

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, MONDAY, JULY 01, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Ahead Of UK Polls, A Look At Rishi Sunak's Rise To The PM's Post



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BRIEFLY

Jal Shakti Department initiates disciplinary inquiry against former incharge CE

JAMMU, Jul 1 (Agencies): The Government of Jammu and Kashmir's Jal Shakti Department has initiated disciplinary proceedings against Sumeet Kumar Puri, the former In-charge Chief Engineer on deputation to Ladakh, due to allegations of unauthorized absence and misleading information.

Despite medical examinations indicating conditions affecting his duties and intervention by the Central Administrative Tribunal advising against coercive action, Puri was posted as In-charge Chief Engineer in CVPPL.

The General Administration Department has now drafted Articles of Charges, and an inquiry has been ordered with Naseer Ahmad Wani appointed as the Inquiry Officer and Zafar Mustafa Khan as the Presenting Officer, with a report due within 30 days.

J&K Govt initiates inquiry against PHE Engineer

JAMMU, Jul 1 (Agencies): The Government of Jammu and Kashmir, through the Jal Shakti Department, has launched a departmental inquiry against Javid Ahmad Mir, formerly an Assistant Executive Engineer at the PHE Division Bijbehara and currently posted at the PHE Sub-Division Kulgam.

As per an order, Sanjeev Malhotra, Incharge Chief Engineer at the CID Kashmir (JKPDC), has been appointed as the Inquiry Officer to probe the charges against Mir. The Presenting Officer for the inquiry has been identified as Parvaiz Ahmad Malik, Assistant Executive Engineer at the PHE Division Bijbehara.

The Inquiry Officer, Malhotra, has been instructed to conduct a comprehensive investigation and submit a report with his recommendations to the government within 30 days.

J&K Govt drops charges against former PHE XEN

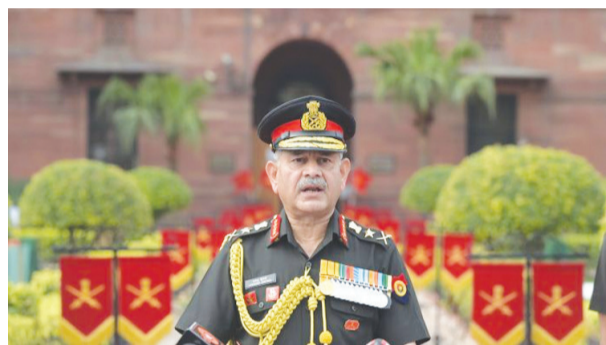
JAMMU, Jul 1 (Agencies): The Jal Shakti Department has closed the Regular Departmental Action (RDA) against Mohammad Taj Choudhary, former Executive Engineer of the Sewerage & Drainage Division West Jammu, on June 21, 2024.

Initiated by a complaint
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Indian Army ready to face all challenges: Gen Dwivedi

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): The Indian Army is ready and capable to face all current and future security challenges facing India, Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi said on Monday a day after he assumed charge of the 1.3 million-strong force.

Gen Dwivedi said ensuring synergy among the Army, Air Force and the Navy would be one of his priorities.



In remarks to the media after inspecting a guard of honour at the

South Block in Raisina hills, the newly-appointed Army Chief also said

that he will encourage induction of indigenously-built military hardware into the force to boost self-reliance in defence. "I will try to achieve better synergy between the Indian Army, the Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force. It will protect the national interest," he said.

It will be my effort that with the synergy between the Army, Navy

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Fresh batch of pilgrims leaves for Amarnath Shrine



JAMMU, Jul 1 (Agencies): A fresh batch of pilgrims left for the Amarnath shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas from here on Monday,

officials said.

Over 28,000 pilgrims have paid their obeisance at the 3,880-metre high cave shrine till Sunday night. The

fourth batch of 6,461 pilgrims left in 265 vehicles for the twin base camps of Baltal and Palagam at 3.15 am and were escorted by security vehicles, they said.

While 4,140 pilgrims took the 48-km traditional Pahalgam route for their yatra, 2,321 pilgrims took the shorter but steep 14-km Baltal route, they said. With this, a total of 19,564 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for

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New Criminal Laws fully capable to deal with Pak-Sponsored Terrorism: ADGP Jammu

JAMMU, Jul 1 (Agencies): Additional Director General of Police, Jammu, Anand Jain, on Monday said the three new criminal laws introduced in the country are fully capable to deal with Pakistan-sponsored terrorism in the Union Territory.

The three new criminal

laws came into effect across the country on Monday, bringing far-reaching changes in India's criminal justice system.

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and the

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Terrorist associate arrested with arms, ammunition in Sopore: Police

SRINAGAR, Jul 1 (Agencies): In a joint operation by Sopore Police, 22 Rashtriya Rifles and 179 Battalion of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), the security personnel apprehended a terror associate and recovered arms, ammunition, and other incriminating material from his vehicle, which was heading towards Machipora, on



Sunday. The joint operation was conducted at the road approaching Machipora

(Kupwara district) from Bomai (Baramulla) and the arrest and recovery

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Tourism Department invites T20 World Cup-Winning Indian Team to JK

SRINAGAR, Jul 1 (Agencies): The tourism department of Jammu and Kashmir has invited the T20 World Cup-winning Indian cricket team to visit the Union Territory as part of the celebrations.

"Congratulations to Team India on winning the T20 World Cup 2024!! We welcome our champions to visit

Jammu and Kashmir to continue the celebrations! It would be an honour to host you in the crown of Incredible India," the department said in a post on its official X handle.

India lifted the T20 World Cup after a 17-year gap, beating South Africa by seven runs in the final on June 29.

Jammu Kashmir Road Transport Co turnover reached Rs 190 Cr in 2023-24

SRINAGAR, Jul 1 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Road Transport Corporation (JKRTC) has reported significant financial and operational improvements for the fiscal year 2023-24. A recent review meeting revealed that the corporation's total revenue reached Rs 190.57 crore, surpassing the previous year's earnings.

The Managing Director of JKRTC, Rakesh Sangral, highlighted the corporation's substantial fleet of 1,055 vehicles, including 517 buses and 538 trucks. Impressively, 758 of these vehicles are relatively new, aged between 0-5 years. The fleet's modernization has played a crucial role in boosting revenue.

In terms of financial per-

formance, the buses earned Rs 73.16 crore, while the trucks generated Rs 117.40 crore. This combined revenue marks an increase from the previous year, showcasing the corporation's enhanced efficiency and profitability.

The corporation's extensive land holdings were also discussed, totalling 308.20 Kanal in the Kashmir divi-

sion and 217.82 Kanal in the Jammu division. These assets, located in prime areas of Srinagar and Jammu, hold the potential for substantial revenue generation once optimally developed. Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo emphasized the need to engage professional developers to maximize income from these assets.

JKRTC's operational achievements were underscored during the meeting. The corporation successfully transported 1,26,674 pilgrims and 9,092 Sadhus during the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2023, earning Rs 644.91 lakhs. Additionally, it was noted that JKRTC currently holds no loan liabilities and has extended several

benefits to its retired and in-service employees from its own resources.

The corporation has implemented several strategic initiatives, including insurance coverage for drivers and conductors, and the deployment of Intelligent Transport Management System (ITMS) and Red Bus Online ticket bookings. Future reforms were

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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

'Vandalism' at place of worship in J&K: 3 More people detained, shutdown observed

REASI/JAMMU, Jul 1 (Agencies): Three more people were detained by police in connection with the alleged vandalism at a place of worship in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district, where normal life was hit by a shutdown as local residents protested against the incident, officials said.

The place of worship was found vandalised by a visitor in a village in the Dharmari area on Saturday evening, sparking tension and protests.

Police registered an FIR under relevant sections of law and formed a Special Investigation Team headed by a deputy

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BARKHI

One year has passed since you left us for your eternal journey. Your memories are still fresh & we feel your presence everywhere, everytime.
BARKHI of our beloved **Late Smt. Krishna Gupta** W/o Lt. Sh. Netar Parkash Gupta will be performed at our residence, Ward No.11, Rajouri on 02 July 2024 (Tuesday) at 11.30 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN
(Sons & Daughter-in-laws)
Smt. Neelam & Sh. Atam Vijay Gupta
Smt. Savita & Sh. Kamal Kant Gupta
Smt. Rajni & Sh. Arvind Gupta (Lovely)
Smt. Shivani & Sh. Navneet Gupta (Tarzan)
(Daughters & Son-in-laws)
Smt. Harsh & Sh. Atam Vijay Gupta
Smt. Madhu W/o Lt. Sh. Om Parkash Gupta
Smt. Neelam & Sh. Bharat Bhushan Gupta
Smt. Anjana & Sh. Roshan Gupta



LATE SMT. KRISHNA GUPTA

M/s Hotel Sharan, Rajouri
M/s Rajni Medical Hall, Rajouri
Contact: 9149402090, 9419170035, 9419170020

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Tara Devi** W/o Sh. Keshov Parkash R/o House No. 32, Sector-1, Channi Himmat on 23rd June, 2024.
The Tenth Day ceremony will be held on 2nd July from 10.00 AM onwards (Tuesday) at our residence.
The Kriya will take place on 3rd July (Wednesday) at 12.00 Noon at our residence.
TARA HRIDYAM
A prayer meeting (Uthala)/Rasam Pagri will be conducted on 3rd July (Wednesday) from 5.00-6.00 PM at Panch Mandir, Sector-2, Channi Himmat.
IN MOURNING:
Sh. Keshov Parkash (Husband) Retd IAS (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Dr. Rahul Malpotra & Er. Rita Rehan (Daughters & Sons-in-law)
Asha & Shakti Parkash
Raji Malpotra & Jagjit Rai
Anju Sumbria & Er. Rajesh Sumbria
Pammi Bhatti & Jyoti Bhatti
Grand Daughters & Grand Sons-in-law
Naiya & Anuj
Shetadri & Rajesh
Laqshya & Ritabh
Paras & Surbhi Aboli
Grand Children: Da nish, Shardul, Dinkar, Adhyan, Medhavi, Aaryana, Aayra
Great Grand Children: Akshaya & Devaj



SMT. TARA DEVI

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 Park, Marunji, Pune-411057.
TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 03/07/24 at Indrayani River Ghat, Aaland, Pune at 10:00 AM To 11:00 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Armita Raina (Wife)
Smt. Sunil & Sh. Ashok Kumar Raina (Daughter-in-Law & Son)
Smt. Shivani & Sh. Amandeep Raina (Daughter-in-Law & Son)
Smt. Sarita & Sh. Jyotiraj Raina (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
Contact No: 9871766925/9646962925/9818569094
Grand Children: Aneel, Ansh, Ansh, Samarth & Devesh
SALAMAT PARIVAR: RAJNAS, BHATS & GANDOS



Sh. Baskar Nath Raina

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Labh Singh** S/o Late S. Thakur Singh R/o H.No. 3 Sector No. 10 Guru Nanak Nagar Jammu who left us for heavenly abode on 28/06/2024.
ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB on 30/06/2024 at 9:00 AM at our residence.
BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB on 02/07/2024 at 9:30 AM at our residence.
ANTIM ARDAS will be held at Gurudwara Bala Pritam Sahib Trikuta Nagar Jammu from 10:30 AM To 12:00 Noon.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Sdm. Bhajan Kaur (Wife)
Sdm. & S. Jeet Singh (Brother)
Sdm. & S. Joginder Singh (Son)
Sdm. & S. Gurmeet Singh (Son)
S. Harmeet Singh (Son)
Sdm. & S. Santarpal Singh (Son)
MOB NO: 9419201313



S.LABH SINGH

10TH DAY

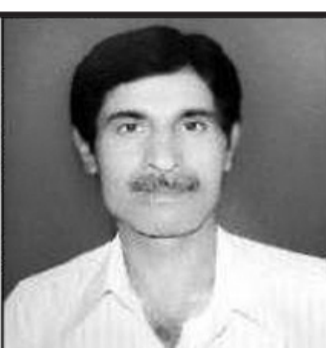
With profound grief and sorrow we inform the unfortunate demise of our beloved father **Sh. Roshan Lal Pandita** S/o Lt. Tara Chand Pandita R/o H.No. 267, Lane J Sector 2, Durga Nagar, Roopnagar Jammu on June 25, 2024.
10th Day will be performed on July 4, 2024 at Muthi Ghat, near Directorate of Education at 0900 Hrs.
GRIEF STRICKEN
(Son and Daughter in law)
Smt/ Sh. Sushma and Sunil Pandita (Daughter and Son in law)
Smt/ Sh. Renu and Sunil Misri
Dulari Bhat W/o Lt. N N Bhat (Sister)
(Brother and Babhi)
Sh/ Smt. Chuni Lal Pandita and Usha Pandita
Sh / Smt. B N Tikoo and Bimla Tikoo (Brother and Sister in law)
Sh / Smt. Vimal and Neera Pandita (Son and Daughter in law)
Sh / Smt. Vicky ji and Meenu Bhat (Daughter and Son in law)
Grand Children: Mehak Pandita, Ananya Pandita, Ayush Misri, Anush and Piyush
Ph no. 70064 66855, 7006420823 and 8899983005



