy and happy post retirement

CMO Doda, Tehsildar Doda, President NHM Association Doda Dr Nasir Masood Indrabi, Sr NHM Leader Dr Hamid Parray, Block NHM President Thathri Pinku Sharma also spoke on the occasion, where they lauded the dedicated services rendered by the

retiree official and conveyed their best wishes to him and prayed for his good health and success post retirement.

Faizan A Tramboo, conducted the proceedings of the programe on stage, who also highlighted the achievements of NHM in health sector and contribution made by the staff under NHM scheme

The NHM leadership on this occasion also raised the issues confronting by the NHM employees throughout J&K UT and underscored the urgent need to find a comprehensive solution to their persistent problems including provision of retirement benefits.

In a gesture of appreciation and as a token of love, the NHM Employees Association present a cheque of Rs 1 lakh to the retiree person which was meted from the contribution of NHM employees across the District besides a shawl, memento and appreciation certificate was also presented to him, symbolizing the profound respect and admiration for his service.

Inayatullah Sheikh was commended for his invaluable contributions to the welfare of community, his unwavering commitment, and exemplary dedication to his duty

Reflecting on his journey, the retiring official shared insightful experiences garnered over the years, leaving an indelible mark on the department and its endeavors.

Maj Gen Rajesh Sachdeva inspires **NCC Cadets at SNIC Srinagar**

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, June 29: Maj Gen Rajesh Kumar Sachdeva, ADG NCC JK&L Directorate, visited the Special National Integration Camp 2024 in Srinagar.

His visit aimed to engage with the cadets and oversee preparations for the upcoming visit of the Lieutenant Governor of J&K, Manoj Sinha, scheduled for June 29, 2024.

The camp, part of the 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' initiative, brought together 250 NCC Cadets from 17 NCC Directorates across India since its commencement on June 19, 2024.

Maj Gen Rajesh Kumar Sachdeva received a warm reception upon arrival, including a ceremonial Guard of Honour led by Brig Deepak Sajjanhar, SM Group Commander, NCC Group Srinagar.



Addressing the cadets, Maj Gen Rajesh Kumar Sachdeva imparted valuable life lessons, stressing qualities like perseverance, standing against bullying, cultivating hobbies, and maintaining good heart, health, and hygiene.

He commended the cadets for their exemplary performances in drill, cultural events, and discipline, emphasizing the NCC's pivotal role in fostering national integration.

Highlighting India's strength in diversity, Mai Gen Raiesh Kumar Sachdeva lauded the cadets' efforts in promoting Unity in Diversity through their vibrant cultural presentations.

He encouraged them to embrace the opportunity to understand and appreciate each other's customs, traditions, and values.

His visit was marked by enthusiasm and camaraderie among the cadets, showcasing their dedication to national service and unity under the banner of the National Cadet Corps.

Resolving farmers' issues always a priority of Govt, says DDC Chairman

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: District Development Council (DDC) Chairman, Bharat Bhushan Bodhi on Saturday emphasized that addressing farmers' concerns remains a top priority of the govern-

The DDC Chairman was speaking during his visit to Panchayat Gole Gural here today. He accompanied with Sat Sharma, former Minister and Hardeep Singh Mankotia former Corporator, Ex Sarpanch Gole Guiral Prithpal Singh, took stock of issues being faced by farmers as well as people of Gole Gujral due to choked drainage system and the blockage of the Ranbir Canal distributory, which has severely impacted the farmers' access to irriga-



Recognizing the urgency of the situation, the DDC Chairman immediately took up the matter with the Deputy Commissioner of Jammu. He emphasized the need for prompt and effective

action to resolve these issues.

Following his discussions with the Deputy Commissioner, the Chairman announced that Rs. 15 lakh under the PRI component will be allocated to address both the drainage and irrigation concerns. Additionally, he confirmed the construction of an aqueduct to ensure a consistent supply of irrigation water for the farmers

Earlier, the DDC Chairman convened a meeting with officials of Irrigation Department in view of problems being faced by the farmers of Marh Constituency due to water scarcity. He underscored the critical importance of releasing adequate water supply, especially during the peak paddy sowing season. He urged the officials to ensure that

farmers do not face any inconvenience and that the water requirements for agricultural activities are met in a timely manner

In a separate meeting with the authorities of the Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL), the DDC Chairman stressed the need for an uninterrupted power supply to support the farmers during the sowing season. He directed the JPDCL officials to prioritize and ensure regular power supply, recognizing its importance for the agricultural community.

Bharat Bhushan assured the people, including farmers, of the area that their issues would be resolved at the earliest, reaffirming the government's commitment to their well-being.

Shiv Sena expresses doubts on Center regarding returning full statehood

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: Shiv Sena (UBT) state unit has expressed doubts on the intention of the newly formed NDA government at the Center regarding returning full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and has appealed to the people to come out on the streets in unity for the restoration of their rights.

In a press conference held on Saturday at the party's state central office, state chief Manish Sahni said that no positive signals are being received from the central government regarding returning full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir. Along with this, the restoration of democratic process i.e. assembly elections is also not being taken forward beyond verbal statements. Despite the deadline set by the High Court approaching, the dates for the elections are not being announced. Sahni said that about five years ago in August 2019. Jammu and Kashmir was divided into two union territories with the promise of returning the status of the

Despite a long gap, no positive signals are being received from the central government regarding returning the status of the state.

state soon.

Rather, the hopes of get-

ting the status of the state Sahni said that all limits are decreasing due to the decisions of the central government. In the year 2021, the Jammu and Kashmir cadre of the civil services was abolished and now the Jammu and Kashmir Police budget

indicates that Jammu and Kashmir is not going

has been separated from the annual budget of the state and included in the budget of the Union Home Ministry which directly of tolerance have been crossed regarding the restoration of its rights.

Sahni appealed to the people to come out on the streets to save their cultural identity, rights and the existence of Jammu and Kashmir.

On this occasion, President Women Wing Meenakshi Chhibber, General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Vice President Balwant Singh, President Kamgar Wing Raj Singh were present.

SKUAST-K Wadura observes National Statistics Day



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, June 29: Sher-i-Kashmir University of Agriculture Science and Technology Kashmir (SKUAST-K) Faculty of Agriculture Wadura observed one day National Conference on "Significance of Statistics in the Digital Era" to commemorate 131th Birth Anniversary of Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, a trailblazer in the field of Indian statistics

The event was organized by the Div of Agri Statistics and Economics FOA

At the beginning, Dr Bilal Ah Bhat HOD Div of Agri Econ & Statistics of the faculty welcomed the guests and also discussed Significance of Statistics in the Digital Era.

Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth, Dean FOA Wadura SKUAST-K of the University, spoke on the importance of Statistics in Agricultural

Research and enjoined upon the statisticians to impart instructions in such a way that the students develop more interest in the subject for the benefit of socio economic status of the farming community. Various imminent dignitaries graced the occasion in virtual mode.

Dean FoA Prof Raihana H Kant thanked the HVC and other guests for gracing the occasion. Prof Aquil Ahmad Chair-

man Department of Statistics AMU Aligarh, delivered a key note address. He discussed the importance of statistics in the present world and the Life of Mahalanobis. Prof Hamidullah Marazi former Dean Social Science CUK talked about morality and Education.

Prof D S Hooda PVC Kurukshetra University delivered a lecture and talked about statistics and its development. Dr Parvaiz Ah highlighted the role of statistics across different disciplines. Prof Showkat Ahmad gave a

PPT on the immense contribution of Prof. Mahalanobius.

HoDs of all divisions research scholars and faculty members and students attended the event. Besides. Dr Showkat Maqbool, Dr Mushtaq A Bhat, Dr Showkat Siddique, Dr Mohd Jamal faculty members of the Division facilitated the

In the conference more than 100 researchers. students had registered for participation in the conference across the country and 20 scholars presented their papers via Oral/ Poster mode.

On this occasion GDC Women's Sopore, GDC Bomai Sopore, Govt Hr Aaaschool Bomai, Govt Higher Secondary School Unisoo, Govt Boys Middle School Logripora headed by their staff members along with students were

The event ended with a vote of thanks by Prof Ali Anwar HoD Plant Pathol-

'PDD damages newly macadamised road in Devsar'

Top News Report

KULGAM, June 29: A newly macadamised road in Chowgam Devser in South Kashmir's Kulgam district was damaged on Friday after PDD dug it to lay of poles.

Locals informed that the Chowgam Bonigam road have been macdamised last year,



however, the Contractor of Power Development department began excavating it to lay poles, which caused harm to the road at several points.

The locals, exhibiting their dissatisfaction, said

that the task of laying poles should have been accomplished before macadamisation of the road. People demanding strict action against Contractor

Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE).PMGSY Kulgam Manzoor Ahmad Dar told that the work of installing poles by the PDD department was executed without their approval and they have

not communicated. "The work was done in the dark of night with the help of a JCB machine and without obtaining our permission. I have written to the department that this was not the proper way," he said that strict action will be taken against Contractor.,

Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) PDD Qazigund, Mohammad Yousuf Mir told that the work comes under the domain of Chowgam Pandith colony which is an important project for the welfare of the people but it should have not damaged another development.

"We have dug along the berm of the road which is meant for iron poles. Even if the macadam is damaged at any place, we will repair it", he added.

Capacity Building Programme under BBBP concludes in Budgam

to get the status of a full

state in the near future.



Top News Report

BUDGAM, June 29: Department of Social Welfare Budgam concludes comprehensive capacitybuilding programme and training provided under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) initiative successfully on June 28th. This programme, which commenced on June 12th, aimed at empowering Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), ASHA Workers, Teachers, Police Officials and Students, has made significant strides in promoting gender equality and education for the girl child.

Over the course of the training, participants were equipped with essential skills and knowledge to advocate for and implement the objectives of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme. The programme included a series of workshops, interactive sessions, and practical training designed to enhance their capabilities in areas such as community mobi-

lization, gender sensitization, and educational support.

The training covered a wide range of topics, including health and nutrition, child rights, education, and gender equality, ensuring that participants are well-versed in various aspects crucial for the holistic development of girls.

These sessions facilitated active participation and engagement, enabling AWWs, ASHA Workers, teachers, and students to share their experiences. challenges, and success stories, fostering a collaborative learning environment.

Participants were given hands-on training to apply the knowledge gained in real-world scenarios. This practical approach ensured that they are fully prepared to address the challenges they might face in their communities.

On the occasion Renowned experts Dr Maleeha Gul ,Dr Sheikh Umer Farooq ,Dr

Ambreen, Afroza Bhat DMC-HEW Budgam, Gousia Khan OSC Budgam and Neelofar Jan Social Worker NCW in the fields of education and social work conducted special sessions, providing valuable insights and guidance to the participants.

The programme also emphasized the importance of community involvement. Participants were trained to engage with community members effectively, creating awareness about the significance of educating and empowering girls. The closing ceremony

was graced by esteemed dignitaries who lauded the efforts of the participants and encouraged them to continue their dedicated work towards the cause of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao. The programme's success marks a significant step forward in achieving the initiative's goals and empowering communities to support the education and well-being of girls.

Anurag Kashyap started a conversation when he talked about the entourage culture on movie sets. Celebs take this debate forward...

Double-edged sword: Sherleen Dutt

The entourage culture has indeed taken the industry by storm, as observed by Anurag Kashyap. On one hand, actors bringing their entourage—comprising assistants, hair and makeup artists, and social media teamsensure that they are well-prepared, confident, and able to focus on their performance. This can enhance the overall quality of the production. On the other hand, such a large entourage can increase costs significantly and create a crowded, potentially disruptive environment on sets.

Keep it less: Rinku Ghosh

Personal staff is important up to a certain level like a makeup artist, a hairdresser, a personal assistant and a stylist. It's for the artist's comfort because these



for a very long time, like my make-up artist is with me since 17 years. So, the personal staff exactly knows what, when and how about the artiste. But I do not promote an entourage on sets, if at all necessary then the artiste should take the responsibility. Social media has become too strong and given unnecessary importance. As an actor, sometimes it is distractive. I just have

people work with them

my three staff members following me. Makeup artist, my hairdresser and personal assistant, that's all.

