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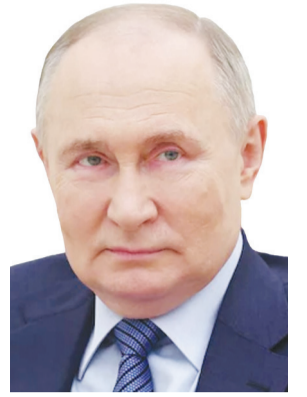


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BRIEFLY

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 Ganderbal 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 pilgrims.

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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

NEW DELHI, Jun 29 (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

be named.

"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 on X.

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 ongoing

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 LAC.

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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.



The suspended officials 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 Nigam.

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

NEW DELHI, 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 vice-principal 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 said.

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5 policemen injured in mob violence during anti-encroachment 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

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60 cows, oxen killed in MP to create 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 said.

Carcasses of 18 cows

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Police fix GPS Tracking Anklet on Bailed-Out terror accused in Budgam

SRINAGAR, Jun 29 (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-

vidual accused of aiding 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, there-

by significantly reducing the 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.

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MBA MOTORS

MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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

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

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

JAMMU, Jun 29 (Agencies): Over 20 workers of the Aam Aadmi Party were detained on Saturday after they tried to hold a protest outside the BJP headquarters here against the arrest of party convenor and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, officials said.

A group of AAP activists led by party leader Om Prakash Khajuria assembled near Trikuta Nagar as part of the nationwide protest against the arrest of Kejriwal and tried to move towards the BJP office but were stopped by police, they said.

The officials said over 20 workers were detained after they refused to disperse and tried to continue their march towards the BJP office.

Kejriwal was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

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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.

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)

PUNJAB has been grappling with a severe drug 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 socio-cultural 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 Uda 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 opioid-assisted 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 deep-rooted 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 socio-economic 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. Notice! It'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 anybody. Gives, 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 value 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)

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 teams—ensure 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



people work with them 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 distracting. I just have

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 self-importance and create an echo chamber where only flattering opinions are heard.

Vaani in comic avatar



Actress Vaani Kapoor has said with her upcoming comedy film 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 Parash 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 me."

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 'Ganapath' (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 Jacky 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 said.

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 co-star 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 2'

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 sweetie 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.

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 30.

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

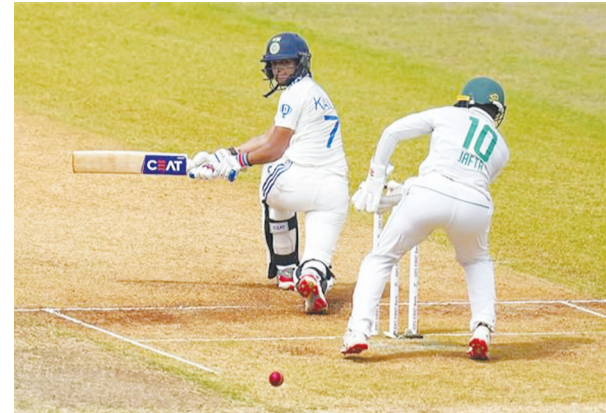
in the last 12 months, are seeking to end their 11-year drought of a big title and aim to win the Men's T20 World Cup they last won in the inaugural edition in 2007, where current skipper Rohit Sharma played under MS Dhoni's leadership.

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 one-off 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

mid-wicket.

"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 pitch.

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

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 Barbados.

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 tomor-

row 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 eyes of the 'world' on her as she got into position at the starting block.

After winning her semi-final 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

her mettle, Punjab's 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,"

he added.

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 to do well in competitions like the Asian Championships, and the Asian Games (2026)," he said.

"Confidence 100, Skill 0": 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 skills.

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 Bumrah.

"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 Panarino 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

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 Dubai-based 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

has someone serving in 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.

Families of these 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 war-front. Hemil Ashwinbhai Mangukiya, a 23-year-old 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.

The association hopes 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 again.

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 (CIIT) 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 of 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 CIIT Jammu, Rishabh Gupta, Incharge Admission CIIT Jammu and Ravi Shekhar General Manager Sourcing and capacity Building from Amass Skill Ventures Pvt Ltd.

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

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-Ul-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 policy-making.