Sh. Roshan Lal Pandita

OBITUARY AND TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and deep sorrow we inform the sad demise of **Sh. Rup Kishen Bhan** S/o Lt. Sh. Prem Nath Bhan of Bagh Jogi Lankar, Rainawari, Srinagar presently residing at 201, Ambica Vihar, Talab Tillo, Camp Road, Jammu on 29-06-2024.
The Tenth Day KRIYA will be performed on 08/07/2024 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu at 8:30 am.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Girja Bhan (Wife)
Daughter-in-law and Son
Smt. Shivani Bhat W/o Sh. Ravi Bhan
Neha Bhan - Daughter
Bhabhi and Brother
Smt. Kishni Bhan W/o Lt. Sh. C.L Bhan.
Smt. Sheela Bhan W/o Lt. Sh. R.N Bhan.
Smt. Nancy Bhan W/o Lt. Sh. K.L Bhan
Smt. Vijay Pandit W/o Sh. Yoj Raj Pandit- Sister and Brother in Law
Contact Details: 9 650 79 6732, 94 19 79 2428, 73 839 54 183, 98 99 30 2412



Sh. Rup Kishen Bhan

TENTH DAY KRIYA

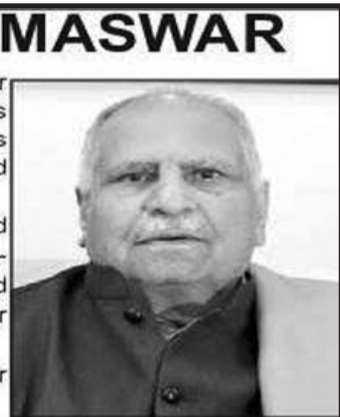
WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE REGRET TO INFORM THE DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SMT INDRAMATI KOUL** WIFE OF LATE SH MADHUSUDAN KOUL OF KHAH BAZAR ANANTNAGAR/4 JAWAHIR NAGAR SRINAGAR AT PRESENT QTR NO. 6 ROLLER SHED OPPOSITE ST. PETER SCHOOL, B. C. ROAD JAMMU, ON 25-06-2024.
TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED AT MUTHI GHAT, NEAR DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION, ON 4TH OF JULY 2024 THURSDAY AT 8:30 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN :
DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW
MRS SANTOSH RAINA & SURESH RAINA: 6005747063
GRAND SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW
MRS & MR VISHAL BAKSHI - 9986075505
SMT & SH MOHAN LAL KOUL (DEVAR & DEVRANI) - 9419131438
SONS & DAUGHTERS IN-LAW
MR VEERENDER KOUL & MRS NIRMALA KOUL - 9149639050
MR CHAND KUL & MRS RAJNI KOUL - 9906730747
RAMARAT KUL AND WALI PARIWAR



SMT INDRAMATI KOUL

SHADMOS AND MASWAR

Six months have passed since you left us for your journey to heavenly abode. Our hearts still cannot accept that you are not with us anymore. Your memories are still fresh and we feel your presence everywhere.
You lived a noble, honest and graceful life and will always be remembered for your love, compassion, care and kindness for all. The void you left can never be filled. We know that your love and blessings will always shower on us. We pray to God to grant eternal peace to your noble soul.
Shadmos and Maswar of our beloved Karamyogi father **Makhan Lal Raina** of Nowgam Anantnag will be performed on 02-07-2024 and 03-07-2024 at our residence H.No. 119 Near Amreshwar Temple Govind Nagar Talab Tillo.
Deeply Missed & Remembered By:
Raina Parivar, Daughters, Son-in-laws & All near and Dear Ones.
Contact Nos: 9149484372, 9149850268, 9814621400, 9697794019, 9419253069



Makhan Lal Raina

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 Khar 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



Smt Chuni Ji Khar

TENTH DAY KRIYA

We inform you with heavy heart and teary eyes that our beloved mother **Smt Rani Devi Pandita** W/o Late Shridhar Joo Pandita originally resident of Hackchepora Nagri Malpora Kupwara (Kashmir) at present H.No 33C Laxmi Vihar Lane 9 Tomal 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
Grand Children
Sapna, Ruby, Sujal, Harsh, Danish, Naira and Ridhi
Contact: 9906979250, 7006864269, 9149611707



SMT RANI DEVI PANDITA

CHOUBARSI

Four years' have passed since you left us but your memories are still with us forever.
CHOUBARSI of our beloved **Late Sh. Mahatam Singh Manhas** S/o Late Sh. Gulheer Singh Manhas will be performed at our residence Shiv Vihar lower Muthi Lale-Da-Bagh at 12.00 Noon Wednesday 3rd July 2024.
Deeply Missed and Remembered by:
All family members, relatives and friends
Contact No: 8054437500, 7006052993



LATE SH. MAHATAM SINGH MANHAS

TENTH DAY, KRIYA & UTHALA

We deeply mourn the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Shankuntala Devi** W/o Late Sh. Jagdish Chandler who left for heavenly abode on 21-06-2024.
Tenth Day will be performed on 30-06-2024 (Sunday) at 10.00 am to 11.00 am at Rani Park Mandir, Jammu.
Kriya will be performed on 03-07-2024 (Wednesday) 12 Noon at our residence, H.No. 219 Chowk Chubtra Mubarak Mandi Bazar Jammu.
Uthala will be held on 03/07/2024 (Wednesday) at Bahman Shabha Prade from 5 pm to 6 pm.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Sons & Daughter-in-Law
Sh. Kaideep Singh Bandral & Smt. Jyoti Bandral
Sh. Dalip Singh Bandral & Smt. Anu Bandral
Devar and Devarani
Late. Sh. Balbir Singh & Late. Smt. Lalita Devi
Sh. Surinder Singh & Late. Smt. Anita Bandral
Daughters & Son-in-Law
Smt. Savita Devi & Sh. Ashok Aboli
Smt. Chiterlekha & Sh. Ramesh Kapoor
Smt. Indu Kapahli & Sh. Rakesh Kapahli
Nephew and Daughter-in-Law
Mr. Jaipal Singh Bandral & Mrs. Suman Bandral
Grand Children:
Pransav, Manik, Danish, Karish, Mannat & Aadriti.



Smt. Shankuntala Devi

Bandral Family
Mubarak Mandi Bazar Jammu
Ph. 94191 98 733,
941919 2751, 7006 580550.

SAD DEMISE/TENTH DAY

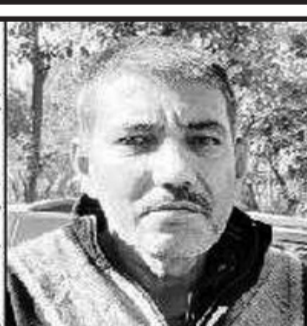
It is informed that **Smt Rani Ji (Uma Shori)** W/o Late Makhan Lal Handoo originally resident of Kani Kadal Chota Bazar Srinagar at present H No. 110, Sect 2, Govind Nagar Revenue Complex Road, Camp Gole Gujral Talab Tillo Jammu breathed her last on 25.06.2024.
Tenth Day will be held at Muthi Ghat near 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 Rani Ji (Uma Shori)

Obituary from Malun Side

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved brother-in-law **Sh Raj Nath Koul (Raja Ji)** S/o Lassa Koul R/o Ranger (Chadora) departed for the heavenly abode on 27th of June 2024.
Malun Pariwar residing at H.No. 660 New Colony Garhi, Udhampur.
Sh Raj Nath Koul (Raja Ji)
GRIEF STRICKEN
Bhat, Safaya, Koul & Pandita Pariwar
Cont: 7006612166, 9419780943



Sh Raj Nath Koul (Raja Ji)

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, 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

ADH-BARKHI

IN LOVING MEMORY
SIX MONTHS HAVE PASSED SINCE OUR CHERISHED MATAJI LATE SMT. RATNI ABROL, W/O LATE SHRI SHAM LAL ABROL, ASCENDED TO HER HEAVENLY ABODE. WE WILL BE COMMEMORATING HER LIFE AND LEGACY WITH AN ADH-BARKHI AT OUR RESIDENCE - H. NO. 72P, SECTOR-3, TRIKUTA NAGAR JAMMU ON 02-07-2024.
DEEPLY MISSED AND REMEMBERED BY: ABROL FAMILY
CONTACT- 9419191177, 9469211133



LATE SMT. RATNI ABROL

ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sardar Agya Singh Ji** R/o Bank Colony Gole Gujral Jammu who passed away peacefully for the heavenly abode on 23 June 2024. **Antim Ardas** will be performed on 2nd July 2024 from 10.30 am to 12.00 pm at Gurudwara Singh Sabha Munshi Chak Gole Gujral Jammu. May his kind and noble soul be blessed with eternal peace.
In Grief
Daughter in law & Sons
Sdm Parvinder Kaur & S. Iqbal Singh (Retd AGM JK Bank)
Sdm Sunilraj Singh Kaur & S. Gurpreet Singh (Retd Master Education)
Sdm Bhupinder Kaur & S. Jaisal Singh
Sdm Avtar Singh Kaur & S. Nirmal Singh
Daughter & Sons in law
Sdm Jasmeet Kaur & S. Jasbir Singh (Delhi)
Sdm Joginder Kaur & S. Harjeet Singh
Sdm Shantpreet Kaur
Grand Children
Sdm Arven Kaur & S. Angad Singh
Sdm Manoj Kaur & Dr. Gurpreet Singh
Sdm Harjit Kaur & S. Gurmeet Singh
Sdm Kaval Kaur & S. Sukhwinder Kaur
S. Jaideep Singh, S. Prabhjit Singh, S. Robin Singh, S. Gurgo Singh, Sdm Gunvinder Kaur
Great Grand Children
Master Mahram Singh
Master Kabir Singh
Mob Nos : 9419795853, 9419258867



Sardar Agya Singh
22 Jan 1925 to 23 June 2024

13TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Sangeeta Devi** W/o Sh. Bodh Raj R/o H.No. 105, Old Rehari, Jammu.
13th Day Kriya will be performed on 02-07-2024 Tuesday, at Sadguru Kabir Dham, Old Rehari, Jammu near Ashok Sodhi Chowk at 11.30 am.
Grief Stricken
Bodh Raj- Husband (7006431485)
Gourav & Aditi- Son & Daughter
Mob. 9858232275



Smt. Sangeeta Devi

10TH DAY/13TH DAY

With grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Smt Chander Kanta (Retd Tr)** W/o Sh Hans Raj Rana R/o Janwas (Shrawal) Sarthal Kishwar A/P H No. 96/6 Butta Nagar Paloura Jammu on 25-06-2024.
10th Day Kriya will be held on 4-07-2024 at Muthi Ghat from 8.30 am.
13th Day Kriya will be performed on 7-07-2024 at our residence Butta Nagar Paloura from 9 am onwards.
Grief Stricken:
Hans Raj Rana (Husband)
Sons & Daughters in law
Pankaj Rana and Vidya Devi
Vikas Rana and Nisha Rakwal
Grand Children
Vaidika Rana, Mimansa Rana, Viaan Rana, Anaisha Rana
Mob Nos: 9419257929, 9797664100, 7889839363



Late Smt Chander Kanta

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Three New Criminal Laws came into force: LG

New laws will ensure justice and equality for all, moving away from repressive colonial framework: Sinha

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jul 1: Historic Day in Indian Criminal Justice System as new Criminal Laws came into force today. To mark this momentous occasion, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha presided over the implementation ceremony of the new Laws in J&K, at Police Headquarters.

Chief Justice, J&K and Ladakh High Court Justice N. Kotiswar Singh also graced the occasion.

In his address, the Lt Governor expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah for bringing the much-needed reforms in the Criminal Justice System of the country.

He said the commencement of 3 new laws - 'Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita', 'Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita' and 'Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam' - breaks the centuries-old shackles of colonial legacy.

"The new laws will ensure justice and equality for all, moving away from the repressive colonial framework. The reforms, rooted in the principles of liberty and fraternity, are a testament to our commitment to protect the vulnerable and ensure justice for all," the Lt Governor said.