Need of the day: Anoushka Chauhan

I think a culture like this is prevailing because of people who are either privileged or upstarts. The whole social media culture is about showing how you get to the final product, which is so important for personal branding. Despite

the fact how irrelevant it is to acting and your performance on screen, one cannot deny the fact that it is important today. Doing all this in your free time or without disturbing anyone in a seamless manner is something that should be promoted. But if it is becoming a hindrance in the work space, this trend should not be encouraged.

Balancing act: Aradhana Sharma

Entourage culture in Bollywood presents a mixture of benefits and disadvantages. When this culture is balanced appropriately, it can serve as a significant support system for the celebrity. It provides emotional, professional, and logistical assistance, helping them navigate the complexities of their career and personal life. However, it is equally important for celebrities to stay grounded and maintain a realistic perspective of themselves and their surroundings. There is a risk that an entourage, if not kept in check, can lead to the celebrity becoming isolated from the real world. This can foster an unrealistic sense of selfimportance and create an echo chamber where

only flattering opinions

are heard.

Vaani in comic avatar



Actress Vaani Kapoor has said with her

ani Kapoor upcoming comedy film with her Badtameez Gill, she

is exploring a genre that she hasn't had the chance to dive into yet — comedy. Vaani, who is heading to the UK for the second schedule of the film, said: "Our next schedule is in the UK, and I'm looking forward to an exciting filming experience."

She said that the film, which is directed by Navjot Gulati, presents her in an all-new avatar.

"Badtameez Gill presents me in a new avatar, which I'm really happy about.

This project is significant for me; it means a lot that producers trust my acting abilities and are willing to support films with me in a leading role. I'm committed to giving it my best and showcasing my range as an artiste," she said. About the genre of the film, which also stars Aparshakti Khurana and Paresh Rawal, she said, "I am also exploring a genre that I haven't had the chance to dive into that much, which is both fun and challenging for

Bollywood film producer Vashu Bhagnani owes over Rs 65 lakh to crew members, says Federation of Western India Cine Employees

Federation of Western India Cine Employees (FWICE) president BN Tiwari has said veteran film producer Vashu Bhagnani owes over Rs 65 lakh to crew members who worked on three of his films 'Mission Raniganj', 'Ganapath' and 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan'.

Bhagnani's company Pooja Entertainment owes Rs 33.13 lakh to director Tinu Desai, who helmed their 2023 film, 'Mission Raniganj', Tiwari said on Friday. The movie was headlined by Akshay Kumar.

The production house owes Rs 31.78 lakh to over 250 set workers who worked on movies like 'Mission Raniganj', Tiger Shroff's 'Ganpath' (2023), and Akshay Kumar and Shroff's 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' (2024), Tiwari added.

Bhagnani remained unavailable for comment

In a complaint filed on March 19 to Indian Film



& Television Director's Association (IFTDA), Desai said he worked on 'Mission Raniganj' from February 2022 to October 6, 2023 (the release date of the film). The amount to be received as per the contract was Rs 4,03,50,000. He has only received Rs 3,70,36,092 so far.

"A written complaint was filed by the director of 'Mission Raniganj' regarding non-payment of his dues of Rs 33.13 lakh from Bhagnani last year in March. We've been following up with Pooja Entertainment but still they haven't made the payment. The company have said they will clear the dues in July," Tiwari told agency.

Desai declined to comment when contacted by agency.

According to FWICE president, IFTDA has written multiple letters to Pooja Entertainment but they kept delaying the payment.

"In February, they sought time to pay citing Jackky Bhagnani's wedding via an email dated February 20, 2024 to IFTDA. Later, they didn't reply. After FWICE wrote them a letter in March 2024, Pooja Entertainment again sought time to make the payment saying they would do so after the release of their film 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan'. Again that has not happened," Tiwari

Tahira Kashyap says her debut film as director, Sharmajee Ki Beti, is about struggle and ambition

There is a bit of Tahira Kashyap in all the five female leads of Sharmajee Ki Beti, says the director about her first feature film, a passion project that she hopes will make audiences see women in a different light. Tahira, who has been always been a storyteller, first as a writer of books like The 12 Commandments of Being A Woman and The 7 Sins of Being A Mother, and then as a filmmaker of the short Toffee.

"Sharmajee Ki Beti chronicles the stories of ambition and struggles of three middle-class women and two teenage girls, who all share the same surname — Sharma. I think the first piece of art comes from a place of a lot of purity. a lot of passion. You are passionate about the things that you experience and observe. "All of these five characters, three women and two girls, there is some



amount of storytelling experience I have observed at the personal level. So it comes from a very pure place of heart," Tahira said.

The film, which will start streaming on Prime Video from Friday, features an ensemble cast comprises Sakshi Tanwar, Divya Dutta, and Saiyami Kher, Vanshika Taparia and Arista Mehta. "As a storyteller, the aim was not to be preachy but make people connect, engage and empathise with the lead characters," she added.

"It should evoke some sort of emotion in the audiences' hearts and their minds, and if something reaches their hearts it will also leave an impression on their minds as well. That's how I want my messaging to happen. It was never that I wanted to be preachy or try to drive home a point. I really want people to start thinking about women

in a different light altogether. I would wish all of that to happen with just a click but it takes time and I am ready to invest in that time in the most loving and compassionate way."

Breaking stereotypes According to Tahira, the idea behind having three middle aged women and two under the age of 20 was to connect with a whole spectrum of audience.

"They exist on the spectrum of lifespan and they still have interesting and compelling stories to tell. So the idea was to delve into the stories of the women who just don't adhere to the certain stereotype of the women that have been shown in cinema," she said.

Though she has loved making short films, directing her feature gave her a 'different kick', the director, who also helmed a short in the 2020 anthology film Zindagi in Short, said.

Nawazuddin defends Ranveer Singh amid actors undermining his acting process

Ranveer Singh's portrayal of Alauddin Khilji in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's 2018 film Padmaavat received appreciation, with the actor admitting that he went into a dark zone to play the character with conviction. However, actor Prashant Narayanan recently undermined Ranveer's process. Now, actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui has defended Ranveer, questioning the basis on which Ranveer's skills are being evaluated. Nawazuddin reacts

During an interview with agency, Nawazuddin, who himself is known as one of the method actors in Bollywood, was asked about the remark. And he supported him while lashing out at the people questioning Ranveer, without taking any particular name.

"The people who are calling it fake, did they bother to understand the actor's process? Did they bother to understand how he was living his life when he was creating the character? They are simply judging him. We don't know what a man is thinking when he's coming up with a characterisation," he said.

Nawazuddin added, "They think it is pretentious. When you dive deep into a character, it is a very

painful process. This is a very irresponsible thing to say. If there was no process, then what Heath Ledger did in The Dark Knight would not be possible... That man was extremely serious about his performance and that is why he excelled in the character; that's how iconic characters are born. If we are going to take (the process) casually, then you'll end up with people just blurting out dialogues randomly. This is what makes separates a good actor from the rest. You never know which part of his past he is tapping to get into character. You can't take this so easily." He added that actors tap into "uncomfortable spaces to get into the minds of their characters".

At that point, the interviewer mentioned that the person questioning Ranveer's acting process was the main villain of Murder 2 (Prashant Narayanan), and his costar in Padmaavat (Jim Sarbh). At that moment, Nawazuddin came up with questions such as "What are they doing now? Do you see what Bobby Deol has been doing lately? And what is the man who commented doing currently?"

He added that it is very easy to make such comments, but it does not give anyone the right to "under-

estimate anyone"

Ranveer 's process questioned Prashant in an interview with Siddharth Kannan had recently undermined Ranveer's process. He said, "Woh jhoot bol raha hai. Yeh dark spaces mein jana, yeh sab karna yeh bakwas ki baatein hai."

In an interview with agency Jim Sarbh said, "There are all those actors who are like 'You know, I was so stuck in my character that I had to get mental therapy for weeks after.' I was like 'shut up bro. You didn't even know your lines on the day, what nonsense". Many believed it to be a dig at Ranveer.

In the past, Ranveer had mentioned that he found Khilji's character very dark. He had revealed that he would lock himself up in his Goregaon house, where he was completely isolated, to prepare for the role.

Nawazuddin was last seen in Haddi, which was released on OTT platform Zee5. He is now seen in Rautu Ka Raaz, which was also released on Zee5 on June 28. Directed by Anand Surapur, the mystery drama also stars Atul Tiwari, Rajesh Kumar, and Narayani Shastri.

Kalki 2898 AD 'wows' Rajinikanth: 'What an epic movie'



Nag Ashwin's Kalki 2898 AD registered a great opening at the global box office, grossing 191.5 crore on day one of its release, the makers said on Friday. Now, veteran actor Rajinikanth is going gaga over the Hindi-Telugu bilingual featuring Prabhas, Deepika Padukone, Amitabh Bachchan and Kamal Haasan, along with Disha Patani, Saswata Chatterjee and Shobhana.

Rajinikanth 'eagerly awaiting part

Taking to X on Saturday, Rajinikanth said he was 'eagerly awaiting Part 2' of the sci-fi film. He tweeted, "Watched Kalki. WOW! What an epic movie! Director @ nagashwin7 has taken Indian cinema to a different level. Hearty congratulations to my dear friend @AswiniDutt @SrBachchan @ PrabhasRaju @ikamalhaasan @ deepikapadukone and the team of Kalki 2898 AD. Eagerly awaiting Part 2. God bless."

In awe of the actor's response to his film, director Nag Ashwin tweeted back to Rajinikanth, "Sir... speechless... blessed... from our whole team (folded hands emojis)."

Nagarjuna reviews Kalki 2898 AD

Veteran actor Nagarjuna also took to X to praise the film's team on Saturday. He tweeted, "Con-

gratulations to the team of super duper Kalki 2898 AD!! Naagi you took us to another time and another place, entwining fiction with mythology and history so effortlessly!!"

He continued, "Amit Ji, the original mass hero... Sir, you are on fire... can't wait to see Kamalji in the sequel... did not get enough of him! Prabhas you did it all over again!! Deepika ji you look so ethereal and convincing as the divine mother!! And the rest of the team (clapping emojis) Ashwini Dutt Garu, dear sweety and Swapna, God bless you! Indian cinema has done it again!!"

More about Kalki 2898 AD

Directed by Nag Ashwin, the post-apocalyptic film is inspired by Hindu scriptures and set in the year 2898 AD. Previously titled Project K, it is one of the most expensive feature films in Indian cinema with a reported 600 crore budget.

On Friday, the team of Kalki 2898 AD shared a poster on X (formerly Twitter), saying that the film made more than 191.5 crore gross worldwide at the box office in all languages on its opening day.

"Grave Danger" In Equating Court With Temple, **Judge With God: Chief Justice**

"There is a very grave danger when people say that the court is a temple of justice. There is a grave danger that we perceive ourselves as the deities in those temples," CJI Chandrachud said.

KOLKATA, Jun 29 (Agencies): The Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud has observed that the trend of equating judges with God is dangerous since the task of judges is to serve public interest.

"Too very often, we are addressed as Honour or as Lordship or as Ladyship. There is a very grave danger when people say that the court is a temple of justice. There is a grave danger that we perceive ourselves as the deities in those temples," CJI Chandrachud said while addressing the Regional Conference of National Judicial Academy in Kolkata.

The CJI said that he feels reticent when he is told that the court is the temple of justice because the temple postulates that the judges are in the posi-



tion of a deity.

"I would rather recast the role of the judge as a server of the people. And when you regard yourselves as people who are there to serve others, then you bring in the notion of compassion, of empathy, of judging but not being judgmental about

others," the CJI said

He said that even while sentencing anyone in a criminal case, the judges do that with a sense of compassion, since at the end, a human being is being sentenced.