The theme for this year's celebration is "Use of data for decision-making" to emphasize the importance of data-driven decision-making 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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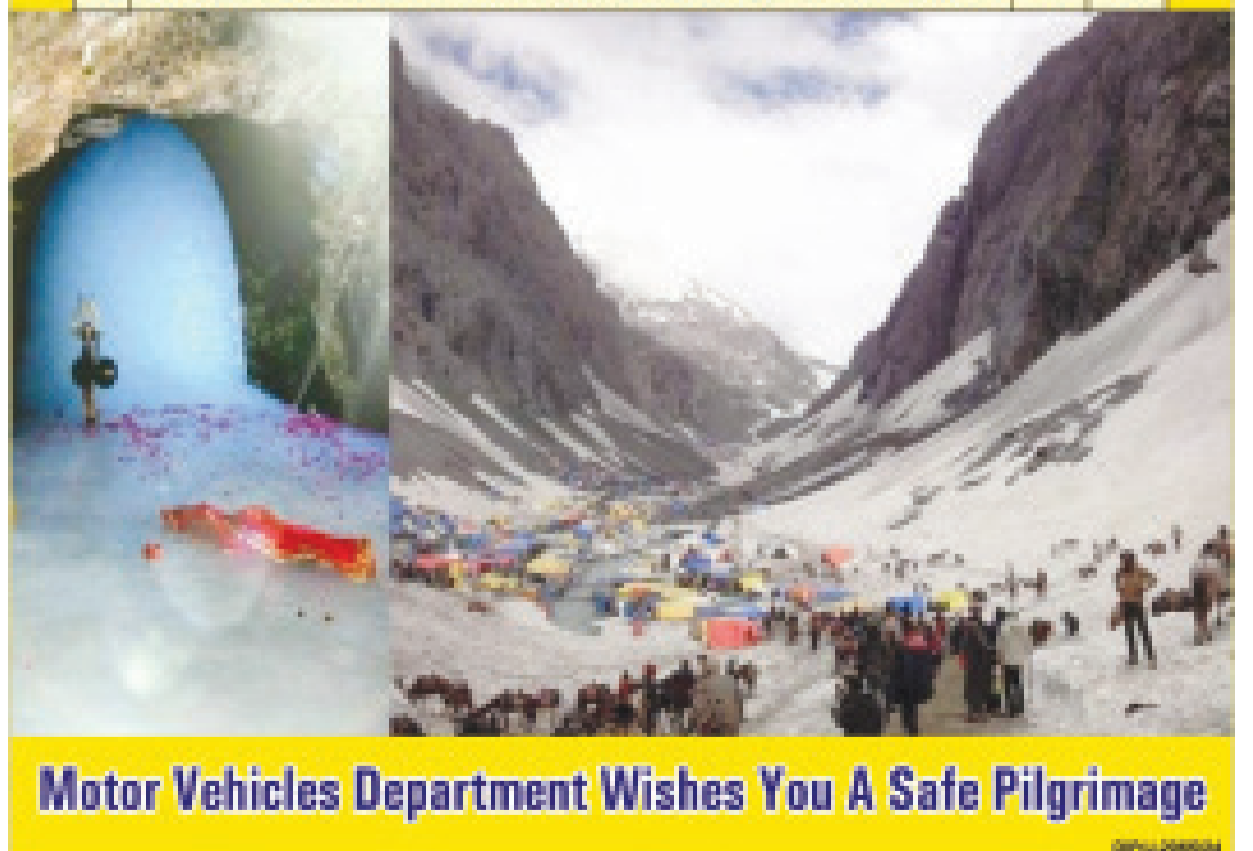
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1.	From Asia Hotel to Yatri Niwas via Bhagwati Nagar via Canal Road	4.0	73
2.	From Asia Hotel to Yatri Niwas Bhagwati Nagar, via The New Bridge	3.5	73
3.	General Bus Stand to Ved Mandir, Ambphala	3.1	73
4.	General Bus Stand to Yatri Niwas, Bhagwati Nagar	3.2	73
5.	General Bus Stand to Ranveereshwar 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	4.2	90
12.	Railway Station to Bahu Fort	4.0	73
13.	General Bus Stand to Balidan Stambh	6.8	124
14.	General Bus Stand to Anar Mohal Museum (Hari Palace), via Amphala Road	4.6	90



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