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita replaces the Indian Penal Code of 1860, focusing on restorative justice and victim rights. This law shifts the focus from mere punishment to rehabilitation and reintegration. It aims to address the root causes of crime and offer offenders a chance to reform and contribute positively to society.

The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita replaces the Criminal Procedure Code of 1973, ensuring swift and fair trials. This law introduces



measures to reduce delays in the justice delivery system, ensuring that justice is not only done but seen to be done on time. It also emphasizes the protection of the rights of the accused while ensuring public safety.

The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam replaces the Indian Evidence Act of 1872, modernizing evidence collection and use. This law uses modern technology to ensure the accuracy and integrity of evidence. It introduces digital documentation and forensic advancements to strengthen the credibility of the judicial process.

Speaking on the overarching objectives of the new criminal laws, the Lt Governor said the new laws, based on individual freedom and human rights, reflect a major shift towards a more humane and just system.

"Designed to protect victim rights and ensure justice with a focus on human dignity, moving away from punitive colonial measures, new criminal laws acknowledge that every individual, regardless of their past, has the potential for change. New laws focus on restorative justice, where the emphasis is on repairing the harm caused by criminal behaviour and reintegrating offenders into society," the Lt Governor said.

Highlighting the new provisions incorporated to suit contemporary

times and technologies, the Lt Governor said, the new Criminal Laws addresses the issues like terrorism, sedition, and mob lynching and ensures our system is just, humane, and future-ready.

By incorporating technological advancements, new laws will enhance the efficiency and transparency of our justice system. This includes the use of digital tools for evidence collection, case management, and communication among the five pillars of criminal justice system, he observed.

The Lt Governor underlined the need to remain vigilant about the potential misuse of technology, which could undermine the very justice we look to uphold. He also spoke on the substantial investment in infrastructure and training required with the integration of forensic technology and digital procedures.

Ensuring data security and protecting the privacy of individuals is paramount. It is imperative to build robust systems that create a firewall against criminals, protect our citizens, and foster peace and development, the Lt Governor said.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor called for collective efforts to realize the full potential of the new reforms and ensure that justice is served efficiently and equitably.

He emphasised that all the stakeholders of the criminal justice system must nurture new laws collaboratively.

"We embark on a journey towards a more just and fair society. These reforms uphold the rule of law, protect human rights, and ensure justice. The major challenge of training our core personnel in all the verticals has been accomplished, including

joint trainings. J&K Police has been instrumental in training their core IOs, augmenting the material and human resources, and adapting to the technological challenges and working on legal changes. Let's work together to implement these changes, ensuring trust in a fair, transparent, and just legal system," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor further called for generating awareness on the new laws amongst the citizens, law enforcement agencies, stakeholders, legal fraternity, prosecutors, district administration officials, academia and students.

He also congratulated the Jammu Kashmir Police on registering the First F.I.R under the provision of the new Laws.

Chief Justice, J&K and Ladakh High Court Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, in his address, said the new Criminal Laws is the reflection of the Resurgent India, Confident India building on its own destiny based on its rich heritage.

He advised the Vice Chancellors of various universities present on the occasion to conduct awareness sessions on the new laws in their respective institutions.

Social workers, Legal Practitioners and Police officials from different districts, joined through video conferencing, also shared their views on the impact of new Laws on the criminal justice system.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; RR Swain, DGP; members of the Judiciary and legal fraternity; prominent citizens and senior officers of Civil and Police Administration from all districts attended the implementation ceremony, in person and through virtual mode.

AJKPC outlines key budget demands of J&K to Union Finance Minister

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: The All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC), a registered organization working for the welfare of the rural population and strengthening grassroots democracy in J&K, has put Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on notice by presenting several demands ahead of the Union Budget.

During a press conference in Jammu, Anil Sharma, President of AJKPC, along with other members of the organization, urged the Union Government to fulfill its promises made to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Sharma emphasized that for over a decade, the people of Jammu and Kashmir have been waiting for the promises made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP to be realized.

Sharma demanded an increase in the MGN-REGA honorarium to Rs 400 per day and asked the Finance Minister to make provisions in the budget to clear

the pending liability of MGNREGA laborers and vendors from 2017 to date in Jammu and Kashmir. His demands also include starting the Jammu to Poonch Railway Project and laying the foundation stones for the Jammu and Srinagar Metro Projects.

The AJKPC President also highlighted that after the abrogation of Article 370, people in Jammu and Kashmir were optimistic that all daily wages in the state would receive justice and their services would be regularized. He stressed that it is high time for the Union Budget to include a substantial statement from the Finance Minister regarding this serious issue.

"Unemployment is a major problem here in J&K, and our educated youth are under stress and anxiety. Thus, it is the responsibility of the government to provide a minimum Rs 5000 per month stipend to professional degree holders until they get dignified employment," Sharma said.

AJKPC also demanded

the establishment of one technical university, one women's university, and one law university for Jammu and Kashmir, along with ITI colleges in every subdivision. Sharma called for the Union FM to increase the monthly honorarium of Anganwadi and ASHA workers to a minimum of Rs 10,000 with a 10% annual increment, showing sympathy towards these essential workers.

Additionally, Sharma urged the government to expedite pending tourism projects like Mubarak Mandi and the Lake on River Tawi with substantial funding. The list of demands also included the start of a Dogri TV channel and an exclusive Dogri radio station.

The AJKPC President warned that if their demands are not considered in the upcoming budget, the organization would decide on the next course of action after a meeting of all AJKPC office bearers including Senior Vice President Ram Saroop Sharma and Vice president Des Raj Bhagat, Vice President Jitendra Singh.

Imtiaz Ahmed receives National Icon Award

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: Imtiaz Ahmed from District Jammu who was nominated by Bharat News Group for the prestigious National Icon Award in the Social work category, received the National Icon Award and has been honored with the title of Iconic Social Worker, recognizing his exceptional contributions to social work.

The award ceremony was held at Kamini Auditorium, Mandi House, Delhi. The event was graced by Union Minister Ramdas Athawale, Faggaan Kulaste, former Union Rural Development Minister, and state ministers from Uttar Pradesh.

Renowned Bollywood celebrity Dara Singh, along with many other dignitaries, also be present to honor the occasion.

Imtiaz Ahmed expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Bharat News Group for recognizing his efforts and contributions to social work.



Imtiaz Ahmed has dedicated over one decade to the field of social work, addressing a wide range of issues including poverty, education, healthcare, and women's empowerment. His tireless efforts have led to significant improvements in the lives of countless individuals in District Jammu and beyond.

Imtiaz's journey in social work began with his grassroots initiatives aimed at providing basic education and healthcare to underprivileged communities.

Over the years, he has expanded his efforts to include skill development programs for youth,

support for marginalized women, and advocacy for social justice and equality.

Imtiaz Ahmed's work has been widely recognized both locally and nationally. He has received numerous accolades for his dedication and impact, including the Excellence Award. His nomination for the National Icon Award by Bharat News Group is a testament to his unwavering commitment to social causes and his ability to inspire others to join the movement for positive change.

The National Icon Award is one of the highest honors in the field

of social work, awarded to individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary dedication and impact in their communities. Imtiaz's selection for this award highlights the importance of his work and the difference he has made in the lives of many.

The presence of high-profile dignitaries, including Union Minister Ramdas Athawale and former Union Rural Development Minister Faggaan Kulaste, underscores the significance of the occasion.

"I am deeply humbled and honored to receive the National Icon Award in Social Work. This recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of my team and the unwavering support of the community. Together, we have made significant strides in addressing social issues and improving the lives of many. I dedicate this award to all those who believe in the power of social work and continue to strive for a better world," said Imtiaz Ahmed.

LT Gen Devendra Sharma takes over as GOC-in-C ARTRAC

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: Lt Gen Devendra Sharma, took over as the 25th General Officer Commanding in Chief of the Shimla based, Army Training Command (ARTRAC) on Monday.

Gen Devendra Sharma is an alumnus of Mayo College, Ajmer, National Defence Academy and Indian Military Academy.

A recipient of the coveted 'Sword of Honour' the General was commissioned into 'The Scinde Horse' on December 19, 1987.

In an illustrious career spanning almost four decades, the General has tenanted important Command appointments in varied sensitive operational sectors, counter terrorism environment and high altitude terrain.

He has commanded 'The Scinde Horse', an



Armoured Brigade as part of Strike Corps, an Infantry Division and a Corps on Western Front. The General was Chief of Staff, HQ Western Command prior to taking over as GOC-in-C, ARTRAC.

His staff experiences include challenging assignments both in operational and admin-

istrative domains. The General has been an instructor at prestigious National Defence Academy, a Staff Officer Operations in Indian Military Training Team, Bhutan and Chief Military Personnel Officer, United Nation Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The General has

attended various prestigious courses such as Defence Services Staff College, Higher Defence Management Course and Advance Professional Programme in Public Administration.

For his exemplary leadership and devotion to duty towards the nation, the General was conferred with the award of Ati Vishist Seva Medal on 26th January 2022. A recipient of Sena Medal for gallantry, he has also been awarded with Central Army Commander's Commendation Card and UN Force Commander's Appreciation for his distinguished service.

On assuming Command, the General Officer extended his greetings to all ranks of ARTRAC, Veer Naris, Veterans and Defence civilian employees as well as their families.

CUJ secures 39th position among Central Universities in IIRF Rankings 2024



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: Central University of Jammu (CUJ) has achieved a remarkable milestone by securing the 39th position among central universities in the prestigious Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF)- 2024.

This achievement highlights CUJ's commitment to excellence in research, faculty quality, and student outcomes.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Cen-

tral university of Jammu, expressed his heartfelt congratulations to the entire academic community for their dedication and hard work that led to this outstanding recognition. He emphasized that CUJ's consistent efforts in fostering research excellence and ensuring high-quality education have borne fruit with this ranking.

The Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF) assesses universities based on several parameters including teaching, learning,

research, outreach, and inclusivity. CUJ's significant position in these rankings underscores its growing prominence and impact in the realm of higher education.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain extended his gratitude to all faculty members, researchers, and students for their contributions towards achieving this milestone. He reiterated CUJ's commitment to further enhancing its academic and research endeavors to scale greater heights in the future.

J&K | Anantnag police registers first FIR under Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita

SRINAGAR, Jul 1 (Agencies): Police in southern Anantnag district have registered the first FIR under the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS), which was implemented across Jammu and Kashmir today.

This historic event marks the beginning of a new era in the justice delivery system within the Kashmir Zone, said a spokesman of Anantnag Police.

The case, documented as FIR No. 143/2024, has been registered under Section 125(a) and 281 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023.

This sets a vital precedent for the implementation of the new criminal law framework and underscores the swift and decisive action taken by the Anantnag Police to uphold the law and ensure justice for all.

J&K Govt extends term of joint registrar as administrator of JCCBL

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 1 (Agencies): The Cooperative Department of the Jammu and Kashmir Government has extended the term of Rakesh Dubey, a JKAS officer currently serving as Joint Registrar (Banking & Finance)

Cooperative Societies, J&K. Dubey will continue as the Administrator of "The Jammu Central Cooperative Bank Ltd (JCCBL) Jammu" effective from July 1, 2024, for a period of two months or until the Professional Board of the Bank is reconstituted, whichever occurs first.

ABVP demands equitable course offerings at CUJ

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: Introducing new courses in any educational institution is paramount for the welfare and growth of the student community.

However, this advancement should not come at the expense of other crucial courses.

While the Vice Chancellor of Central University of Jammu has introduced an array of new science courses, a move we commend, it is alarming to note the neglect of courses catering to students from social sciences backgrounds.

The Law Department, which had already received sanctioned posts, has been inexplicably terminated and replaced with engineering courses. Additionally, the M.A. Economics course has been discontinued, despite its significance.

Students have consistently demanded the initiation of courses such as History, Political Science, Geography, and Physical Education to benefit the local student population. Regrettably, the university administration's actions appear to disregard these valid demands, adversely affecting the interests of many students.

The introduction of new science courses, though beneficial, has predominantly left lakhs of local students from social sciences and arts backgrounds in a dire predicament, scrambling for admissions. This situation is not only unfortunate but also detrimental to the future prospects of these students.

ABVP Central University of Jammu unit demanded that the university must reinstate social sciences and other sanctioned courses without delay to ensure a balanced and inclusive academic environment.

While we welcome the introduction of science courses, it is unacceptable to ignore a vast majority of students from diverse educational backgrounds. It is crucial that no student suffers due to a skewed focus on specific streams.

ABVP CUJ unit stands resolute in this matter and demands immediate and positive action from the university administration. If our demands are not met promptly, we are prepared to engage in a vigorous agitation to ensure that the interests of the student community are safeguarded.