"So these concepts of constitutional morality, which I think, are the key, not just for the judges of the Supreme Court or the High Court but also for the district judiciary itself, because the engagement of the common citizens begins first and foremost with the district judiciary," CJI Chandrachud said.

Speaking on the occasion, he strongly stressed on the relevance of technology in the functioning of the judiciary.

According to CJI Chandrachud, language is the central barrier to accessing and understanding verdicts by common people.

"Technology can provide us with some answers. Most judgments are written in English. Technology has enabled us to translate them. We are translating 51,000 judgments in other languages," CJI Chandrachud

Seven dead, three injured as two vehicles collide on Samruddhi Expressway

JALNA, Jun 29 (Agencies): Seven persons were killed and three others seriously injured after two cars collided on the Mumbai-Nagpur Expressway, also known as Samruddhi Expressway, in Jalna district of Maharashtra, police said on Saturday.

The incident occurred around 11 pm on Friday near Kadvanchi village, they said.

The victims were residents of Malad (East) in Mumbai and Buldhana district, the police said.

"A multi-utility vehicle (MUV) going from Nagpur to Mumbai and a car heading in the opposite direction collided head-on, resulting in the death of six persons on the spot. One more person succumbed to injuries at a hospital later," a police official said.

The impact of the collision was so severe that the MUV broke through the crash barrier and fell off on the left side of the road. Local villagers and police rushed to the scene to rescue the persons trapped in mangled remains of the vehicles, he said.

Dr Umesh Jadhav, a medical officer at the Government District Hospital in Jalna, said six bodies were brought to the hospital for postmortem.

Three injured persons are being treated here, while one critically injured person who was shifted to the Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar district died later.

Three of the deceased are from Mumbai, while as many others are from Buldhana district.

One person who was shifted to Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar is yet to be identified, he said. The three injured persons are from Mumbai, he added.

The Samruddhi Highway is a 701-kilometer six-lane expressway connecting Mumbai and Nagpur.

The first phase of the highway connecting Nagpur to Shirdi was inaugurated in December 2022.

JD(U) names Sanjay Jha working president, seeks special category status or package for Bihar

NEW DELHI, Jun 29 (Agencies): The JD(U) appointed its Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Jha as working president on Saturday

The decision was taken at a meeting of its national executive where the party reiterated its demand for special category status for Bihar, while adding that the Centre could also consider an alternative in a special package, its senior leader Neeraj Kumar said.

The BJP ally also demanded stringent action against culprits in exam paper leak cases and called for a strong law to rule out such incidents in the future.

The decision to appoint Jha as working president is significant since



he is known to have a good equation with the BJP leadership. He is also the party's leader in the Rajya Sabha.

Party sources said Jha was well-suited to draw a good deal from the BJP and maintain a friendly relationship between the two parties, which have a history of bumpy ties.

Following his appointment, Jha told agency that Prime Minister Nar-

endra Modi always paid attention to Bihar and expressed hope that the party's demand for special category status or a package for the state would be met.

Bihar Chief Minister and JD(U) president Nitish Kumar, Union ministers Lalan Singh and Ram Nath Thakur, and other senior leaders from around the country were present at the meeting held in Delhi.

"Indira Gandhi put us in jail, but never abused us": Lalu Yadav

PATNA, Jun 29 (Agencies): Rashtriva Janata Dal (RJD) Chief and former Bihar Chief Minister Lalu Prasad Yadav on Saturday recalled what they went through during the dark days of Emergency and said that the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi put many of the leaders behind bars, but she never abused them.

In a post shared on X, the RJD chief shared an article "The Sangh Silence in 1975" written by him and journalist Nalin Verma. In the article, they attacked the BJP-led central government and said that although 1975 is a stain on the country's democracy, let's not forget who doesn't respect the Opposition in 2024.

"I was the convener



of the steering committee that Jayaprakash Narayan--had constituted to carry forward the movement against the excesses of Emergency imposed by the then PM Indira Gandhi. I was in jail under the Maintenance of Security Act (MISA) for over 15 months. My colleagues and I did not know many of the BJP ministers speaking about the Emergency today. We

hadn't heard of Modi, J P Nadda, and some of the PM's other ministerial colleagues who today lecture us on the value of freedom," he posted on X.

"Indira Gandhi put many of us behind bars, but she never abused us. Neither she nor her ministers called us "antinational" or "unpatriotic". She never enabled vandals to defile the memory of Babasaheb

Ambedkar--the architect of our Constitution. 1975 is a stain on our democracy but let's not forget who doesn't respect the Opposition in 2024," the RJD leader added.

On June 25, 1975. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister, imposed a 21-month state of emergency. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Emergency, which is considered one of the most controversial periods in India's political history.

Earlier on Thursday, President Droupadi Murmu addressed the joint sitting of the Parliament and criticised the imposition of 'Emergency'.

"Emergency was the biggest and darkest chapter of the direct attack on the Constitution. The entire country plunged into chaos during the Emergency, but the nation was victorious against such unconstitutional powers", she said.

The remarks of the President have triggered reactions from the leaders of the INDIA bloc.

Congress National President Mallikarjun Kharge said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is attempting to gain cheap applause by making the President deliver a speech filled with lies.

"Modi Ji is trying to gain cheap applause by making the Honorable President speak lies, which the people of India have already rejected in the 2024 elections," Kharge wrote on his official 'X' account.

Veteran Congress leader D Srinivas passes away at 76

HYDERABAD, Jun 29 (Agencies): Former Andhra Pradesh (undivided) Congress president D Srinivas died here on Saturday, his son and Nizamabad MP D Arvind said. He was 76.

Srinivas had been unwell for the past few days, family sources said. He was the PCC president during the 2004 and 2009 Assembly and general elections. He was also a

minister in former Chief Minister YS Rajasekhar Reddy's cabinet.

He left Congress and became a BRS Rajya Sabha Member from 2016 to 2022 and later rejoined the grand old party. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, Union Minister G Kishan Reddy. Telangana ministers, and senior leaders of the Congress party expressed condolences over his demise.



Maharashtra: Doctors performed surgery on boy's private part instead of injured leg, allege his parents; probe on

THANE, Jun 29 (Agencies): The parents of a nine-year-old boy from Shahapur in Maharashtra's Thane district have complained to the police that doctors at a government-run hospital wrongly performed a surgery on his private part instead of an injured leg.

Following their allegation, a health official assured an inquiry into the episode, and the police said they are carrying out a probe.

The minor's parents said, "The boy suffered an injury on his leg while he was playing with his friends last month.

He was admitted to the sub-district hospital in Shahapur on June 15 and was undergoing



Although no case has

been registered so far in

this connection, a police

official said that a probe

into the complaint was

District Civil Surgeon

Dr Kailas Pawar said

the health authorities

will conduct an inquiry

Medical officer at

the hospital, Gajendra

Pawar, told reporters

that besides his leg

into the allegations.

underway

treatment.

The doctors recently performed a circumcision surgery on his private part instead of the injured leg.

"Later, after realising their goof-up, the doctors conducted a surgery on his injured leg soon afterwards," they

told reporters. The parents also lodged a complaint with the Shahapur police.

(tight foreskin). "We had to carry out two operations," he said.

As regards informing the parents about the second operation, he said the doctors might

have forgotten to tell

injury, the boy also had

a problem of phimosis

them or they might have told the other relatives of the patient. What the doctors did

was right and there was nothing wrong in it. But the parents

refused to accept the explanation given by the doctors, Pawar said. On the same day, two patients from the same age group underwent surgery at the hospital, doctors said.

AAP protests Arvind Kejriwal's arrest, several detained after clash with police

NEW DELHI, Jun 29 (Agencies): The AAP held a protest outside the BJP office on Saturday against Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's arrest by the CBI in connection with a money laundering case linked to the now-scrapped liquor policy. All MPs, MLAs, councillors and workers from the party marched to the BJP office amid tight security.

Several AAP leaders were present, including minister Atishi, who was recently hospitalised after her health deteriorated during her hunger strike, wherein she demanded Haryana to release Delhi's share of water amid a water crisis in the city.

The Delhi Police, bolstered by the Rapid Action Force (RAF), had heavily fortified the area to prevent AAP leaders from breaching the barricades set up to stop them. Anti-riot gear and water cannons were also deployed as the police stated that no permission had been

granted for the protest. Despite the police presence, AAP workers held the protest and several of them were detained or pushed back towards their office.

A poster was set up outside the AAP office that read in Hindi, 'Stop misusing ED and CBI'.



Other banners like 'Keiriwal ko riha karo (Release Kejriwal)' were also displayed by party leaders and workers during the protest. Speaking to agency,

Delhi Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj accused the government of dictatorial tactics. "The nation is witnessing dictatorship. To keep Chief Minister in jail, the CBI did this. For the past two years, they are investigating. The same they did with with Hemant Soren. We will fight both in Parliament and on the roads," he stated

Voicing similar sentiments, AAP MLA Kuldeep Kumar accused the government of using the ED and the CBI to implicate Kejriwal. "We will take our fight to Parliament, Vidhan Sabha, and the streets. What have the agencies found in the past two years since investigations started?" he questioned.

Earlier, a senior police

policer said arrangements were being made to stop the protesters as no permission had been taken for any protest at the BJP office. Barricades were put up and paramilitary personnel were deployed at the site, the officer said.

The officer also added that the protesters might be detained as prohibitory orders were imposed at DDU Marg, where the BJP office is located.

The protest came as the CBI produced Kejriwal in a Delhi court earlier today as his three-day custody comes to an end. Kejriwal was arrested by the central agency in the liquor policy case on Wednesday.

Kejriwal is already in Tihar Jail in connection with his alleged involvement in the money laundering case being probed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

The Delhi liquor policy case involves alleged irregularities in the 2021-22 excise policy, including modifications, undue favours to licensees, and the extension of L-1 licences without prior approval. The CBI is probing corruption charges, while the ED is investigating the alleged money laundering aspect.

In July 2022, Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena recommended a CBI probe into the AAP government's 2021-22 excise policy, alleging "deliberate and gross procedural lapses", according to an assessment report prepared by Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar.

Following the Home Ministry's directions for an inquiry into the matter, the CBI had in August 2022 registered a case against former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, three Delhi government officials, 10 liquor licensees and unknown others.

According to the CBI's FIR, the named accused were instrumental in "recommending and taking decisions pertaining to excise policy for the year 2021-22 without the approval of the competent authority, with an intention to extend undue favours to the licensees' post tender".

Iran seesawing vote results put race between reformist Masoud Pezeshkian and hard-liner Saeed Jalili

Voters faced a choice between the three hard-line candidates and the little-known reformist Pezeshkian, a heart surgeon.

DUBAI, Jun 29 (Agencies): Early, seesawing results released Saturday in Iran's presidential election put the race between reformist Masoud Pezeshkian and hardliner Saeed Jalili, with the lead trading between the two men while a runoff vote appeared likely.

The early results, reported by Iranian state television, did not initially put either man in a position to win Friday's election outright, potentially setting the stage for a runoff election to replace the late hard-line President Ebrahim Raisi.

It also did not offer any turnout figures for the race yet — a crucial component of whether Iran's electorate backs its Shiite theocracy after years of economic turmoil and mass protests.

After counting over 12 million votes, Pezeshkian had over 5 million while Jalili held 4.8 million

Another candidate, hard-line speaker of the parliament Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf, had some 1.6 million votes. Shiite cleric Mostafa Pourmohammadi had more than 95,000 votes.

Voters faced a choice between the three hard-line candidates and the little-known reformist Pezeshkian, a heart surgeon. As has been the case since the 1979 Islamic Revolu-



tion, women and those calling for radical change have been barred from running, while the vote itself will have no oversight from internationally recognized monitors.

The voting came as wider tensions have gripped the Middle East over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip.

In April, Iran launched its firstever direct attack on Israel over the war in Gaza, while militia groups that Tehran arms in the region — such as the Lebanese Hezbollah and Yemen's Houthi rebels — are engaged in the fighting and have escalated their attacks.

Meanwhile, Iran continues to enrich uranium at near weapons-grade levels and maintains a stockpile large enough to build There had been calls for a boycott, including from imprisoned Nobel Peace Prize laureate Narges Mohammadi. Mir Hossein Mousavi, one of the leaders of the 2009 Green Movement protests who remains in house arrest, also has refused to vote with his wife, his daughter said.

should it choose to do so —

several nuclear weapons.

There's also been criticism that Pezeshkian represents just another government-approved candidate. One woman in a documentary on Pezeshkian aired by state TV said her generation was "moving toward the same level" of animosity with the government that Pezeshkian's generation had in the 1979 revolution.

Iranian law requires that a

winner gets more than 50% of all votes cast. If that doesn't happen, the race's top two candidates will advance to a runoff a week later. There's been only one runoff presidential election in Iran's history: in 2005, when hard-liner Mahmoud Ahmadinejad bested former President

Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

The 63-year-old Raisi died in the May 19 helicopter crash that also killed the country's foreign minister and others. He was seen as a protégé of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and a potential successor. Still, many knew him for his involvement in the mass executions that Iran conducted in 1988, and for his role in the bloody crackdowns on dissent that followed protests over the death of Mahsa Amini, a young woman detained by police over allegedly improperly wearing the mandatory headscarf, or hijab.

Despite the recent unrest, there was only one reported attack around the election. Gunmen opened fire on a van transporting ballot boxes in the restive southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan, killing two police officers and wounding others, the state-run IRNA news agency reported. The province regularly sees violence between security forces and the militant group Jaish al-Adl, as well as drug traffickers.

5 missiles land near ship in Red Sea in latest attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels



DUBAI, Jun 29 (Agencies): A ship traveling through the Red Sea came under repeated missile fire Friday in an attack launched by Yemen's Houthi rebels, authorities said, the latest targeting the crucial maritime route.

Five missiles landed near the vessel as it travelled off the coast of the rebel-held port city of Hodeida in Yemen, the British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre said today.

The missiles landed near the vessel, but caused no damage, the

UKTMO added.

Houthi military spokesman, Brig Gen Yahya Saree, claimed late Friday the group made two attacks on ships in the Red Sea, but it wasn't immediately clear which ship was

the one reported targeted by authorities. He also made other claims as well on attacks otherwise unreported on vessels. The Houthis have exaggerated their

The rebels have targeted more than 60 vessels by firing missiles and drones in their campaign that has killed a total of four sailors. They seized one vessel and sank two since November. A US-led airstrike campaign has targeted the Houthis since

claims in the past.

strike campaign has targeted the Houthis since January, with a series of strikes on May 30 killing at least 16 people and wounding 42 others, the rebels say.

The Houthis maintain that their attacks target ships linked to Israel, the United States or Britain. However, many of the ships attacked have little or no connec-

tion to the Israel-Hamas war — including some bound for Iran.

Late on Tuesday, Saree said the group was responsible for an attack Monday on the Liberian-flagged, Greekmanaged container ship MSC Sarah V. On Wednesday, the Houthis claimed they used a new hypersonic ballistic missile in the assault, which targeted a ship farther away than nearly all of the previous assaults they've launched in the Gulf of Aden.

Another attack Wednesday in the Gulf of Aden was suspected to have been carried out by the Houthis, though they have yet to claim it. A Houthi attack also happened Thursday in the Red Sea.

A US-led coalition has been battling the Houthis. Early Saturday, the US military's Central Command said it destroyed seven Houthi drones and a "ground control station vehicle" in Houthi-controlled areas of Yemen. The Houthis on Friday had reported airstrikes around Hodeida's airport, which long has been suspected of being used as a rebel launch site.

German far-right party opens convention after strong election showing, Opponents gather to protest



BERLIN, Jun 29 (Agencies): The farright Alternative for Germany opened a convention Saturday after a strong performance in the recent European election, as opponents held large-scale protests and some demonstrators tried to block roads or clashed with police.

Alternative for Germany, or AfD, took 15.9% of the vote to finish second in the European Parliament election on June 9, despite a series of scandals and setbacks in recent months. A particularly strong showing in the formerly communist east has bolstered its hopes of emerging as the strongest party in three state elections in that region in September.

At the regular two-day convention in the western city of Essen, co-leaders Alice Weidel and Tino Chrupalla are expected to seek another term in office.

A heavy police presence was in place in the city, where local authorities had tried to find a way to prevent the AfD event but lost their case in court. Up to 100,000 people in total were expected at a string of counterdemonstrations and other events over the weekend, German news agency dpa reported.

On Friday evening, some 5,000 people participated in a peaceful anti-AfD rave titled "Bass against Hatred," police said. Early Saturday morning, a group of demonstrators tried to get through a barrier and was pushed back by police using pepper spray and batons. There were also incidents in which masked demonstrators attacked officers, according to police, who reported "several" arrests.

Protesters staged sit-ins on streets and crossings near the convention hall. Several AfD lawmakers said they had been picked up by police from their hotel and escorted to the venue, while other delegates were able to walk there without problems, dpa reported.

Weidel told delegates as she opened the meeting that "what is going on out there has nothing to do with democracy" and vowed that "we are here and we will stay."

At least 30 killed in Kenya anti-government protests: HRW

NAIROBI, Jun 29 (Agencies): At least 30 people died in protests in Kenya this week sparked by a government drive to substantially raise taxes in the East African country, Human Rights Watch said Saturday.

"Kenyan security forces shot directly into crowds of protesters on (Tuesday) June 25, 2024, including protesters who were fleeing," the NGO said in a statement.

"Although there is no confirmation on the exact number of people killed in Nairobi and other towns, Human Rights Watch found that at least 30 people had been killed on that day based on witness accounts, publicly available information, hospital and mortuary records in Nairobi as well as witness accounts," the statement said.

"Shooting directly into crowds without justification, including as protesters try to flee, is completely unacceptable under Kenyan and international law," said Otsieno Namwaya, associate Africa director at Human Rights Watch.

"The Kenyan authorities need to make clear to their forces that they should be protecting peaceful protesters and that impunity for police violence can



no longer be tolerated," Namwaya added.

The largely peaceful rallies turned violent on Tuesday when lawmakers passed the deeply unpopular tax increases following pressure from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

After the announcement of the vote, crowds stormed the parliament complex and a fire broke out in clashes unprecedented in the history of the country since its independence from Britain in 1963.

President William Ruto's administration ultimately withdrew the bill.

IMF pressure

The state-funded Kenya National Commission on Human Rights said it had recorded 22 deaths and 300 injured victims, adding it would open an inves-

"Eight military officers came out and just opened fire on people. They killed several people, including those who were not part of the protests," HRW quoted a rights activist in Nairobi as saying.

"Kenya's international partners should continue to actively monitor the situation... and further urge Kenyan authorities to speedily but credibly and transparently investigate abuses by the security forces," the rights watchdog said.

Ruto had already rolled back some tax measures after the protests began, prompting the treasury to warn of a gaping budget shortfall of 200 billion shillings (\$1.6 billion).

The cash-strapped government had said previously that the increases were necessary to service Kenya's massive debt of some 10 trillion shillings (\$78 billion), equal to roughly 70 percent of GDP.

The Washington-based IMF has urged the country to implement fiscal reforms in order to access crucial funding from the international lender.

"The bill was expected to raise an additional \$2.3 billion in the next fiscal year, in part to meet IMF requirements to increase revenues," HRW said.

"Widespread outrage should be a wake-up call to the Kenyan government and the IMF that they cannot sacrifice rights in the name of economic recovery," Namwaya said.

"Economic sustainability can only be achieved by building a new social contract that raises revenues fairly, manages them responsibly, and funds services and programs that protect everyone's rights."

Russia Should Resume Intermediate, Short-Range Missile Production: Putin

MOSCOW, Jun 29 (Agencies): Russian President Vladimir Putin said that Russia should resume production of intermediate and shorter-range nuclear-capable missiles and then consider where to deploy them after the United States brought similar missiles to Europe and Asia.

Putin's move finally kills off all that remains from one of the most significant arms controls treaties of the Cold War amid fears that the world's two biggest nuclear powers

could be entering a new arms race together with China.

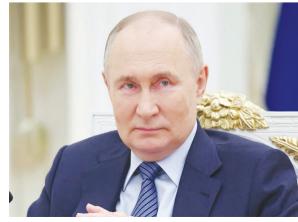
The Intermediaterange Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, signed by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan in 1987, marked the first time the superpowers had agreed to reduce their nuclear arsenals and eliminated a whole category of nuclear

weapons.
The United States under former President Donald Trump formally withdrew from the INF Treaty in 2019 after saying that Moscow was

violating the accord, an accusation the Kremlin repeatedly denied and dismissed as a pretext.

Russia then imposed a moratorium on its own development of missiles previously banned by the INF treaty ground-based ballistic and cruise missiles with ranges of 500 km to 5,500 km.

Putin said Russia had pledged not to deploy such missiles but that the United States had resumed their production, brought them to Denmark for exercises and also taken them to



the Philippines.

"We need to respond to this and make decisions about what we will have to do in this direction next," Putin was shown on state television telling Russia's Security Council.

"Apparently, we need to start manufacturing these strike systems and then, based on the actual situation, make decisions about where - if necessary to ensure our safety - to place them," he said.

DISINTEGRATION
Russia and the United

States, by far the biggest nuclear powers, have both expressed regret about the disintegration of the tangle of arms control treaties which sought to slow the Cold War arms race and reduce the risk of nuclear war.

Trump in 2018 said he wanted to terminate the INF Treaty because of

what he said were years of Russian violations and his concerns about China's intermediaterange missile arsenal.

Putin has said in the past that the U.S. with-drawal would trigger a new arms race.

United States publicly blamed Russia's development of the 9M729 ground-launched cruise missile, known in NATO as the SSC-8, as the reason for it leaving the INF Treaty.

In his moratorium proposal, Putin suggested Russia could agree not to deploy the missiles in its Baltic coast exclave of Kaliningrad. Since leaving the pact, the United States has tested missiles with a similar profile.

said earlier this month he could deploy conventional missiles within striking distance of the United States and its European allies if they allowed Ukraine to strike deeper into Russia with long-range Western weapons.

In his comments, Putin gave no indication of where the missiles could be deployed.

Sham Basson expresses dismay over reduction of pension

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: Sham Lal Basson, former corporator of Ward 48, Bahu Fort, in a press conference here on Saturday, addressing the issue of withheld pensions for widows, physically challenged individuals, and old age persons following the issuance of Government Order No. 156 of 2022.

This order introduced stringent conditions, including the requirement for a Priority Household (PHH) ration card, which has caused distress among the pension ben-



Sham Lal Basson expressed dismay over the reduction of pension amounts by Rs. 1000 per month and criticized the government for not increasing pension amounts as anticipated by the public.

Despite numerous press conferences, protests, and memoranda submitted to relevant authorities, the issue remains unresolved, he said.

He highlighted the difficulties faced by pension acceptance of files by the CAPD department for PHH ration card preparation, exacerbating their

suffering.

In his appeal to the Lieutenant Governor (LG) of Jammu and Kashmir UT, Sham Lal requested personal intervention to facilitate the release of pensions to widows, old age persons, and the physically challenged.

He urged the repeal or amendment of Government Order No. 156 of 2022, specifically to remove the PHH ration card condition, which

has become a barrier to accessing pensions.

Furthermore, Sham Lal cautioned that if the LG administration fails to resolve the pension issue promptly, mass agitations will ensue.

He vowed to mobilize support from all affected individuals, including widows, old age persons, and the physically challenged, to escalate the protest.

The press conference was attended by various individuals including Thoru Ram, Hans Raj, Moti Ram Angral and Kamal Kalsotra

Five-day course on "Investigation of Cyber Crime" concludes at SKPA Udhampur

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, June 29: A five-day course on "Investigation of Cyber Crime" commenced at S.K. Police Academy Udhampur on June 25, 2024, and concluded on Saturday.