Rusted mortar shell recovered in Samba

SAMBA/JAMMU, Jul 1 (Agencies): Security personnel recovered a rusted mortar shell in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district on Monday, officials said.

Locals in the district's Badori village spotted the shell in a field and alerted police, they said.

A bomb disposal squad was rushed to the spot to defuse it, they added.

Govt forms panel to propose stamp duty, Registration fee exemptions for Cooperative Societies

JAMMU, Jul 1 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Government has sanctioned the formation of a committee to recommend exemption limits for stamp duty and registration fees on instruments related to cooperative societies. The committee will be chaired by the Special Secretary to the Government, Cooperative Department.

EDITORIAL

Criminal Law Reforms

As of 2024, India has seen significant updates and reforms in its criminal laws aimed at addressing modern challenges while ensuring justice and protection for its citizens. These developments reflect evolving societal norms, international standards, and the need for more efficient and equitable legal frameworks. The rise in cybercrimes has prompted stringent measures. The Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2024, enhances provisions related to data protection, online privacy, and penalties for offenses such as hacking, identity theft, and cyberbullying. This update aligns Indian law with global standards and addresses emerging threats in the digital age. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2024, introduces harsher penalties for sexual offenses against women, children, and vulnerable populations. It strengthens laws against rape, sexual harassment, and trafficking, emphasizing victim support and rehabilitation. The legislation aims to create safer environments and ensure justice for survivors, reflecting a proactive stance towards gender-based violence. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2024, emphasizes rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile offenders while ensuring their rights and protection. It introduces progressive measures for juvenile justice administration, including specialized courts and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms tailored to the needs of young offenders. The Companies (Amendment) Act, 2024, enhances corporate governance and accountability. It includes provisions to combat financial fraud, insider trading, and corporate misconduct, thereby safeguarding investor interests and promoting transparency in business operations. Environmental protection laws have been strengthened with amendments to the Environment (Protection) Act, 2024. These amendments address issues such as air and water pollution, deforestation, and wildlife conservation, imposing stricter penalties for non-compliance and promoting sustainable development practices. The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 2024, provides expanded powers to law enforcement agencies in combating terrorism and extremist activities. It includes provisions for preventive detention, stringent penalties for terrorist acts, and measures to curb funding and logistical support to terrorist organizations. The Victim Rights Act, 2024, prioritizes the rights and support mechanisms for crime victims. It guarantees access to justice, compensation, and rehabilitation services, aiming to empower victims and integrate them into the criminal justice process as active participants. The Police Act, 2024, emphasizes professionalization, accountability, and community engagement in policing. It introduces measures for police training, capacity building, and technological integration to enhance operational efficiency and public trust in law enforcement agencies. The Judiciary (Amendment) Act, 2024, focuses on judicial efficiency, case management, and infrastructure development. It includes provisions for the appointment of additional judges, court modernization, and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to reduce judicial backlog and expedite case disposal. The Human Rights Protection Act, 2024, strengthens safeguards for human rights, including provisions against custodial torture, discrimination, and extrajudicial killings. It establishes mechanisms for monitoring and redressing human rights violations, ensuring accountability and justice for all citizens.

In conclusion, India's criminal laws in 2024 reflect a holistic approach to addressing diverse challenges while upholding constitutional values and international norms. These reforms signify a commitment to justice, security, and rights protection, aiming to build a robust legal framework that adapts to evolving societal needs and global standards.

As Pakistan lies on edge, can it dig itself out of extremist mess?

By: Bhopinder Singh

Religion envelops everything in Pakistan. That is not surprising for the only nation in the world to be created in the name of religion. Every institution -- the military, civilian politicians, judiciary, bureaucracy, and even once-flamboyant cricketers -- have been trying to outdo others in terms of displayed piety and toxic puritanism. Many attribute the regressive slide of religiosity to the late military dictator, Gen. Zia-ul Haq, and the Islamist era that he spawned, but many more since are equally complicit to turn the nation into an extremist tinderbox.

The perennial curse of Pakistan has been the consistent and misplaced belief of its leadership that it can somehow use religion to its advantage, without falling prey to its inevitable and pernicious outcomes. The nation's founding father, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, was the original believer in this failed logic of running with the hare and hunting with the hound. Today's retrograde Pakistan does not look anything like the one that was envisioned in Jinnah's "secular" speech to the Constituent Assembly in 1947 -- the recording of which has been conveniently "lost" and the spirit buried for posterity. Even the relatively modern and secular Pakistani "establishment", meaning the armed forces, now marches to its new motto of "Imam, Taqwa, Jihad fi Sabilillah" (faith, piety, holy war in the path of Allah)! Befittingly, Gen. Asim Munir is the first Pakistan Army Chief to be a "Hafiz Quran" (one who has memorised the Quran).

Civilian politicians too have much to atone for fanning religiosity and the so-called secular elements like the Bhutto family have blood on their hands by initiating constitutional discrimination against the Ahmediyas in 1974, and the creation of the Taliban (by the PPP's interior minister Naseerullah Babar) -- later Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was hanged by an even more bigoted Zia-ul Haq and Benazir was to be assassinated by a radical extremist. The Sharif family's Nawaz was Gen. Zia's handpicked choice and the PML(N) led by the Sharif family was to make many alliances with many religious parties and clergy. Even former playboy-cricketer Imran Khan was to posit Riyasat-i-Madina as its idyll and was later infamous by his moniker of Taliban Khan. The more dire and desperate the Pakistani situation became, the more intolerant, extremist and violent the Pakistani society became.

Exporting religious fundamentalism (especially in the 1980s and 1990s) became an industry and India was an obvious market. Hillary Clinton's sage warning that "snakes in the backyard do not only bite the neighbours" remained unheeded, till the inevitable happened. Pakistan's own doings had created a Frankenstein's monster, and the unleashed genie of extremism refused to be put back in the bottle again, and terrorism became an inevitable outcome. Also, once on auto-pilot mode, terrorism can never be controlled, and it soon turned on its progenitor -- the Pakistani State.

The creator of the Taliban is now ironically facing an existential crisis from its metastasised creation -- the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), one of the many self-goals. Over 80,000 Pakistanis have died in the last couple of decades owing to extremist forces from across the Durand Line, far more than the fatalities in all battles with India. The last 18 months have been particularly devastating, with over 700 recorded terror attacks, just last year. This despite various military operations like Operations Radd-ul-Fasaad, Khyber, Zarb-e-Azb, Rah-e-Shahadat, etc, all singularly militaristic. Yet, terror thrived.

Finally, a belated and very vital realisation of conjoining terrorism with latent religious extremism has evolved with the conceptualisation of Operation Azm-e-Intehkam (strong resolve for stability), as a "multi-domain, multi-agency, whole-of-the-system national vision for enduring stability in Pakistan". Seemingly, there is a realisation that you cannot be pandering to unrestrained religiosity and expecting it not to run amok, as it always does anywhere in the world. The telling differences between the multitude of previous military operations and Operation Azm-e-Intehkam seems to be in the comprehensive and expanded "scope" of the operation, that purportedly includes socio-economic-political imperatives, along with military operations.

It is premature to speculate on its operational efficacy for that will depend on the underlying intent, sincerity, and integration with which various levers of the Pakistani leadership -- the

military, politicians, judiciary and even the clergy -- are able to cleanse themselves from the instincts institutionalised over decades of religious-inspired impulses. This mandates a complete U-turn in sovereign narrative. Given that religion legitimises so many power centres within Pakistan, to expect a complete and unified renegeing of the same is to be overly optimistic. Many even attribute this wholesomeness of course-correction to a "whitewash" to convince the likes of China, multilateral bodies and even the Arab sheikdoms, who are extremely wary of extending any more aid to bail out Pakistan, without substantial course-corrections.

But the sheer acceptance of the task to de-radicalise society (to be as important as military operations) is a fundamental break from the past. Religious extremism is the oxygen on which terror survives -- the moment the State restrains the relevance of religion (beyond it to be a private affair) in societal/governance sphere, it to break from the shackles from the historical past that enflamed and imploded Pakistan from within. Oddly enough, the precariousness of the coalition government's public credibility and the unprecedented violence on the Pakistani military personnel bode well for creating a joint commitment to extricate themselves from this extremist mess. But Pakistan has traditionally remained incorrigible on some fronts, especially on religion, and therefore one must remain realistic (but hopeful too) for the success of "Azm-i-Intehkam". If nothing, it is a positive realisation.

New criminal laws to replace 164 year old colonial era laws

History and genesis of the new Indian Criminal laws being enforced today

By: PRABHU RAZDAN

In a landmark move to reform the criminal justice system in India, three new Criminal laws Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS, 2023), the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS, 2023), and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA, 2023) respectively replacing British era Indian Penal Code (IPC, 1860), Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC, 1974) and Indian Evidence Act, 1872 will come into force from July 1.

The governments, the Union Home ministry and police departments are gearing up to roll out the new laws with the active role of the Bar associations across the country.

Brief history and genesis of the new criminal laws.

The Law Commission of India in its various reports recommended specific amendments in the criminal laws. Besides, Committees like Bezbaruah committee, Vishwanathan Committee, Malimath Committee, Madhava Menon Committee etc also had made recommendation for section-specific amendments in criminal laws and general reforms in criminal justice system.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs, in its 146th Report in 2010, 111th report in 2005 and 128th report (2006) had also stressed upon the need to reform and rationalization of the criminal laws of the country by introducing a comprehensive legislation in Parliament rather than bringing about piece meal amendments in the criminal laws.

After writing letters to all the stakeholders including Governors, Chief Ministers, Lieutenant Governors, Chief Justice of India, Chief Justices of all the High Courts, Bar councils, Members of the Parliament, the Union Home ministry sought their suggestions, the process set into motion on September 07, 2019.

The Union Home minister Amit Shah chaired a meeting "Chintan Shivir" of Home Ministers at Surajkund, Haryana on October 27, 28, 2022 in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke via video conferencing. Besides other issues, emphasis was laid on usage of new technology in criminal justice system.

In view of the recommendations of the Committee and other stakeholders, three new Bills, namely, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023 were prepared. The Union cabinet in its meeting held on December 08, 2023 approved that three Bills may be introduced. The three Bills were passed by Lok

Sabha on December 20, 2023 and by the Rajya Sabha on December 21, 2023.

With the assent of the President on December 25, 2023, the three Acts have been notified in the Gazette of India on December 25, 2023 as the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023 and the three new Criminal Laws are now ready to be enforced in India from July 1, 2024.

Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023
The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) will replace the British era 164 year old Indian Penal Code, 1860 (IPC) bringing in noteworthy changes in the new law like introduction of community service as a form of punishment etc. At many places the archaic expressions like 'lunatic', 'insane' and 'idiot' have been done away with. Colonial remnants like 'British calendar', 'Queen', 'British India', 'Justice for peace' etc have been deleted.

Chapter V of the Sanhita has been dedicated to offences against women and children.

While sexual Intercourse on the pretext of promise to marry was covered under the provisions of rape--but under the Sanhita, a distinct provision (Section 69) has been created where in sexual Intercourse, not amounting to rape, is committed on false promise to marry or by deceitful means.

The offences against women, especially children viewed seriously and made more stringent under IPC but two distinct provisions relating to gang-rape with Women under 16 years and 12 years were present--same are amalgamated under Section 70(2) where in the same has been extended to women up to 18 years and death sentence has been added as a form of punishment.

There has been increase of 33 offences in the term of imprisonment whereas 83 offences have seen an increase in the fine impossible--further, 23 offences have seen introduction of mandatory minimum punishment.

Interestingly, Community service has been included as a punishment imposable in 6 offences (non-appearance in response to a proclamation, attempt to commit suicide to compel or restraint exercise of lawful power of public servant, public servant unlawfully engaging in trade, petty theft on return of theft money, misconduct in public by a drunken person, defamation.

A new provision under Section 73 of the Sanhita has been incorporated thereby making it an offence to report court proceedings without permission with respect to certain offences. However, the printing or publication of the judgment of any High Court or the Supreme Court does not amount to an offence within the meaning of this section.

As per the experience--minors/ children were used to commit offences--while they would get the benefit of being a child, the one hiring or motivating them to commit such act could only be made liable by way

of abatement--separate provision have been made under Section 95 which says, "Whoever hires, employees or engages any child to commit an offence shall be punished with imprisonment of either description which shall not be less than three years but which may extend to ten years and with fine..."

Abetment of offence by a person outside India made punishable under BNS 48, Snatching has been incorporated and a distinct offence, Section 76 (assault with intent to disrobe) and 77 (voyeurism have been made offence neutral qua the offender,

The offence of theft has been expanded to include theft of vehicle, theft from vehicle, theft of government property and theft of idol or icon from any place of worship. In Section 305 of the BNS, 2023 such thefts have been made punishable with punishment up to 7 years.