Fourteen officers from J&K Police participated in the course. The course was designed as a capacity-building tool for J&K Police's investigating officers to tackle the increasing menace of cybercrime in virtual

The course featured a wide range of discussions, deliberations,

and demonstrations on various topics including types and techniques of computer forensics, hacking methodologies, operating systems, denial-of-service attacks, basic network protocols, cryptocurrency, and the vulnerability of financial

transactions. Eminent speakers from different institutions such as Govt. College of Engineering & Technology Jammu, cyber experts from J&K Cyber Police Station, and faculty from the Anti-Corruption Bureau delivered lectures to the participants.

A valediction function was organized at the Academy on the final day. Rajinder Kumar Gupta, SSP, Dy. Director (Indoor Trgs) SKPA, was the chief guest.

In his valedictory address, Gupta emphasized the importance of staving updated with modern techniques for handling cybercrimes, stressing that as first responders, officers should know the appropriate actions to take when a cybercrime is reported.

The course was coordinated by Rohit Gupta. Inspector, and assisted by HC Sanjay Singh under the guidance of senior officers of the Academy.

Directorate of Economics of Statistics celebrates National Statistics Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: The Directorate of Economics of Statistics, J&K, Jammu celebrated 18th National Statistics Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Late Professor P.C. Mahalanobis, Father of Indian Statistics and his notable contribution in the field of economic planning and statistical development.

The function was attended by the officers and staff of Directorate of Economics and Statistics J&K, Regional director, Evaluation and Statistics, Jammu and Principal, School of Applied Economics and statistics, Jammu at DES Complex Janipur Jammu. The theme for this year's Statistics day is "Use Of Data For Decision Making.'

Satvir Kour Sudan

Director General Economics and Statistics J&K was the Chief Guest of the function who emphasized the importance of data in contemporary governance and development and also highlighted that the accurate data is the backbone of informed

decision-making. The event commenced with a warm welcome and greetings to all participants by the Regional Director of Evaluation and Statistics, Jammu Ashu Gupta.

She highlighted the significance of the data which empowers us to design and implement policies that are both effective and sustainable.

Sunil Pandita, Director Central, DES, spoke on the importance of relevant data in strategic decision making. Deepa Sharma, Principal SAES, Jammu shared her views regarding the theme of this year.

The other speakers also shared their insights on the theme. They discussed the transformative impact of data-driven decisions in various sectors such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure. The speakers also highlighted the advancements in data collection and analysis technologies, which have significantly enhanced the precision and utility of statistical data. The vote of thanks was presented by Loveleen Kaur, Statis-

The Chief Planning Officers and District Statistics and Evaluation Officers of Jammu division have also celebrated the 18th National Statistics Day at their respective district headquarters

tical Officer of RD Office.

Awareness Campaign held in Kunfar Panchayat

Top News Report

RAMBAN, June 29: An informative and impactful awareness campaign was conducted on Saturday in the Kunfar Panchayat, Chandrakot, under the overall supervision of District Social Welfare Officer, Ramban Rahul Gupta, focusing on the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign, and the vital services provided by the One Stop Centre and District Hub for Empowerment of Women.

The event was led by the dedicated paramedical staff from the One Stop Centre, with Aarti Sharma taking a prominent role in disseminating critical information. The session aimed to educate the local community about the dangers of drug abuse, the importance of protecting and educating the girl child, and the support available for women in distress

Sharma emphasized

the significance of community participation in the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, urging residents to actively contribute to creating a drug-free society. She also highlighted the goals of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign, encouraging families to prioritize the education and well-being of their daughters.

Furthermore, the session provided insights into the functioning of the One Stop Centre, which offers comprehensive support to women facing violence, and the District Hub for Empowerment of Women, which aims to empower women through various initiatives and programs

The event witnessed a significant turnout, with residents showing great interest and engagement in the discussions. The community members appreciated the efforts of the One Stop Centre and expressed their willingness to support these crucial campaigns.

Bukhari extends warm greetings on the beginning of the annual Amarnath Yatra

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, June 29: With the beginning of the annual Amarnath Yatra, Apni Party President, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, extended his warm greetings and best wishes to the pilgrims embarking on the holy pilgrimage this year.

Notably, the first batch of 4,603 pilgrims began their journey from the

twin base camps in Baltal and Nunwan today. The 52-day pilgrimage will culminate on August 19.

In his message, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari said, "I extend my heartfelt greetings on the commencement of the Amarnath Yatra. My best wishes to all the devotees who will be performing the pilgrimage this year.

He added, "In Jammu and Kashmir, this Hindu pilgrimage has always symbolised the pluralistic ethos of the people, with Muslims playing a vital role in facilitating the safe. smooth, and hassle-free conduct of the Amarnath Yatra. This pilgrimage has become a symbol of the strong composite and inclusive culture in J&K."

"May this holy pilgrimage bring sustained peace and prosperity to the region," he prayed.

NOTICE

I Rakesh Kumar S/o Sh Bansi Lal R/o Ismailpur Kothey Tehsil Bishnah Distt. Jammu have applied for correction of my daughter name which has been wrongly written as Sheekha instead of correct name as Shekha in my service record objection if any may be conveyed to the concerned authority with in seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE ISTCLASS SUCHETGARH

SIYA CHIB D/O KARAN SINGH R/O SATOWALI TEHSIL SUCHETGARH DISTT JAMMU.

BLOCK DEVEPLOMENT OFFICER SUCHETGARH APPLICATION DIRECTIONG BLOCK DEVEPLOMENT OFFICER SUCHET-GARH TO ENTER DATE OF THE BIRTH $\,$ APPLICANT' SELF NAMELY 1) SIYA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAR THE APPLICATION HAS FILED THE ABOVE TITELED APPLI-CATION IN COURT OF FOR THE ISSUNCE OF DIRECTION TO THE BLOCK DEVEPLOMENT OFFICER SUCHETGARH TO MAKE AN ENTRY OF THE DATE OF BIRTH PARTICULAR OF THE APPLICANTS SELF ABOVE WHO WAS BORN ON (1) 25/11/2002 AT HOME

NOW BY THE WAY OF THIS PROCLAMATION GERANAL PUBLIC/INTERSED PERSON / ARE HER BY INFOMED THAT IF ANY PERSON/S WHO AS / HAVE ANY OBJECTION/S WITH RECORD TH SUBJECT MATER SHALL FILE OBJECTION/S IN THE INLTHII THE COURT ON OR BEFORE 7DAYS. FALING WHICH, AN APPROPRIATE ORDER SHALL BE PASSED

GIVE UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THIS COURT TODAY THE 28TH DAY OF JUNE 2024.

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE IST CLASS SUCHETGARH

Update left out unregistered migrant voters before Assembly Elections forthwith: Koul

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: In a recent press statement, Senior BJP leader and Senior Vice President of BJP unit District Anantnag in Kashmir, Rakesh Koul, addressed critical issues concerning the registration of Kashmiri migrant voters ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir

Koul emphasized the

necessity of promptly updating and registerwere left out during the recently conducted successful Parliament elections.

He highlighted that a significant number of Kashmiri migrant voters were not included or updated in voter lists following the Election Commission of India's abolition of the M form system, which has sparked widespread dissatisfaction among the displaced community.

Koul urged for an inter sive and comprehensive process to be initiated immediately to ensure that all unregistered migrant voters, particularly young voters, are included well before the announcement of the

Assembly elections. He stressed that enabling these voters to exercise their franchise is crucial for strengthening democracy in the

region and ensuring their active participation

Furthermore, Koul appealed directly to the Election Commission of India and the Chief Electoral Officer of Jammu and Kashmir to instruct the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner of J&K to commence the registration and updation exercise without

His objective is to complete this process in a

timely manner to facilitate the participation of these unregistered young migrant voters in large numbers, thereby integrating them fully into the democratic process of the country.

He also commended the Kashmiri migrant community for their substantial participation in the recent Parliament elections, an effort that received widespread recognition and appreciation.

FROM PAGE 1

NEET-UG results row: CBI conducts searches at 7 locations in Gujarat

Vice-principal Imtiaz Alam was designated as the NTA's observer and the centre coordinator for Oasis School, the officials said. adding that the CBI was also questioning five more people from the district in connection with the leak, Jamaluddin Ansari, the journalist, was arrested for allegedly trying to help the principal and the vice-principal, the officials said on Saturday

The CBI has registered six FIRs in the NEET-UG paper leak case, which include its own FIR on a reference from the Union education ministry and five from the states where it took over the investigation. The probe agency has taken over one case each in Bihar and Gujarat and three in Rajasthan.

NEET-UG is conducted by the NTA for admissions to MBBS, BDS, AYUSH and other related courses in government and private institutions. This year's exam was conducted on May 5 at 4,750 centres in 571 cities, including 14 abroad. More than 23 lakh candidates had appeared for the test.

The first CBI FIR was registered on June 23, a day after the ministry announced it would hand over the probe into the alleged irregularities in the conduct of the exam to the central agency.

60 cows, oxen killed in MP to create communal frenzy, 24 held:

"The accused persons were assigned the job of killing the bovine animals in return for

money and local residents (of Seoni) were also found to be involved in the crime." a police official said.

5 policemen injured in mob violence during anti-encroachment drive in Kathua

was launched in Nagri area of Hiranagar in Kathua to demolish an illegal place of worship, which was resisted by a group of locals.

"The mob turned violent and attacked the police party, injuring five policemen including a Deputy Superintendent." officials said. "Reinforcements have been now rushed to the area," officials added.

AAP workers stopped from marching to BJP office in **Jammu over 20 detained**

in connection with the Delhi government's now-scrapped excise policy. On March 21, he was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in a money-laundering case linked to the policy. He was granted bail by a trial court that was stayed by the Delhi High Court.

"We had planned to gherao the BJP office (Jammu) against the illegal arrest of our leader in response to the call for nationwide protest but police took us into custody," Khajuria said. The protesters were carrying placards and shouting slogans against the BJP for allegedly misusing central agencies against opposition leaders.

"Kejriwal is being framed in a false case. The CBI was used when they (BJP) became apprehensive that he might be released by the Supreme Court," Khajuria said, alleging

that the country is faced with a "situation worse than the Emergency" under the BJP

PM extends his wishes to pilgrims on commencement of Amarnath Yatra

"The arrangements for pilgrims done by local police, local Kashmiris, and the Security Forces are very good," he said.

The pilgrims who have arrived here from different parts of the country said, "There are good arrangements for pilgrims here. We also want to thank the personnel of the Security Forces."

Lieutenant Governor (LG) of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha attended a meeting with civil society members, organised by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Srinagar at SKICC During the meeting, discussions regarding the arrangements for the Amar-

The Lieutenant Governor (LG) of Jammu and Kashmir said, "A discussion was done regarding the yatra."

nath Yatra and Muharram was done.

Amarnath Yatra involves a challenging trek to the Amarnath cave shrine in Jammu and Kashmir. The yatra attracts hundreds of thousands of devotees each year, making security a critical concern. The annual yatra, which lasts for about 45 days, is a major concern of the government amid recent terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir.

he administration is leaving no stone unturned to ensure the safety and well-being of the pilgrims, amidst heightened security concerns and the challenging terrain of the

5 Army personnel die in eastern Ladakh after tank gets stuck in river

Sasoma and Darbuk can be reached from Leh via two different road axes.

The Indian Army and the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) have held 21 rounds of corps commander-level talks to cool tensions along LAC, but the two sides still have tens of thousands of troops each and advanced weaponry deployed in the Ladakh theatre. Diplomatic talks are also underway to find a solution.