The Section related to Sedition (rajdroh) was misused and hence has been deleted. A new section on acts of 'deshdroh' has been added as section 152 in BNS, 2023. The Acts of secession, armed rebellion, subversive activities, separatist activities or endangering sovereignty or unity and integrity of India, have been made punishable. In section 152 of the BNS, 2023, the offence of 'deshdroh' has been introduced wherein the exciting or attempt to excite any of the acts mentioned hereinabove is made punishable with imprisonment extendable to seven years or imprisonment for life.

Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023

Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 is to replace Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) of 1973 introducing key changes in the procedural law. Delivering judgments within 30 days of completion of arguments extendable up to 60 days, making forensic investigation mandatory for offences punishable by at least 7 years of imprisonment and some of the important changes in the criminal justice system.

The post of Judicial Magistrate of the third class, Metropolitan Magistrate and Assistant session judges have been abolished to bring uniformity in classes of Courts and Judges across the country. There will be four kinds of Judges now i.e Judicial Magistrate of the second class, Judicial Magistrate of the first class (including Chief Judicial Magistrate or Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate), Sessions Judge (includes Additional session judge judge) and Executive Magistrates.

In Section 35(7) the aged and infirm persons have been protected from arrest. It has been provided that no arrest shall be made in case of an offence punishable for less than three years if the person is infirm or above the age of 60 years, without prior permission of the officer not below the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police. The rights of the aged and infirm have further been protected as witnesses in Section 179(1) of BNSS where no

person above the age of 60 years or a person with acute illness will be required to attend at any place other than where they reside.

Section 37(b) introduces that there shall be one designated Police officer in every District and at every Police station, not below the rank of ASI who shall be responsible for maintaining and giving information to the general public about details of persons arrested etc. For clear visibility, the names, addresses, and charges against arrested persons can now be prominently displayed through digital means.

In Section 66, gender neutrality has been introduced and women have been included as an adult member of the family for the purpose of service of summons on behalf of the person summoned. The earlier reference to "some adult male member" has been replaced with "some adult member".

Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023
Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023 (BSA) replaced the British era Indian Evidence Act, 1872

The words like 'Parliament of the United Kingdom, Provincial Act, notification by the Crown Representative, London Gazette, any Dominion, colony possession of his Majesty, Jury, Lahore', 'United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Commonwealth, Her Majesty or by the Privy Council, Her Majesty's Government, copies or extracts contained in the London Gazette, or purporting to be printed by the Queen's Printer, 'possession of the British Crown', 'Court of Justice in England', 'Her Majesty's Dominions, Barrister have thus been deleted as they are no longer relevant.

The definition of "documents" in section 2(1)(d) has been expanded to include an electronic or digital record on emails, server logs, document on computers, laptop or smartphone, messages, websites, cloud, locational evidence and voice mail messages stored on digital devices. This update acknowledges the shift from traditional paper-based documentation electronic forms of communication and data storage in contemporary India.

Similarly, the definition of 'evidence in section 2(1)(e) has been expanded to include any information given electronically. This will permit the appearance of witnesses, accused, experts and victims to depose their evidence through electronic means. It also establishes 'digital records as documentary evidence.'

Section 61 brings parity in the admissibility of electronic/digital record and other documents. Now, electronic or digital records will have the same legal effect, validity and enforceability as other documents.

As the government is all set to enforce the new criminal legislations from July 1 with Bar associations and police departments respectively imparting training to the legal fraternity and the cops, it remains to be seen how effectively these legislations are implemented on the ground.

Director CSIR-IIIM inaugurates CEL sponsored Leather training program

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 1: A six month training program on design and manufacture of leather goods and garments was inaugurated at CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine branch Srinagar.

Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director CSIR-IIIM, inaugurated the "Employability to Women through Skill Development and Entrepreneur Support in Manufacturing & Designing of Leather Goods and Garments" programme which is supported by Central Electronics Limited (CEL) through its CSR initiative. Under the program, 10 trainees shall be provided training for 6 months with a monthly stipend of Rs 5000.

The training will be imparted at the leather



training centre of CSIR - IIIM, Srinagar which is equipped with high-end machinery and facilities required for the course.

The programme includes comprehensive theory and practical classes for manufacturing leather goods and garments like pouches, jackets, sling bags etc.

While speaking on the occasion, Director CSIR-IIIM said that the leather

training programme is a part of CSIR-IIIM's initiative in the area of Leather technology which would be pivotal to support the local economy and generate livelihoods for many others.

He hoped that the trainees would setup innovative startups and impart their learnings to others after the completion of the program.

He further added that

the institute has also established an Atal Incubation Centre which is focused in the areas like leather training, medicinal mushroom cultivation, value addition of essential oils, fermentation-based products etc., keeping in view the richness of natural resources and available expertise, so as to provide ideal incubation support to the local budding innovators.

Dr. Zabeer also expressed his gratitude to Dr N. Kalaiselvi, Director General CSIR and Secretary DSIR and Chetan Prakash Jain, CMD Central Electronics Limited (CEL) for supporting this important initiative for the unemployed women of Kashmir.

Dr. Syed Muzamil Ahmad, Principal Scientist & Deputy Head, CSIR - IIIM (Br.) Srinagar, informed that further training programs of two months duration will be conducted subsequently. He thanked Director CSIR-IIIM for his constant endeavour to impart employable skills to the local people of J&K and become self-sufficient.

The technical support for the programme would be provided by Syed Abdul Basit Andrabi, Coordinator AIC-IIIM.

Kargil Vijay Diwas Rajat Jayanti Mahotsav: Women's cricket match organised at Hajin

Top News Report

HAJIN, July 1: The women's cricket match held at Hajin as part of the Kargil Vijay Diwas Rajat Jayanti Mahotsav was a significant event showcasing both sporting excellence and community unity. Organized collaboratively by the Indian Army and Aseem Foundation, Pune, the match featured Aseem Eleven and Majestic Sports Club Bandipora competing fiercely at AGS Hajin. Aseem Eleven, batting first, set a challenging

target of 178 runs and ultimately triumphed by 118 runs, demonstrating commendable skill and teamwork.

The event drew a vibrant response from the local community, highlighting the region's rich cultural support for women's sports.

It served as a powerful platform for women's empowerment, emphasizing the talent of cricketers in Jammu and Kashmir and inspiring aspirations for future tournaments.

Attended by dignitaries

including Principal GDC Sumbal Professor Shaheena Shawl and Principal GDC Hajin Professor Gazala Firdous, alongside Indian Army officials and government representatives, the match not only paid tribute to the bravery of Kargil War soldiers but also fostered unity and patriotism among participants and spectators.

The success of this event underscores its role in promoting inclusivity, community spirit, and the growth of women's cricket in the region.



Inline Hockey team outshines in Federation Cup 2024



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: The Inline Hockey team from Jammu and Kashmir (Union Territory) achieved a significant milestone by winning the Silver medal at the Federation Cup Championship held in Jodhpur, Rajasthan from 25th to 28th June 2024.

The players displayed exceptional talent and skill, bringing honour to the Union Territory.

G.S. Khurmi, the President of Jammu and Kashmir Roller Skating

Association (JKRSA), extended heartfelt congratulations to the team for their outstanding victory.

Other members of the association, including Roshan Gupta (Sr. Vice President), Kamal Anand (General Secretary), P.P. Singh, Seema Kharyal, and Jatin Sabarwal, also praised the team members for their dedicated efforts and commendable performance.

The team comprised talented individuals such as Jaideep Singh, Jaipreet Singh, Dhruv

Gupta, Jasvinder Singh (Captain), Parth Slathia, Rajan Singh Slathia, Smaksh Bhardwaj, Rahul Choudhary, and Paras Verma, who contributed to the team's success with their skills and determination.

This achievement not only brings pride to Jammu and Kashmir but also highlights the potential and prowess of the players in inline hockey, showcasing their ability to compete at national levels and secure notable accolades for their region.

Modi Govt should crack down on love jihad and love marriage in country: Chandel

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: Raju Chandel, a prominent Sanatani leader, on Monday spoke out about his concerns regarding what he perceives as the rise of "love jihad" in India, particularly focusing on incidents in West Bengal, Kolkata.

In his statement to journalists in Jammu, Chandel expressed alarm over what he described as Sanatani girls falling victim to love jihad, referring to alleged cases where Hindu girls are purportedly coerced or enticed into relationships with Muslim men under the guise of love.

He criticized the political and fundamentalist influences he believes are promoting this phenomenon, accusing some politicians and fundamentalists of attempting to transform Kolkata into a state resembling East Pakistan, with the implementation of Sharia law in Muslim-dominated



areas. Chandel asserted that the state government, led by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, has remained silent on these developments.

Chandel's proposed solution includes calling for the abolition of the Waqf Board across the country and advocating for a complete ban on love jihad.

He argued that the root cause of love jihad lies in the Love Marriage Act, which he believes facilitates marriages across religious lines and provides cover for what he perceives as forced conversions.

Bholenath Cricket Club lifts 3rd Ragubir Memorial Cricket Tournament trophy



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: In a thrilling finale, Bholenath Cricket Club emerged victorious in the final match of the 3rd Ragubir Memorial Cricket Tournament, held at Chak Singha Ground in Lower Jandial Panchayat, Mathwar Block. Organized by social activist Pintu Chib, the tournament saw a series of exciting matches that culminated in a spectacular final. Total 32 Teams participated in the tournament organised free of cost for the players. More than 500 players participated in the tournament.

The event was graced by Chief Guest Atul Sudan, Youth Activist, and Ex-Sarpanch, along with Congress Leader Balbir Singh of Kathar Upper Block Dansal. Ex-Sarpanch Balbir Singh of

Upper Jandial, Congress State Secretary Thakur Hoshiar Singh, Babu Khan, and other dignitaries were also present. The final match was played between Mahadev Cricket Club and Bholenath Cricket Club. Bholenath Cricket Club won the toss and elected to bowl first. Mahadev Cricket Club, batting first, managed to score 81 runs in 12 overs, losing all their wickets. Mohit of Mahadev Cricket Club made a significant contribution with 25 runs. Deva from Bholenath Cricket Club showcased exceptional bowling skills, taking 5 wickets for just 5 runs.

In response, Bholenath Cricket Club successfully chased the target in the 10th over, losing just 6 wickets. Kirpal was the top scorer with 26 runs, while Rajinder from Mahadev Cricket Club

took 3 wickets. Deva's outstanding performance earned him the title of Man of the Match, while Kannu was judged Man of the Series. Bali was named Best Fielder and Pardeep was recognized as Best Umpire.

Th. Balbir Singh urged the youth to stay away from drugs and incorporate sports into their daily routines. He emphasized the importance of a healthy lifestyle and the role of sports in achieving it.

Atul Sudan highlighted the need for improved sports infrastructure in the region, demanding the establishment of both outdoor and indoor stadiums for the youth of Mathwar Block.

Other notable attendees included Vikas Singh, Anil Sharma, Nitin Kumar, Pardeep Kumar, Shambhu Sharma, and Shiv.

Zahid Iqbal provides employment opportunities to over 150 educated youth

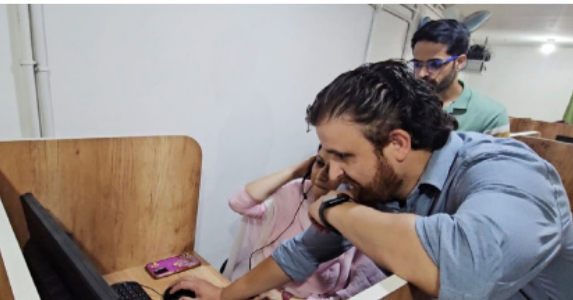
Top News Report

ANANTNAG, July 1: Zahid Iqbal Ganai, an MBA degree holder from Dooru Shahabad in Anantnag district, has become a torchbearer for the youth of Kashmir today. Zahid completed his MBA degree in the 2017.

After completing his degree, he started job in Wishfin Company and since then till now he is not only self-employed in this private company, but Zahid has also created vast employment opportunities for the youth of the private sector in Srinagar where he has with limited resources.

Zahid Iqbal said that a passion arose in his heart that he wanted to set up a branch of this company in Srinagar to provide employment opportunities to the educated youth here.

He said that three years ago when the company opened a branch in Srinagar on his trust, only ten boys were work-



ing at that time, but Zahid did not lose heart and today more than 150 from all the districts of Kashmir Division are working in his unit here.

Educated unemployed young boys and girls have got employment opportunities there.

Employees working in Wishfin Company say that although the private sector in the Kashmir Valley is still in its infancy, there are vast employment opportunities in this sector and the strengthening of this sector will create new employment opportunities for the youth.

They said that they had enjoyed working with this company and has learned a lot till date.

They appreciated the policy of the company and said that they are very happy to work with this company.

Zahid Iqbal advised the rest of the young boys and girls sitting at home that they can also come and work here to earn their jobs.

PTTI Vijaypur organizes public awareness campaign on new criminal laws

Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, July 1: On the occasion of the day of "Implementation of three New Criminal Laws" in the country, Police Technical Training Institute (PTTI) Vijaypur organized a general awareness programme at the Institute by inviting locals/respectable/youth of the area and trainees in order to aware them

about these laws.

The programme was organized on the directions of J&K Police Headquarters with an objective to apprise the general public about the key features and advantages of new Criminal Laws recently promulgated by the Central Govt. The programme was presided over by Zia-ul-Haq, DySP PTTI Vijaypur who in his address, told that motive behind organizing such

programme is to spread awareness among the general public regarding the implementation of all the three new Criminal Laws viz., Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam.

After short briefing by the officer on the subject, Insp. Ram Lal and Insp. Surrinder Singh of PTTI Vijaypur spoken on the occasion and delivered an impressive lectures to the guests/trainees focusing on understanding the New Criminal Laws.

The programme ended in a very cordial atmosphere and the presiding officer thanked all the visiting guests for sparing their time for attending the programme at the Institute.

Among others, Insp. Kulbir Singh, Insp. Bhopinder Singh, Insp. Mulk Raj, Insp. Himanshu Dutt (CTI), SI Sulinder Singh (SM Outdoor), SI Shakeel Singh (Lines Officer) were present on the occasion.



JKBS members remember Neelam Devi

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha members today remembered Neelam Devi, the most respected woman of Batwal community, who died of cancer on this day twenty eight years ago.

Her elder brother R.L.Kaith said that Neelam Devi was the most kind, considerate,

and the guiding soul who helped everyone always to progress on the right path and achieve success in life.

JKBS members Hony Captain Kamal Dass Kaith, Hans Raj Loria, Darshan Kumar Bassa, Des Raj Kaith, Madan Raj Kaith, Tilak Raj Bassa, Naresh Kumar Kaith, Jagdish Raj Kaith and others prayed for her noble soul to be cradled in eternal peace.

Daler Mehndi reveals he rejected a role in Kajol's Kuch Khatti Kuch Meethi

While singer Daler Mehndi readies to make his acting debut soon in Akshay Kumar's *Welcome to the Jungle*, he reveals that this is not the first time he has been offered a film to act in. He makes a rather interesting revelation while talking to us. "I was offered a role back in 1998 in Kajol's *Kuch Khatti Kuch Meethi*," says the singer, who was fresh out of the success of his song, *Kudiyaan Sheher Diyan* when this role initially came his way.

"I remember meri baat hui thi [with the producers], and I had asked them more money than the main hero of the film. After a meeting for about 15-20 minutes, I finally decided that I didn't want to do the movie.

All my friends said that it's a huge production and a great movie, but I said that mera abhi singing ka kaam hai, main ussi par focus kar leta hoon, abhi itna time pada hai, filmein toh hoti rahengi," adds Mehndi.

It has been over two decades



since Mehndi has been writing and singing songs and he admits that he never felt the need to as such go all about and turn into an actor. "I didn't want to spend my own money to make a movie, but I always had this thought that if any producer or director feels that I'm needed or I have the talent to play any character, then they will call me. Now I feel ki ab time hai, gaane main jhande gaaad diye, ab acting mai gaaadne hain. If God wants, I'll excel in acting

as well," hopes the 56-year-old, who has already shot for some of his parts, while some are still left.

The singer is grateful to filmmaker Ahmed Khan for considering him in *Welcome To The Jungle*, and is really looking forward to being a part of an ensemble cast including Arshad Warsi, Raveena Tandon, Disha Patani, Jacqueline Fernandez, Suniel Shetty among others.

"He called me and just said, 'Paaji, maine ek jagah aapki

haan kardi hai, na mat kijiyege'. He is my brother and an amazing human being, I just couldn't say no. I'm glad that he felt I could do a role in his film," Mehndi continues, "Everyone has been treating me with such love and respect. We all keep laughing all the time on set while filming and I can't imagine how much the audience will enjoy it. Akshay paaji itna hasaate hain, bahut maza aa raha hai."

Ask him if balancing acting and singing would be a hard task, and the singer doesn't look perturbed.

"Technically, I started acting in my song Na Na Na Re, so I don't think it's that difficult for me or I'll have to work hard on it separately. I feel I have it in me. Baaki bhagwaan ne chaaha toh aur acting projects bhi aayenge, I am willing to grow more in this arena. I am hoping to balance both acting and music in the future," he wraps up.

Mark Bennington: I can never break the ceiling here



Mark Bennington's journey in Indian showbiz is a compelling tale of resilience. The American actor, recently seen in *Maharaj* and *Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar*, shares his experiences.

"There are several challenges here in India. For instance, in the West, you never get a script at the last minute; you

have time to work on your character. Here in India, it's often last minute, so I find myself learning lines on a flight or on my way to the set. Another difference is that in the West, actors never negotiate their fees directly; they have agents who handle that. Here, it's only now that I have an agent," he says.

When asked about being typecast based on his White heritage, Bennington says, "I usually get offered characters from the British Raj and have turned down several of them. Roles like the one I had in *Saas Bahu Aur Flamingo* (web show) are very rare."

He adds that his focus is on making the roles he takes on "as real and interesting as possible". Bennington also accepts that he might not be able to ever "break the ceiling" here, like foreign actors in the West do.

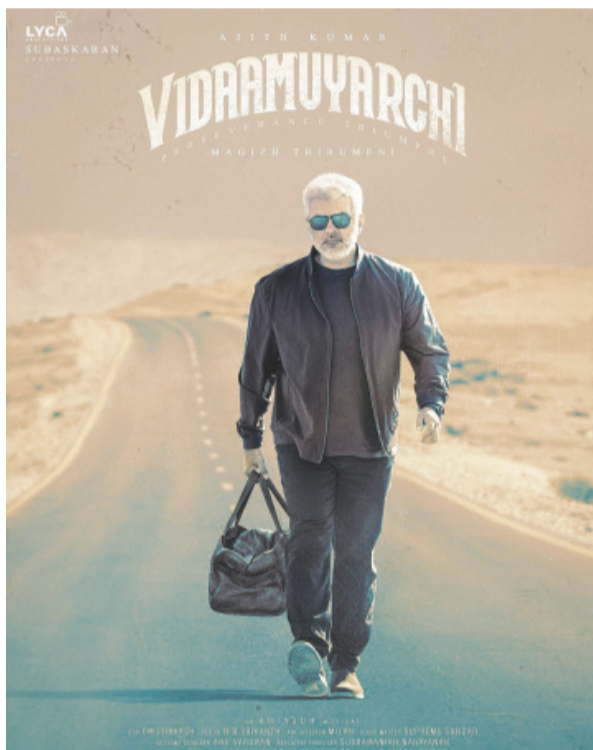
"I don't think there has been a non-Indian star in showbiz, except maybe Tom Alter — but that's also because he was born in India, and his Hindi and Urdu were excellent. So, I am looking at getting into writing and directing, to be able to write and create stuff that is away from this typecasting," he signs off.

'Vidaamuyarchi' first look: Ajith Kumar gets the show on the road

Producer Subaskaran's Lyca Productions has officially unveiled the first look of Ajith Kumar's *Vidaamuyarchi*. Directed by Magizh Thirumani, the film brings back the Mankatha trio of Trisha, Arjun and Ajith.

The first look features Ajith walking down a highway with a black bag in his hand.

The rest of the cast of *Vidaamuyarchi* includes Aarav, Regina Cassandra and Nikhil. In a statement, GKM Tamil Kumaran, Head of Lyca Productions, said, "It gives us great pleasure to unveil the first look of our special and ambitious project *Vidaamuyarchi*. Since its official announcement, the fans have been enormously showcasing their love and support towards this film, and we wanted to gift them something special that will enthrall them. We are



vigorously working on the project, and shooting will be wrapped up by mid-August. We will be officially announcing the release date soon."

Vidaamuyarchi's music is by Anirudh who had

earlier composed music for Ajith's *Vedalam* and *Vivegam*. Om Prakash handles cinematography, NB Srikanth oversees editing works, and Milan is the art director for this film.

Abhijeet Bhattacharya says he was 'insulted' after winning award for Shah Rukh Khan's Yes Boss

Singer Abhijeet Bhattacharya has spoken about the early days of his career and how music directors would make him feel humiliated. Speaking with Pinkvilla, Abhijeet shared an instance when music directors wouldn't give him "a chance to sing" when they landed a Shah Rukh Khan film. He also recalled that after winning an award for *Yes Boss*, many music directors would tell him that they wouldn't choose him to sing for their tracks.

Abhijeet recalls being insulted by music directors

Abhijeet was asked if he has ever been criticised in such a way which made him feel insulted but also inspired. Talking about being 'a victim of industry politics', he said, "Mere saath bahut huya



hai... jisme hota tha ki, music director ko jaise hi laga ke Shah Rukh Khan ki picture mil gayi... kitne bhi close ho mere woh music director, aisa lagta tha ki uska motive hi tha ke Abhijeet ko nahi gavaunga (It has happened a lot with me. When music directors would get a Shah Rukh Khan film, they wouldn't give me a chance to sing, no matter how

close I was to them)." Abhijeet on being mistreated post *Yes Boss* award

He also said, "Jabse mujhe award mila, aur koi film bahut badi blockbuster nahi thi *Yes Boss*, gaana bhi blockbuster nahi thi, lekin us time pe saare blockbusters ke beech mein ek non-blockbuster tha, *Border*, *Pardes*, *Dil To Pagal Hai*. Aur idhar mujhe mil

gaya... Aur kitne music directors ko woh laga... uske baad dikha dikha ke mujhe woh bolte hain ke gaana tumse nahi gayayenge (When I won an award for my song in *Yes Boss*, mine was the only non-blockbuster song among all the blockbuster tracks from films like *Border*, *Pardes* and *Dil To Pagal Hai*... After that, many music directors would openly

tell me that they won't give their song to me)." Abhijeet sang four *Yes Boss* songs

Yes Boss is a 1997 romantic comedy film directed by Aziz Mirza. It stars Shah Rukh Khan, Juhi Chawla and Aditya Pancholi. The film's music was composed by Jatin-Lalit with lyrics by Javed Akhtar.

Out of six songs in the film, Abhijeet sang four of them—*Main Koi Aisa Geet Gaon*, *Chaand Taare*, *Suniye To and Jaata Hai Tu Kahan*. He won his first Filmfare Award for Best Male Playback Singer for the song *Main Koi Aisa Geet Gaon*.

About Abhijeet
Throughout his career, Abhijeet has sung in Hindi, Marathi, Nepali, Tamil, Bhojpur, Punjabi, Odia and Bengali languages. Abhijeet has sung 6034 songs in more than 1000 films.

Devoleena Bhattacharjee breaks silence on pregnancy rumours: 'Don't bother me'

In response to persistent pregnancy rumours, actor Devoleena Bhattacharjee has finally addressed the issue via Instagram Stories. While she refrained from confirming or denying the speculation, she urged the public to respect her privacy and refrain from intruding.

The actor took to Instagram Stories and mentioned that she will announce her pregnancy whenever she feels like and asked everyone not to "bother" her. Devoleena emphasised that she would announce her pregnancy only when she feels comfortable sharing it.

"Many people have been messaging me for a long time regarding my pregnancy, creating news about it. I am sure that whenever I feel like sharing such news with you all, I will do it myself. For now, please do not bother me," Devoleena wrote.

She also questioned the purpose of people's curiosity, whether it was to create headlines, generate content, or engage in trolling or positive comments. However, she empha-

sised that none of these would satisfy her desire for privacy.

"What will you do once you find out whether I am pregnant or not? Will you create headlines, make your own content, troll or right 2-3 nice things? But trust me, I do not crave any of these. This is my personal space and you are not invited to bother me," she shared, adding, "I am sure if anyone intrudes on your personal space or create content, you wouldn't like it either. There is enough content on social media to keep yourself busy. I am sure by now you all understand that I do not like interference in my personal life".

Devoleena's statement comes a day after she shared photos online that some said seemingly revealed a baby bump. Many Instagram followers flooded the comments sections with questions and well wishes, with some even addressing her as "mommy-to-be".