The talks have thus far resulted in four rounds of disengagement from Galwan Valley, Pangong Tso, Gogra (PP-17A) and Hot Springs (PP-15), but problems at Depsang and Demchok are still on the negotiat-

Ayodhya Ram Path waterlogging: UP govt suspends 6 officials, undertakes repair works

About 15 bylanes and streets along the Ram Path were flooded after rain on June 23 and June 25. Even homes along the road went under water. Portions of the 14-kilometre road stretch also caved in at more than a dozen

Aggarwal and Deshwal were suspended on the orders of special secretary Vinod Kumar on Friday. Pandey's suspension order was issued by PWD chief engineer (development)

Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam Managing Direc-

tor Rakesh Kumar Mishra issued the orders for the three engineers' suspension. The state government has also issued a notice to Ahmedabad-based contractor Bhuvan Infracom Private Limited in connection with the

The PWD's office order stated that the uppermost layer of the Ram Path was damaged shortly after its construction, showing laxity in the work done under top priority of the Uttar Pradesh government and damaging the image of the state among common people. A further probe is underway, PWD principal secretary Ajay Chauhan said. Ayodhya mayor Girish Pati Tripathi told NDTV that efforts to flush out the rainwater were launched soon after the waterlogging was reported. Earlier, Acharya Satyendra Das, Ayodhya Ram temple chief priest said water was leaking from the roof of the sanctum sanctorum following heavy rains and there weren't measures to drain water from the premises

However, Nripendra Mishra, Ram Mandir Construction Committee Chairman said the leakage was expected due to ongoing construction work in the temple. "I saw the rainwater dropping from the first floor. This is expected because Guru Mandap is exposed to the sky as the second floor and completion of Shikhar will cover this opening. I also saw some seepage from the conduit as this work on the first floor is in progress. On completion, the conduit will be closed. There is no drainage in the Sanctum Santorum because all the Mandaps have measured slope for clearance of water and the water in Sanctum Santorum is manually absorbed. Moreover, the devotees are not performing Abhishek on the deity. There is no design or construction issue," he had said.

Army Commander Western Command flags in Army Motorcycle Expedition

Top News Report

CHANDIMANDIR, June 29: The Indian Army D5 Motorcycle Expedition arrived from Delhi and was 'Flagged-In' by Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar, GOC-in-C, Western Command at Chandimandir Military Station.

The event marked a significant pan-India journey to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Kargil victory. D5 Motorcycle Expedition is a set of three teams comprising of Indian Army soldiers, who commenced their journey from Dinjan in East, Dwarka in West and Dhanushkodi in South, traversing diverse and challenging terrains



and reached Delhi on 26th June 2024. From Delhi, the expedi-

tion moved on two different routes, route 'A' was via Ambala – Amritsar – Jammu – Srinagar and

route 'B' was via Chandimandir – Manali – Leh to ultimately reach the Kargil War Memorial at Dras by 10 July 2024.

Dras by 10 July 2024.

The expedition will help reconnect with Kargil

Army amongst the youth.

The Team of route 'B' on arrival at Chandiman-

dir, interacted with Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar, GOC-in-C. Western Command. General VP Malik (Retd), former Chief of Army Staff (Indian Army Chief during the Kargil Conflict) and other senior officers of Western Command. Acknowledging the supreme sacrifice and patriotism of the Kargil heroes, a felicitation programme was organised to honour the Kargil war heroes, veer matas, veer naris, next of kin and war veterans which included GL Batra, father of Late Captain Vikram Batra, Param vir Chakra and Smt Devku Devi, mother of Late Rifleman Shyam Singh, Vir Chakra.

Prominent Youth Join NC



Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: Prominent Youth leaders from Guru Nanak Nagar, Jammu Joined the National Conference today at Sher-e- Kashmir Bhavan, Jammu in the Presence of Sardar Tejinder Singh (Aman) District President Jammu Urban YNC.

According warm welcome to the new entrants into the party fold, Tejinder Singh hoped that the joining will help strengthen the party at gross root level. National Conference has always kept the doors open for the youth. He called for collective efforts to ensure success in the upcoming Assembly elections, urging party

youth workers to work tirelessly to secure a decisive victory for the National Conference.

Tejinder Singh said youth is a backbone of the society and future of the nation. Educated youth when convinced can change the system as such hope is there that present set up can be changed with the active support of the youth participation.

He appealed to the Chief Engineer PDD department to make sure that there is no unscheduled power curtailment i.e Guru Nanak nagar and preet nagar areas during the hot summer days.

Nitish Gowsami and Zamir Quershi Adv Provincial Secretaries YNC Jammu asked party workers to strengthen the hands of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah to ensure a decisive mandate to NC in the forthcoming Assembly polls.

Those who joined the party fold included Vikas Mehra, Sahil Sharma, Rahi Mehra, Aman Bajwa, Amit Verma, Akash Mehra and others.

Those who were present on this occasion included Yashir Ahsan District Vice President Jammu Urban YNC, Amit Sharma Joint Secretary District Jammu Urban YNC, Rajesh Sharma, Gourav Bhagat Ward President 33 YNC, Ashanand District Joint Secretary Jammu Urban

and others.

Army organises Summer Camp of Lam



Top News Report

RAJOURI, June 29: Army has been taking continuous steps to improve the educational and societal standards of the locals by implementing various Sadbhavana projects. In order to encourage the youth in the remote areas, Indian Army conducted a Summer Camp for locals to motivate them to 'Join Armed Forces'. The Indian Army conducted a Summer Camp from 27 Jun to 29 Jun 2024 at Lam and which was attended by 50 boys. The camp succeeded

in instilling a spirit of 'Patriotism and Adventurism' in the hearts of the youth in addition to their 'Personality Development'. Officials of Indian Army interacted with children to explain the aim of the summer camp and exhorted all participants for hearty participation for their own holistic personality development. The main intention of organising the camp was to develop innovative thinking through motivational classes, camaraderie. sense of adventurism and instill motivation to join the Armed Forces.

camp children enthusiastically participated in various indoor and outdoor activities including physical training, Battle Obstacle Course, Yoga practice. Tent pitching and also learnt about the various weapons in The Indian Army. Children were prearranged with the opportunity to experience the life of the soldiers by staying outdoors in tents. In the ongoing efforts to wean youth away from drug abuses and towards healthy life style, yoga and lecture for healthy living was also conducted. This camp played an important role in motivating the youth towards joining the Armed Forces. Summer camp got culminated with a camp fire wherein they showcased their talent and glimpses

Army organises volleyball competition at Sangaldan

Top News Report

RAMBAN, June 29: In the continuous pursuit of 'Youth Engagement' in constructive manner by the Indian Army, a 'Volleyball Competition' was organised for the youth of Sangaldan in Ramban district

district.

The aim of the event was to promote sports activities in the region

and to provide a platform to the youth to showcase

their talent.

A total of four teams from villages of Sangaldan block participated in the competition with great zeal.

The response and the participation shown by the youth for the tournament reflects the strong bond shared between Awaam and

Indian Army. All of the spectators appreciated the enthusiasm and team spirit exhibited by competitors. The locals expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the Indian Army for organising the event.

of their culture.

They appealed for more such events in future to nurture the sporting talent of the region.

Sainik Samaj Party supports DADAA's movement for Duggar Channel

Top News Report

gallantry awardees, veer

naris and Ex - Service-

men besides create an

awareness about Indian

JAMMU, June 29: Col SS Pathania, President Sainik Samaj Party extended full support to the delegation of Doordarshan Approved Drama Artists Association (DADAA) comprising of President JS Babli, Vice President Madan Rangila and Spokesperson Janak Khajuria, during an interaction.

Pathania complimented team DADAA for their dedication, commitment, resolve and indomitable spirit of reaching out to the, organising signature campaign, meeting heads of social organisation, NGOs and leaders of political parties to create a concerns and get the justice to Jammu region by having a 24x7 satellite Duggar channel.

An impressive infrastructure alongwith state of the art studio and staff quarters, spending crores of rupees has been created but sadly not functional.

A Duggar channel will not only promote our art and culture but also encourage our talented youngsters to showcase their talent in Dogri, Punjabi and Gojri language.

In addition it will also counter propoganda of Pakistan in POJK very effectively as people there do not understand Kashmir language but

are well conversant with Dogri, Punjabi and Pahari

launguage.
It was learnt during the discussion that on 14 February 2014, in a meeting of Parsar Bharti Board in principal approval was given to upscale five temporary channels to round the clock channels in Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Chhattisgarh and Jammu region.

Sadly, barring Jammu all other states as mentioned above ,it appears, have been provided with round the clock channels .A period of nine years has been elapsed and status of Jammu doordarshan is still temporary and working with a meagre staff of 10 employees, against the requirement of approximately 100 employees.

Pathania urged people of Jammu region to come forward and support DADAA and other organisations demanding satellite 24/7 HD channel.

He also urged leaders of various political parties and elected Members of Parliament to clear their stance on the just demand of the people of Jammu region.

Time has come to end the appeasement to Kashmir region and give justice to people of Jammu region, denied for last 76 years.

Dr Darakhshan addresses Seerat Conference at Srinagar

'Prophet of Islam gave message of peace, harmony to humanity'

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, June 29: Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board (MoS), Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Saturday attended the Seerat Conference as the Chief Guest at New Bonvivant English School at Aali Masjid Hawal in Srinagar

A large number of invited delegates, staff and the students of the School participated in the Conference.

Dr Andrabi in her address emphasised on the need to disseminate the message of brother-hood and moral excellence of the Prophet Mohammed (SAW) among the new generation so that they are led to a blissful and impactful life ahead.

"The prophet of Islam gave the message of peace and harmony to

whole of the humanity and this message remains relevant in all ages for whole of the world. In order to gift a life full of peace, compassion and tolerance to our new generation, we need to teach them the messages from Prophet Mohammed (SAW)", said Dr Andrabi.

She said that the great prophet's teachings are a boon for humanity which leads to a blissful and inclusive life.

"We can simply come out of the myopic fragmented thought processes by following the teachings of the Prophet of Peace. Such interactive programmes involving the young minds are of great importance for a just and peaceful and progressive society where morality and spirituality are in the driving seat", said Waqf Board

Chairperson.

NC will bounce back to power with heavy majority: Rattan Lal Gupta



Top News Report

UDHAMPUR June 29: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President J&K National Conference expressed strong confidence in his Party's return to power in Jammu and Kashmir, citing widespread public support and the recent performance in the Lok Sabha elections.

Addressing a day-long convention of party workers and functionaries of District Udhampur Urban, the senior NC leader said that the Party will bounce back to power in J&K with a heavy majority in the ensuing Assembly elections. The convention was held under the chairmanship of Sunil Verma, District President JKNC Udhampur while Rattan Lal Gupta was the chief guest.

While presenting welcome address, Sunil Verma, District President highlighted the utter neglect which the far flung areas of the region have been confronting under the present regime steered by BJP leadership. He said that people facing hardships due to the phlegmatic attitude of the government have been eagerly waiting for Assembly polls to bring back the NC Government, which has an exemplary track record of ensuring public welfare and excellent governance.

The NC stalwart leader criticized the BJP leadership for failing to meet the expectations of the people, which he claimed has resulted in the saffron party's diminished vote share. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir have been deeply disappointed by the BJP leadership. The promises made by the BJP have remained unfulfilled, leading to a significant

decrease in their vote share in the recently held Lok Sabha elections", he said adding that BJP knew its fate in the valley, and that was the reason why the party did not field any candidates. "This is a clear indication of BJP's dwindling support and their acknowledgment of the people's discontent",

he maintained.

The Provincial President highlighted the overwhelming response received by the National Conference during the Lok Sabha elections, attributing it to his party's longstanding commitment to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. "NC has always been the voice of the people, and this was evident in the enthusiastic support which the party has received during the Lok Sabha elections", he said adding that NC is looking ahead to the forthcoming Assembly polls with strong opti-

prospects. "NC leadership is confident of securing a thumping majority in the upcoming Assembly elections. The people have placed their trust in the party, and the NC leadership is all set to deliver its promises", he said, assuring if the NC voted in power the main focus would be on key areas such as employment, peace, prosperity, better delivery of civic facilities, education sector, medical sector and communication. We are committed to creating a brighter future for all residents of

mism as all the factors

are hinting for its bright

J&K", he asserted.
Pardeep Bali Provincial Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), made a fervent appeal to the people, urging them not to succumb to

the divisive agenda of the BJP. He emphasized the importance of maintaining brotherhood and harmony among all communities.

Vijay Lochan, Chairman of the SC Cell of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference, described the tenure of the current regime as the darkest era for weaker sections. He emphasized that there is no one in the power corridors willing to listen to or address their plight, leaving these communities neglected and unheard.

Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone and Akash Verma District President Udhampur Urban YNC highlighted the need for unity and called on the populace to strengthen the hands of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah in their efforts to lead the region towards peace and progress. They stressed that only through collective support and solidarity can the community overcome challenges and ensure a better future for everyone.

On this occasion Prominent BJP, Panther and Congress Party's leaders/ workers joined National Conference. The prominent names are Hazi Ch. Mohd Bashir, Ashok Kumar, Madan Lal, Sachin Atri, Ram Kumar, Raj Ali, Ch. Dullah, Puran Singh, Ramesh Kumar, Sahil Sharma, Rahul Sharma, Nikil Verma. Mansa Ram, Ram Lal, Yashpal Singh and Babu Singh.

Those who were present in the meeting included:- Mohd Iqbal Phamra, Gurmeet Singh, Amar Nath Rtd Principal, Man Mohan Verma, Jagdish Singh, Bishan Dass, Subash Sharma, Capt Rattan Singh and party functionaries of District and Blocks.

Army organises special screening of Motivational Movie 'Sam Bahadur' at Keri

Top News Report

RAJOURI, June 29: In an effort to inspire and motivate the youth, Indian Army has organised a special screening of the motivational movie 'Sam Bahadur - Biopic of Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw', for school children of Tender Feet School, Keri on Saturday.

The event instilled values of courage, patriotism, and leadership in young minds through the extraordinary story of 'Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw', one of India's greatest military

leaders

This initiative by the Indian Army underscores its commitment to foster a sense of National pride and responsibility among school students, by showcasing the heroic journey of Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, (Sam Bahadur) who played a pivotal role in India's military history with his exemplary leadership skills during the 1971 Indo-Pak war and his unwavering dedication to the nation. The screening was attended by 26 students and six other locals, followed by an interactive session, allowing students to engage with army personnel and gain insights into the life and values of Field Marshal Manekshaw and Indian Army. Students and teachers expressed their enthusiasm towards Indian Army for the event, stating, 'Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw's story is a beacon of inspiration'.

Teachers also stated that this motivational movie screening will motivate young generation to strive for excellence and cultivate a deep sense of duty towards our nation.

Army conducts Kho-Kho competition at Chakal Salta

Top News Report

REASI, June 29: Army conducted 'Kho Kho for Boys and Girls at Chakal Salta' on Saturday.

Indian Army as part of its ongoing commitment to foster positive community engagement, conducted Kho Kho for Boys and Girls

The event held at Chakal Salta brought together the local youth in an intense and friendly competition.

The event was aimed at promoting sportsman ship among youth by offering



a platform to talented individuals to showcase their abilities and pursue sporting excellence. This initiative can foster unity, promote sportsmanship, strengthen community bonds contributing to a more secure and harmo-

nious state.
The event served as a

platform for these enthusiastic youngsters to display their talent, encouraging a spirit of healthy competition while fostering a positive and dedicated environment in the region. The competition is a testament to the positive impact that sports can have in bringing society together.

India vs South Africa T20 World Cup final: Rain threat looms large in Barbados; what happens in case of washout

As per ICC guidelines, the added time is set to remain the same as the semi-final of the tournament

BARBADOS, Jun 29 (Agencies): India and South Africa are set to face each other in the final of the T20 World Cup, here on Saturday. However, bad news coming in for the cricket fans as there are 49 per cent chances that rain could play a spoilsport during the match, as per the local weather department.

So, what happens if rain washes out?

The match is expected to begin at 10:30 AM local time, but the game is expected to be heavily curtailed by rain.

As per the ICC guidelines, the added time is set to remain the same as the semi-final of the tournament. Meaning that a full game can happen even after a 4-hour 10-minute delay from the start time.



The final has a reserve day? If the rain does not allow play to happen at all, then the match will be shifted to Sunday, June

India and South Africa have

met six times in the T20 World Cup in the history of the tournament with India having an upper hand in the head-to-head matchup.

Team India, in its third ICC final

in the last 12 months, are seeking to end their 11-year drought of a big title and aim to win the Men's T20 World Cup they last won in the inaugural edition in 2007, where current skipper Rohit Sharma played under MS Dhoni's leadership.

On the other hand, South Africa are into a men's ICC World Cup final for the first time - after seven previous efforts ended in defeats.

Both India and South Africa

have made it to the title clash as the unbeaten teams in very contrasting styles - the Rohit Sharma-led side came out on top in tough New York pitches and adapted very well to triumph in its matches in the Caribbean so far, latest of it being a comprehensive 68-run win over defending champions England.

India record highest-ever team total in Women's Test cricket

Much of the credit for the feat goes to openers --Shafali Verma and Smriti Mandhana -- who shared iconic stand of 292 -- the highest opening partnership in women's cricket



CHENNAI, Jun 29 (Agencies): India on Saturday recorded the highest team total in women's Test cricket on day two of the oneoff Test against South Africa, surpassing the previous best of 575/9 set by Australia.

Australia had posted

the total in Perth this February but India achieved the new record when Richa Ghosh hammered a four in the opening ball of the 109th over bowled by Annerie Dercksen.

Much of the credit for the feat goes to Indian openers -- Shafali Verma (205) and Smriti Mandhana (149) -- who shared an iconic stand of 292 -- the highest opening partnership in women's cricket.

It has also been well aided by Jemimah Rodrigues (55) along with skipper Harmanpreet Kaur and Richa, who are currently unbeaten past their respective half-centuries.

On Day 1, India had finished on 525 for four, having posted the highest-ever single-day total in a Test match. breaking the previous record held by Sri Lankan men's team --509 for nine -- against Bangladesh in Colombo in 2002.

Amid Virat Kohli's Poor Form In T20 World Cup, Ravi Shastri Gives **Golden Advice**

BARBADOS, Jun 29 (Agencies): Virat Kohli's continued poor form in the ongoing 2024 T20 World Cup has brought in opinions from several cricketers, experts and fans alike. However, few people have seen Kohli's game from up close better than former India coach Ravi Shastri. Shastri and Kohli shared a great bond as coach and captain of Team India in all formats. After Kohli's failure against England in the semi-final, Shastri said that he should stick to his natural game without trying to be overly aggressive.

"This is not his game. He's going too early for it, especially with Rohit Sharma playing aggressively at the other end," opined Shastri, speaking on Star Sports.

"He is more orthodox, but he can make up quite easily if he spends more time at the crease," said Shastri.

Against England, Kohli had hit a six off Reece Topley in the third over. However, just two balls later, Kohli had to walk back to the dugout as he misjudged the ball while trying to play big towards

"When he tries to get out of his zone, he will get out in that fashion," Shastri said.

"He has tried to manufacture shots that are not there. You should do that when you're in top form, when you've got 300 runs in the competition. When you're looking to break free when the runs are not there, it's not easy. The key word is rhythm," Shastri added.

Despite Kohli's failure with the bat, his opening partner Rohit Sharma scored a brilliant 39-ball 57. Along with Suryakumar Yadav's 47 off 36 balls and handy cameos at the back end, India posted 171 in 20 overs on a tricky, wet Guyana

"I think Kohli should've played like Kohli has done for a decade," said former English cricketer Nasser Hus-

Having made just 75 runs in seven innings so far, Kohli will be aiming for a royal finish to the 2024 T20 World Cup with a big score in the final against South Africa, in Barbados on June 29.

T20 World Cup final: 'Rohit Sharma will probably jump into Barbados ocean if...': Ganguly goes unfiltered ahead of India vs South Africa clash

BARBADOS, Jun 29 (Agencies): Under the captaincy of Rohit Sharma, India will be hoping to finally bring an ICC trophy back home to end an 11-year title drought when they face South Africa in the final of the 2024 T20 World Cup on Saturday.

Both the teams enter the final unbeaten, setting the stage for an electrifying clash in Barba-

The final presents the last opportunity for Rohit, who has previously led India to three ICC tournament finals. However, the team has faced successive defeats, losing to Australia in the World Test Championship and the ODI World Cup, both in 2023. In his first outing as the Indian captain at the 2022 T20 World Cup, India lost to England in the semi-final.



With the T20 World Cup final being Rohit's last chance to secure an ICC title in this format, former Indian skipper Sourav Ganguly told agency, "I don't think he can lose two World Cup finals in seven (six) months. He will probably jump into the Barbados ocean if he loses two finals under his cap-

taincy in seven months."

"He has led from the front, batted brilliantly, and I hope it continues tomorrow. Hope India finishes on the right side, and they should play with freedom. They have been the best side of the competition. I wish them luck, I wish they win. Hope they have a little bit of luck tomorrow because that is required to win big tournaments," Ganguly added.

Despite the challenges, Rohit has a remarkable record in domestic cricket, leading Mumbai Indians to five IPL titles, the most by any captain in the league's history. Ganguly says the difficulty of winning an IPL title is higher as it requires a team to win more matches than an ICC tournament.

"Rohit has the record of winning five IPL titles, which is huge achievement. Winning an IPL sometimes is more difficult. Don't misquote me, I'm not saying IPL is better than international cricket," said Ganguly.

"But you have to win 16-17 (12-13) matches to win an IPL; here you need to win 8-9 matches to win a World Cup. The honour is more in winning the World Cup.

Inter-State Athletics: Running the show: Kiran, Gurindervir deliver on promise

PANCHKULA, Jun 29 (Agencies): When Kiran Pahal walked out onto the track, she was welcomed by a loud cheer from a section of the crowd. A day after announcing herself on the big stage with a stellar performance to qualify for the Paris Olympics in women's 400 metres, Kiran had the eves of the 'world' on her as she got into position at the starting

After winning her semifinal with a personal best time of 50.92 seconds yesterday, Kiran had promised to go all out in the final as well. And the Haryana athlete did not disappoint — the grimace on her face even as she crossed the finish line more than a second ahead of the silver medallist a testament to her all-out effort.

With her blazing run, matching her personal best, Kiran didn't just win her second National Championship gold - her first coming in 2022 — but also proved that she deserved her place in the Paris-bound squad.

Interestingly, the 23-year-old could have missed the Paris ticket had she not managed to arrange a new pair of spikes from a sponsor.

Just after completing

the final, while the other runners were looking at the big screen, Kiran ran towards the changing room to take off her spikes and place those in the bag. "I had only one pair of spikes and those were not in a good condition. I was not sure if I was going to participate with those spikes," said Kiran.

"I couldn't have managed to get the shoes worth Rs 20,000 from my salary. I got a new pair on June 1, gifted by a private sponsor... I am grateful. I had to attend some extra sessions to get comfortable with the new shoes," she added.

'Golden' Gurindervir While Kiran proved



Gurindervir Singh made good on his promise by bagging the men's 100 metres gold medal, and then enthralled the audience with his signature thigh-slap after the race. The

23-year-old clocked his season's best time of 10.32 seconds to beat a tough field that included Animesh Kujur and Amlan Borgohain.

"My target was 10 seconds but I am happy to win," said Gurindervir, who has a personal best of 10.27. "One thing is very clear, I have to work hard in the coming months. Right now, though, I am just eager to wear the gold medal,"

Haryana's Khan wins 1,500m gold

Promising middle-

distance runner Parvej Khan of Haryana, who earlier this year became the first Indian to qualify for the final of a track event in the NCAA Championships of the United States, also lived up to the expectations as he won the men's 1,500m gold with a time of 3 minute and 42.95 seconds. The Olympics qualifying time of 3:33.50, though, was far away. "Next year, I will try do well in competitions like the Asian Championships, and the Asian Games (2026)," he said.