Several fans rushed to the comments section asking if Devoleena was expecting her first child with her husband,



Shanawaz Shaikh. "Gopi bahu tum pregnant ho kya mujhe Kokila bhn ko khushkhari deni h please btana jarur," one of the fans wrote. "Is she pregnant?????" added another. A third user called her, "mommy-to-be".

More about the couple Devoleena tied the knot with her beau Shanawaz Shaikh in December 2022. It was a court wedding in Lonavala with only close friends in attendance. However, she faced immense backlash after her wedding when trolls questioned her decision of inter-faith marriage.

In an interview with agency, Devoleena gave a reply to trolls and said, "If I had married a wealthy man, I'd have been labelled a gold-digger, and if I married someone like SRK (Shah Rukh Khan), they would have said usne kaisi ladki se shaadi kar lee (What kind of girl did he marry)."

Devoleena is known for shows like *Saath Nibhaana Saathiya* and *Dil Diyaan Gallaan*. She also participated in Salman Khan's *Bigg Boss*.

Katy Perry stuns bride with surprise show-up in Paris, leaving her speechless



Katy Perry's saga of surprises continued as she surprised a just-married couple in Paris when she was leaving the Louvre. The Smile singer greeted the couple after her appearance at the Paris Fashion Week. The incident was captured in a video which surfaced online. The interaction with Katy and the bride's stunned reaction piqued everyone's interest.

Bride's reaction after Katy Perry greeted her

Katy Perry was leaving the Louvre after attending the Paris Fashion Week when she spotted a newly married couple in Paris. In the video, Katy approached the couple when she saw them in their wedding outfits. The bride was wearing a white princess gown and

the groom wore a white tuxedo.

The 39-year-old singer greeted the couple on their marriage and high-fived the bride and groom. Bride's reaction was particularly interesting as she did not recognise Katy until she removed her shades. The bride was stunned and then got excited once she realised that it was the Chained to the Rhythm singer who greeted her.

The couple was in the middle of their wedding shoot when Katy approached them to give her blessings and have a chat with them. The adorable moment between the singer and the bride was captured in a video and shared on X, formerly known as Twitter.

Netizens react to Katy's interaction with the couple

Netizens adored the sweet gesture of Katy Perry's impromptu wish to the unknown newlyweds. Fans gushed over the bride's stunned reaction to meeting the singer on the day of their wedding. Users of X expressed their thoughts and admiration about the unplanned meet and greet.

A user on X wrote, "the way the bride got so excited after finding out she was THEE Katy Perry is sending me, so cute".

A second user wrote, "Oh she'll remember this day forever now". A third user adored, "Lucky. How I wish Katy would appear at my wedding."

Another user wrote, "Must've been a moment to remember forever!" while another wrote, "From confused to elated in a second".

A user commented on the stunned reaction of the newlywed, "they must be so confused why a woman with many paparazzi is coming at them".

Another user noticed, "They Had no clue until she took the shades off".

Government fully committed to improving health infrastructure: PM Modi on Doctor's Day

July 1 is observed as the National Doctor's Day and Chartered Accountant's Day

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): On the occasion of Doctor's Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said his government is fully committed to improving the health infrastructure in India and ensuring doctors get the widespread respect they deserve.

July 1 is observed as the National Doctor's Day to commemorate Bidhan Chandra Roy, a renowned doctor who served as West Bengal chief minister too, and whose birth and death anniversary fall on this day.

In a post on X, PM Modi said, 'Greetings on #Doctors Day. This is a day to honour



the incredible dedication and compassion of our healthcare heroes. They can navigate the most challenging complexities

with remarkable skill.' 'Our Government is fully committed to improving the health infrastructure in India and ensur-

ing doctors get the widespread respect they deserve,' he said.

In another post on X, the prime minister hailed chartered accountants for their 'vital role' in shaping the country's economic landscape.

'Happy Chartered Accountants Day! CAs play a vital role in shaping our economic landscape. Their expertise and strategic insights are beneficial for businesses and individuals alike,' PM Modi said.

'They also contribute significantly to economic growth and stability. They are equally integral to our financial well-being,' he said.

Justice within 3 years of registering FIR under new laws; hope for reduction of crime: Amit Shah



NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Monday that justice will be delivered up to the level of the Supreme Court in all cases registered under the new criminal laws within three years of the registration of an FIR.

Addressing a press conference after the new criminal laws were implemented, Shah expressed hope of a reduction of crime in future as 90 per cent

conviction was expected under the new laws.

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA) came into effect on Monday. The new laws replaced the British-era Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act, respectively.

'Justice can be received up to the Supreme Court within three years of the reg-

istration of the FIR,' he said.

The Home Minister said with the implementation of the three criminal laws, India would have the most modern criminal justice system in the world.

'The new laws brought in a modern justice system, incorporating provisions such as Zero FIR, online registration of police complaints, summonses through electronic modes such as SMS and mandatory videography of crime scenes for all heinous crimes,' he said.

Shah said first case under the new laws was about motorcycle theft registered in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior at 10 minutes past midnight.

He said the new laws would give priority to providing justice, unlike the colonial-era laws that gave primacy to penal action.

Like mother, like daughter: Bansuri Swaraj's first Lok Sabha speech evokes memories of Sushma Swaraj

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): In a moment that resonated deeply within the halls of Parliament, Bansuri Swaraj, the newly elected BJP Member of Parliament from New Delhi, made her debut speech in the Lok Sabha. Channeling the spirit and style of her late mother, the former Union Minister Sushma Swaraj, Bansuri's address was not just a political statement but seems to be an emotional homage.

The atmosphere in the Lok Sabha was filled with nostalgia as Bansuri began her speech with the words, "Adhyaksh Ji", reminiscent of the powerful openings her mother was known for. Observers couldn't help but draw comparisons between the two. From her eloquent delivery to her sartorial choices,

Bansuri evoked the image of Swaraj, making the old memories come alive. It was as if the past had returned, with Bansuri embodying her mother's formidable presence.

Bansuri, who secured her seat from the New Delhi Lok Sabha constituency for the first time, made a significant impact. Her demeanour, the way she raised her finger while making points, and her articulate speech brought back vivid memories of Swaraj's time in Parliament. As she spoke, it was clear that the legacy of Swaraj was alive and thriving in her daughter.

"Like mother, like daughter", the saying goes, and in Bansuri's case, it couldn't be more accurate. Her style of speaking, the confi-

dence with which she addressed the House, and even her mannerisms were strikingly similar to her mother's. The sight of her in a sari, delivering a speech with the same fervour, was a poignant reminder of Swaraj's indomitable spirit.

During her speech, Bansuri extended her gratitude to the party and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla for the opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks for the President's Address, presented by BJP MP Anurag Thakur. She expressed her wholehearted support for the motion, acknowledging the platform to discuss significant issues.

Bansuri highlighted the government's achievements over the past decade, emphasising the consistency



between its words and actions. "For the first time in a decade, we have a government whose deeds match its promises," she proclaimed. She lauded the abrogation of Article 370, the construction of the Ram Temple, the introduction of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), and the implementation of One Rank, One Pension (OROP). She also mentioned the foundation of the Make-in-India initiative and the transformation of India's economy,

which now stands as the fifth largest in the world.

"This speech is historic," Bansuri said, "not only because it depicts the unparalleled achievements of the Modi Government over the past decade but also because it heralds the promise of a golden era—an era of a developed India." She credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi's welfare schemes and visionary leadership for earning the people's trust and securing a decisive mandate for the NDA.

Excise policy case: Arvind Kejriwal challenges arrest by CBI in Delhi High Court

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal challenged in Delhi High Court on Monday his arrest by the CBI in a corruption case related to the alleged excise policy scam.

The AAP national convener also challenged a trial court's June 26 order by which he was remanded in three-day custody of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

On June 29, he was



sent to judicial custody till July 12 by the trial court. Kejriwal was arrested by the CBI on June 26 from Tihar jail,

where he was in judicial custody in a related money-laundering case filed by the Enforcement Directorate.

Rahul Gandhi enjoyed power without responsibility till now: Anurag Thakur in Lok Sabha

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): BJP leader Anurag Thakur on Monday listed out various economic achievements of the NDA Government in the last 10 years and took a swipe at Rahul Gandhi, saying he was enjoying power without responsibility till he became the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha.

Initiating the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address, Thakur said the Lok Sabha elections have kept those against the Constitution in the Opposition benches for the third time.

While congratulating Gandhi on becoming the Leader of Opposition, Thakur said the Congress leader now has power with responsibility and 'absentee landlordism will not



work".

For the last many years, Gandhi was enjoying power without responsibility, Thakur said and asserted that it was an "agnipariksha" for the Congress leader now.

"Will he sit in Lok Sabha all day?... he is not there (even) now," the BJP leader remarked.

Gandhi was not in the House when Thakur made the remarks and there were protests from the Opposition

members.

Thakur said India was once a fragile economy but in the last 10 years, the country has become the world's fifth-largest and also the fastest-growing economy in the world.

There was economic failure, crony capitalism and scams during the Congress rule while there have been no charges of corruption against Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government in the last 10 years, Thakur said.

NDA's third term marred with paper leaks, terror attacks, train accident, airport canopy collapse: Kharage

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Congress president Mallikarjun Kharage on Monday took pot-shot at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement that last 10 years of his rule was just a trailer and 'picture abhi baaki hai', saying the third term of NDA has seen exam paper leaks, terror attack in J&K, train accident, airport canopy collapse, bridges cave-ins and toll tax hike.

Participating in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address in the Rajya Sabha, Leader of Opposition Kharage said the Prime Minister during the Lok Sabha election campaign stated many times that "pichle 10 saal toh bas trailer tha, abhi asli picture baaki hai" (last ten years was just a trailer, the real picture is yet to come).

"How the PM's picture



would be, we have been able to imagine in the last one month," Kharage quipped.

Listing out many recent incidents, Kharage pointed out that there have been exam paper leaks, cancellation of many examinations, train accident, three terror attacks in Jammu & Kashmir, leakages in Ram temple, collapse of canopy at three airports, increase in toll taxes and depreciation of rupee.

Kharage said the future of 30 lakh students has been affected due to recent paper leaks.

"If this keeps happen-

ing, students will stop their study," he said. In the last seven years, there have been paper leaks 70 times, Kharage said, adding that this has affected future of 2 crore students.

The Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Upper House further said that the government was not doing anything on this matter and blames Opposition parties for raising the issue in Parliament.

He asked the government to improve the examination system in the country.

Expressing dismay at

President's Address to the joint sitting of Parliament last week, he said the speech did not make any mention of the Manipur situation.

Kharage said the PM did not visit Manipur, which has been burning since the last one year.

The LoP said there was no vision or direction in the President's address to Parliament and attacked the ruling party for only giving slogans and not doing development works.

Kharage said the President's speech has also "ignored" the challenges faced by the country and tried to hide the government's failure.

He said there was no mention about the poor, Dalits and minorities in the President's address.

Targeting Prime Minister Modi, he said Opposition parties talk about the plight of common man, while Modi was only doing 'Mann Ki

Baat'.

Kharage said Modi is an expert in only giving slogans.

Accusing the PM of trying to divide the society through his speeches during polls, he said no prime minister has done this before.

Kharage also attacked the ruling benches for not taking along Opposition parties.

He charged that many elected governments of Opposition parties, including in Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh, were dislodged while chief ministers have been jailed and said this is against "democracy and the Constitution".

He also appealed to Rajya Sabha chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar to put back statues of Mahatma Gandhi, B R Ambedkar and that of other leaders at their original places in Parliament complex.

Karnataka cop stabs wife to death in SP's office premises

HASSAN (KARNATAKA), Jul 1 (Agencies): In a shocking case, a police constable stabbed his wife to death on the premises of the SP's office in Karnataka's Hassan district on Monday and then fled the spot.

The police have launched a search for the accused cop. The deceased woman was identified as Mamatha, and the accused was Lokanath.

A preliminary investigation

revealed that a family dispute triggered the incident.

The incident took place when Mamatha had come to the SP's office to file a complaint against her husband.

Lokanath, enraged by this, ambushed and stabbed her in the chest, killing her in the presence of police personnel and the public.

Although she was immediately rushed to the hospital, Mamatha succumbed to her injuries later.

The accused police constable managed to escape from the scene. According to police, Lokanath and Mamatha have been married for 17 years and have two children. The couple had been fighting over a family dispute and had a bitter argument just four days ago. Lokanath was working at the office of the circle inspector in Shanthigrama. Hassan City police have registered a case and are investigating the matter.

Sleepwalker dies after falling from Mumbai building

MUMBAI, Jul 1 (Agencies): A 19-year-old man having the sleepwalking condition died after falling from the sixth floor of a building in Mumbai, police said on Monday.