"Confidence 100, Skill o": Navjot Singh Sidhu Trolls India Star Ahead Of T20 World Cup Final

BARBADOS, Jun 29 (Agencies): Former India batter Navjot Singh Sidhu poked fun at star pacer Arshdeep Singh ahead of the T20 World Cup final against South Africa in Barbados. Arshdeep is India's leading wicket-taker in the tournament with 15 scalps to his name, and will have a chance to claim the top spot on Saturday when take on the Proteas in the T20 World Cup summit clash. Arshdeep needs three wickets to go past Afghanistan's Fazalhaq Farooqi (17) in the list of the tournament's leading wicket-takers. However, ahead of the final, Sidhu trolled Arshdeep over his batting

In a video posted on Instagram, Arshdeep can be seen shuffling across the stumps, trying to aim for a big shot. He left his stumps unguarded in order to oversmart



the bowler, but ended up missing his pull. The video of the same was from the match against Pakistan in the group stage of the ongoing tournament.

Sidhu shared a video on Instagram, which read: "Confidence 100 per cent, skills 0 per cent".

Since Sidhu has been praising has been praising Arshdeep for his exploits with the ball throughout the tournament, there wasn't any malice intended at the player in the post shared by him.

Arshdeep, who went wicketless in the semi-final against England, will look to return to wicket-taking ways in the all-important final.

Arshdeep attributed much of his success to pace spearhead

"I guess a lot of credit goes to Jassi bhai (Jasprit Bumrah) because he puts a lot of pressure on the batters - he gives, what, three or four runs in an over - so batters are coming hard against me, and I just have to try and bowl my best ball and there are a lot of chances of getting wickets there," Arshdeep said.

"On the other end they see the runs are not coming and the asking rate is going high, so they take more risks against me. [There's a] chance always of getting a wicket there. So a lot of credit for my wickets goes to Jassi bhai," he added.

Sumit Nagal gets tough opponent in maiden Wimbledon main draw

LONDON, Jun 29 (Agencies): India's top singles player Sumit Nagal is set to make his maiden appearance in the men's singles main draw of the Wimbledon and he will be up against higher-ranked Miomir Kecmanovic of Serbia in the first round here.

However, World No. 72 Nagal has a tough road ahead as he is placed in the same section of the draw as top seed and World No. 1 Jannik Sinner and could face the Italian in the third round if he makes it that far.

Even crossing the first hurdle will not be easy for Nagal as he is pitted against world No. 53 Kec-

manovic. The Serbian had beaten Nagal in their lone match so far at the ATP 250 event in Cologne, Germany, four years ago.

If Nagal gets past the opening round, he will be up against the winner of the opening round match between Spain's Pablo Carreno Busta, ranked 796 in the world, and world No. 26 Tallon Griekspoor of the Netherlands.

Olympic-bound Nagal had earlier lost in the first round of men's singles qualifiers against Poland's

Kamil Majchrzak in 2018. Nagal is having a dream season so far as he had also qualified for

the main draw of the Australian Open earlier this year. He stunned 31st-seeded Alexander Bublik of Kazakhstan in the opening round to become the first Indian male tennis player to beat a seeded player in 35 years in a Slam.

The Indian then went on to win the Chennai Open ATP Challenger to enter top-100 in the rankings.

Meanwhile in men's doubles, veteran Indian Rohan Bopanna and his Australian partner Matthew Ebden, seeded second, will take on French pair Adrian Mannarino and Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard in the first round.

J&K Students Association asks Rahul Gandhi to raise issue of Indians trapped in Russia-Ukraine War

has someone serving in

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: The J&K Students Association on Friday wrote to the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, urging him to raise the issue of thirty Indian nationals, including two Kashmiris, trapped in the Russia-Ukraine War.

In a statement, National Convenor of the Association, Nasir Khuehami, said that these 30 individuals have fallen victim to a fraudulent recruitment scheme, leading to their forced deployment in the Russian army

Despite repeated appeals to the Ministry of External Affairs and the concerned embassy over the past four months, no concrete steps have been taken to address their plight.

Azad Yusuf Kumar, son of Mohammed Yusuf Kumar from Poshwan Awantipora in the Pulwama district of Kashmir. was deceived by a Dubaibased consultant, Faisal Khan, who promised job

opportunities in cooking and cleaning through a YouTube channel named "Baba Vlogs."

Azad traveled from Mumbai to Sharjah, and then to Moscow. Upon arrival in Russia, he and his companions were coerced into signing agreements written in Russian. They were handed over to the Russian Army, trained for 15 days, and deployed to the Ukraine border, where Azad sustained injuries and is currently stranded, the statement said.

Zahoor Ahmad Sheikh, a resident of Hajinar Tangdar area of Kupwara, also went missing in Russia. Zahoor traveled to Russia in December 2023 with his companions, Arbaab from Uttar Pradesh and Asfaan from Hyderabad. His sudden disappearance has caused deep distress among his family

and loved ones, it added. The association also draws attention to six Indians stuck in the Russia-Ukraine warzone from the same village in Haryana. Every house in the village

the army. Families have narrated how life has been made miserable for all these stranded Indians, including two Kashmiris. They have come under the clutches of death. Families told us that MEA officials did not know about the many sorrows that have come to

them how their dear ones

have been caught up in

distress, and how their

lives are in peril.

these Families of recruits have sought help in New Delhi but have been unable to meet any top government authority. They express desperation, noting that their loved ones have been trapped in the Russian army for four months, living under miserable conditions. All these families want is to bring their kids back. They have been living like prisoners for the past four months,

with no resolution in sight, the association added. The situation has become even more urgent as two Indians and two Nepali nationals have

been killed on the warfront. Hemil Ashwinbhai Mangukiya, a 23-yearold youth from Surat in Gujarat, was killed in a Ukrainian airstrike in the Donetsk region on February 21. Families have been informed of two Nepali nationals killed in the same area, adding to the anxiety of the thirty Indian families whose kin are stranded.

Khuehami said that families have shared their distressing experiences, detailing how their loved ones have been caught in perilous conditions. The MEA officials didn't know about the many sorrows that have come to their loved ones and family members, how their dear ones have been caught up in distress.

The J&K Students Association, through its letter, urged the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, for personal intervention and to raise this critical issue with the Minister of External Affairs in the House. The association said that it is the govern-

ment's responsibility to get these citizens out of danger, ensuring their safe repatriation and preventing such incidents in the future, he emphasized

He added that the families of these victims are wailing in distress from dawn to dusk, hoping for the safe return of their loved ones. Is India so weak that the Russians are not paying heed to our pleas even after four months? These citizens have been left high and dry, and it is imperative that their plight be brought to the attention of the highest authorities for immediate action.

for a positive and swift response from Leader of Opposition, urging that the plight of these citizens be addressed at the highest levels to ensure their safe return. It hoped that Rahul Gandhi will represent the case strongly in the House so that families back at home will feel a sigh of relief and be able to meet their loved ones

The association hopes

Govt Polytechnic Jammu signs MoU with Amass Skill **Ventures Pvt Ltd Gurugram**

Top News Report

JAMMU, June 29: In a significant move to enhance the employability and industry readiness of students, Centers for Invention, Innovation, Incubation & Training (CIIIT) Jammu established at Government Polytechnic Bikram Chowk Jammu has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Amass Skill Ventures Pvt Ltd, Gurugram, Haryana.

This strategic partnership aims to equip students with the necessary skills and training to secure placements in top companies across India and to initiate collaborative programs with leading firms in India and Japan.

The MoU was formally signed by Er. Arun Bangotra, Principal Government Polytechnic Jammu, and Raj Kumar, Managing Director/ CEO

of Amass Skill Ventures Pvt Ltd in the presence of Inderjeet Singh Workshop Superintendent, Sukhdeep Singh HOD Civil Engineering, Rani Devi HOD IT, Manjeet Singh HOD Electrical Engineering, Raj Shekhar HOD Automobile Engineering, Neena Dullu and Rajesh Khajuria, DLTP Cell Jammu, DSD, Ajay Thapa, Incharge T.P.Cell/SPoC CIIIT Jammu, Rishabh Gupta, Incharge Admission CIIIT Jammu and Ravi Shekhar General Manager Sourcing and capacity Building from

Er. Arun Bangotra, Principal of Government Polytechnic Jammu informed that this partnership marks a significant step towards enhancing the employability of our students. The primary objective of this MoU is to bridge the gap between academic learning and

Amass Skill Ventures

Pvt Ltd.

industry requirements and by collaborating with industry leaders like Amass Ventures, we are committed to providing our students with the best possible training and placement opportunities and will also facilitate the industry related training sessions and workshops to prepare students for real-world challenges and demands.

Raj Kumar, Managing Director of Amass Skill Ventures Pvt Ltd, expressed his enthusiasm to partner with Government Polytechnic Jammu and said that our joint efforts will focus on making students industry-ready and opening up new avenues for their professional growth.

This MoU is expected to bring about a paradigm shift in the way technical education is imparted and the subsequent integration of students into the workforce, aligning their skills with industry.

Ramban Admin celebrates National Statistics Day, deliberates on BBBP as case study

Top News Report

RAMBAN, June 29: The District Administration Ramban, under the leadership of **Deputy Commissioner** Ramban Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary, celebrated 'National Statistics Day, on Saturday, to recognize the contributions of Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, a renowned Indian statistician and economist, and to raise public awareness, particularly among the youth, about the importance of statistics in strategic planning, economic development, and policymaking.

The theme for this year's celebration is "Use of data for decision-making" to emphasize the importance of data-driven decisionmaking for informed policies

The event was held at the Conference Hall of DC office complex Maitra, under the supervision of Chief Planning Officer Ramban Shakeeb Ahmed Rather.

The program witnessed the presence of many District level and Sectoral officers, besides officials dealing with Planning, Statistics and Evaluation.

ACP Ramban Ashfaq Khanji, DSEO Ramban Ganesh Kumar, District Information Officer Ramban Mohammad Ashraf Wani, and DSWO Ramban Rahul Gupta remained present during the whole session and participated in the fruitful exchange of opinions.

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) was taken as a case study to

discuss the relevance of Planning and Evaluation of Data in bringing inclusive development in the society. In the event, CPO Ramban, Shakeeb Ahmed Rather successfully attempted to present the use of various Statistical techniques

being used for the mega centrally Sponsored Scheme BBBP in District Ramban.

The increase in Sex

Ratio at Birth is a crucial indicator for success of such schemes and use of Statistical techniques is effective for the suc-

cess of the scheme, he added.

DSWO Ramban Rahul Gupta thanked the CPO Ramban for the one day informative session aimed to rope in statistical techniques for CSSs executed by departments of Social Welfare.

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FARE CHARGES OF AUTO RIKSHA - 3 WHEELER (OTHER THAN E-RIKSHA) AT DIFFERENT PLACES IN JAMMU.

S. No.	Place	K.M.	Fare
1.	From Asia Hotel to Yatri Niwas via Bhagwati Nagar via Canal Road	4.0	73
2	From Asia Hotel to Yatri Niwas Bhagwati Nagar, via The New Bridge	3.5	73
3.	General Bus Stand to Ved Mandir, Ambphala	3.1	73
4.	General Bus Stand to Yatri Niwas, Bhagwati Nagar	3.2	73
5.	General Bus Stand to Ranveershwar Mandir	1.1	39
6.	General Bus Stand to Hanuman Mandir, Purani Mandi	2.4	56
7.	ISBT to Yatri Niwas Bhagwati Nagar, via Ware House	7.5	141
8.	ISBT to Yatri Niwas Bhagwati Nagar via Science College	6.5	124
9.	Railway Station to Yatri Niwas Bhagwati	6.5	124
10.	Railway Station to Raghunath Mandir	4.5	90
11.	Railway Station to Bus Stand	42	90
12.	Railway Station to Bahu Fort	4.0	73
13.	Ceneral Bus Stand to Balidan Stambh	6.8	124
14.	General Bus Stand to Amor Nobal Museum (Hari Palace), via Amphallo Road	4.6	90



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