The incident took place at around 5 am on Sunday at the Aqua Gem Tower on Nesbit Road in Mazgaon area in south Mumbai, an official said.

Mustafa Ibrahim Chunawala was found lying unconscious at



the podium on the building's third floor, he said.

After receiving information, police reached the spot and rushed the man to Saifi Hospital where doctors declared him dead before arrival, the official said.

Chunawala was having the issue of 'somniaambulism' (sleepwalking), he said.

The Byculla police have registered a case of accidental death, the official said, adding a probe was underway into the case.

North Korea test-launches 2 ballistic missiles, 2 days after end of new US-South Korea-Japan drill

Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missiles were launched 10 minutes apart in a northeastern direction from the town of Jangyon in southeastern North Korea

SEOUL, Jul 1 (Agencies): North Korea test-fired two ballistic missile Monday, South Korea's military said, a day after the North vowed "offensive and overwhelming" responses to a new US military drill with South Korea and Japan.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missiles were launched 10 minutes apart in a northeastern direction from the town of Jangyon in southeastern North Korea.

It said the first missile flew 600 kilometres (370 miles) and the second missile 120 kilometres (75 miles), but didn't say where they landed. North Korea typically test-fires missiles toward its eastern waters, but the second missile's flight distance was too short to reach those waters.

South Korean media said an unidentified South Korean military source reported that it was highly likely the second missile crashed in an inland area of the North. Possible damages on the North's ground weren't immediately reported.

The reports said the first missile landed in the waters off the North's eastern city of Chongjin.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, which did not comment on the media reports, said South



Korea maintains a firm readiness to repel any provocations by North Korea in conjunctions with the military alliance with the United States.

The launch came two days after South Korea, the US and Japan ended their new multidomain trilateral drills in the region.

In recent years, the three countries have been expanding their trilateral security partnership to better cope with North Korea's evolving nuclear threats and China's increasing assertiveness in the region.

The "Freedom Edge" drill was meant to increase the sophistication of previous exercises with simultaneous air and naval drills geared toward improving joint ballistic-missile defence,

anti-submarine warfare, sur-

veillance and other skills and capabilities. The three-day drill involved a US aircraft carrier as well as destroyers, fighter jets and helicopters from the three countries.

On Sunday, North Korea's Foreign Ministry issued a lengthy statement strongly denouncing the "Freedom Edge" drill, calling the US-South Korea-Japan partnership an Asian version of NATO. It said the drill openly destroyed the security environment on the Korean Peninsula and contained a US intention to lay siege to China and exert pressure on Russia.

The statement said North Korea will "firmly defend the sovereignty, security and interests of the state and peace in the region through offensive

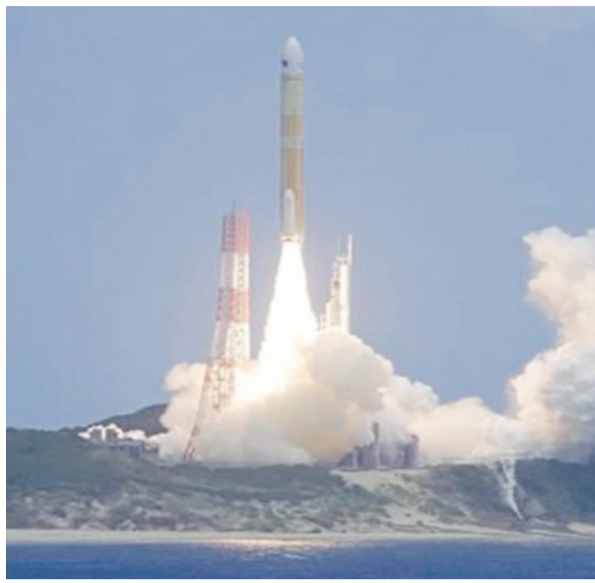
and overwhelming countermeasures." Monday's launch was the North's first weapons firing in five days.

On Wednesday, North Korea launched what it called a multiwarhead missile in the first known launch of a developmental, advanced weapon meant to defeat US and South Korean missile defences. North Korea said the launch was successful, but South Korea dismissed the North's claim as deception to cover up a failed launch.

In recent weeks, North Korea has floated numerous trash-carrying balloons toward South Korea in what it has described as a tit-for-tat response to South Korean activists sending political leaflets via their own balloons. Last month, North Korea and Russia also struck a deal vowing mutual defense assistance if either is attacked, a major defence pact that raised worries that it could embolden Kim to launch more provocations at South Korea.

Meanwhile, North Korea opened a key ruling party meeting Friday to determine what it called "important, immediate issues" related to works to further enhance Korean-style socialism.

Japan launches advanced Earth observation satellite on its new flagship H3 rocket



TOKYO, Jul 1 (Agencies): Japan deployed an upgraded Earth observation satellite for disaster response and security after it was launched on a new flagship H3 rocket Monday.

The H3 No. 3 rocket lifted off from the Tanegashima Space Centre on a southwestern Japanese island and released its payload about 16 minutes later as planned, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, or JAXA, said during a livestream.

The Advanced Land Observation Satellite,

or ALOS-4, is tasked primarily with Earth observation and data collection for disaster response and mapmaking.

It's also capable of monitoring military activity, such as missile launches, with an infrared sensor developed by the Defence Ministry.

The rocket appeared to fly as planned, and JAXA is expected to give further details at a news conference later Monday. The launch was initially planned for Sunday but was delayed due to bad weather at

the launch site.

The ALOS-4 is a successor to the current ALOS-2 and can observe a much wider area. Japan will operate both for the time being.

The launch was the third of the H3 system, after the successful one on February 17, and the shocking failed debut flight a year earlier when the rocket had to be destroyed with its payload — a satellite that was supposed to be the ALOS-3.

Japan sees a stable, commercially competitive space transport capability as key to its space program and national security.

JAXA and its main contractor Mitsubishi Heavy Industries have been developing the H3 launch system as a successor to its current mainstay, H-2A, which is set to retire after two more flights. MHI will eventually take over H3 production and launches from JAXA and hopes to make it commercially viable by cutting the launch cost to about half of the H-2A.

UK, British Airways face lawsuit against 1990 Kuwait hostage crisis

LONDON, Jul 1 (Agencies): Passengers and crew of a British Airways flight who were taken hostage in Kuwait in 1990 have launched legal action against the UK government and the airline, a law firm said Monday.

People on BA flight 149 were taken off the Kuala Lumpur-bound plane when it landed in the Gulf state on August 2 that year, hours after Iraq's then leader Saddam Hussein invaded the country.

Some of the 367 passengers and crew spent more than four months in captivity, including as human shields against Western attacks on the Iraqi dictator's troops during the first Gulf war. Ninety-four of them have filed a civil claim at the High Court in London, accusing Britain's government and BA of "deliberately endangering" civilians, said McCue Jury & Partners.

"All of the claimants suffered severe physical and psychiatric harm during their ordeal, the

consequences of which are still felt today," the law firm added.

The action claims that the UK government and the airline "knew the invasion had started" but allowed the flight to land anyway.

They did so because the flight was used to "insert a covert special ops team into occupied Kuwait," the firm added. "We were not treated as citizens but as expendable pawns for commercial and political gain," said Barry Manners, who was on the flight and is taking part in the claim.

"A victory over years of cover-up and bare-faced denial will help restore trust in our political and judicial process," he added.

British government files released in November 2021 revealed that the UK ambassador to Kuwait informed London about reports of an Iraqi incursion before the flight landed but the message was not passed on to BA.

There have also been claims, denied by

the government, that London knowingly put passengers at risk by using the flight to deploy undercover operatives and delayed take-off to allow them to board.

The UK government refused to comment on ongoing legal matters.

British Airways has always denied accusations of negligence, conspiracy and a cover-up.

The airline did not respond to a request for comment from agency but said last year that the records released in 2021 "confirmed British Airways was not warned about the invasion".

McCue Jury & Partners had announced in September its intention to file the suit, saying then that the hostages "may claim an estimated average of £170,000 (\$213,000) each in damages".

In 2003, a French court ordered BA to pay 1.67 million euros to the flight's French hostages, saying it had "seriously failed in its obligations" to them by landing the plane.

Entry Fee Issued For Mount Fuji Hikers Amid New Crowd Control Measures

JAPAN, Jul 1 (Agencies): Mount Fuji's summer climbing season began on Monday with new crowd control measures to combat over-tourism on the Japanese volcano's most popular trail.

An entry fee of 2,000 yen (\$13) plus an optional donation is being charged for those taking on the Yoshida Trail, and numbers are capped at 4,000 per day.

Online reservations have also been introduced this year by authorities concerned about safety and environmental damage on Japan's highest mountain.

"I really like the idea because if you respect the mountain, you have to limit the people," hiker Chetna Joshi told agency at the trail's Fifth Station -- a busy starting point for hikers that is reachable by car.

The 47-year-old from India compared the crowds seen at Fuji in recent years to the "traffic jam" of climbers at the peak of Mount



Everest.

Although windy and drizzly weather on Monday prevented hikers from reaching the summit, Joshi said ascending part way was still a "great experience".

"I love mountains. I think it is not giving me permission this time, that's OK. I accept it," she said.

Record tourist crowds are flocking to Japan post-pandemic, with many wanting to see or scale Mount Fuji.

The mountain is covered in snow most of the year but draws more than 220,000 visitors each July-September climbing period.

Many trudge through the night to see the sunrise from the 3,776-

metre (12,388-foot) summit.

Some sleep on the trail or start fires for heat, while others attempt to complete the hike without breaks, becoming sick or injured as a result.

"Crazy adventure" The once-peaceful pilgrimage site has three other main routes that will remain free to climb.

But the Yoshida Trail -- accessed from Tokyo relatively easily -- is the preferred option for most holidaymakers, with around 60 per cent of climbers choosing that route.

Each summer, reports in Japanese media describe tourists climbing Mount Fuji with insufficient mountain-eering equipment.

The new measures were introduced "first and foremost to protect lives", governor Kotaro Nagasaki of Yamanashi prefecture has said.

In a reminder of the dangers, last week four bodies were found near the summit, according to local media reports.

"I personally feel like I've over-prepared," Geoffrey Kula, a climber from the United States, told agency.

"Having looked at the forecast, being ready to swap out multiple outfits if clothes get wet and things like that. Yeah, it just seems like another crazy adventure."

Tourist hotspot Monthly visitors to Japan exceeded three million for the first time in March, and then again in April and May.

The tourism chief has deemed the country's ambitious goal of attracting 60 million foreign tourists well within reach, having last year welcomed more than 25 million.

Mount Fuji is about two hours from cen-

tral Tokyo by train and can be seen for miles around.

The mountain is a symbol of Japan that has been immortalised in countless artworks, including Hokusai's "Great Wave".

But as in other tourist hotspots, such as Venice -- which recently launched a trial of entry fees for day visitors -- the influx has not been universally welcomed.

In May, a town near Mount Fuji mounted a large barrier at a popular viewing spot for the volcano in an attempt to deter photo-taking by an ever-growing number of tourists.

Residents were fed up with streams of mostly foreign visitors littering, trespassing and breaking traffic rules in their hunt for a photo to share on social media.

Similar woes have befallen the country's ancient capital of Kyoto, where locals have complained of tourists harassing the city's famed geisha.

Ahead Of UK Polls, A Look At Rishi Sunak's Rise To The PM's Post

LONDON, Jul 1 (Agencies): The United Kingdom is gearing up for an intense election battle on July 4. The ruling Conservative Party, led by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, and his rival Keir Starmer's Labour Party are locked in what's said to be one of the most high-profile electoral battles globally.

In October 2022, Mr Sunak, 44, became the first Indian-origin British prime minister and the youngest occupant of the 10 Downing Street in 210 years. This happened after the country went through a major political turmoil, witnessing back-to-back resignations of two former PMs Boris Johnson and his successor Liz Truss.

Ahead of the crucial polls this week, let's revisit the moment Mr Sunak came to power:

In 2015, Mr Sunak was elected as the Conservative MP for

Richmond, Yorkshire. A lifelong Brexiter, he campaigned for leaving the economic bloc, and he got his first ministerial berth under Theresa May, as number three at the newly re-named Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government in 2018.

Later, he endorsed Boris Johnson for the post of Prime Minister.

2019 UK elections The Conservative Party, under the leadership of Boris Johnson, emerged victorious in the 2019 elections, bagging 365 of the 650 seats. While Johnson continued as the Prime Minister, Mr Sunak was rewarded with the job of Treasury minister under then Chancellor Sajid Javid.

Later, when Mr Javid resigned from the post over a power battle, Mr Sunak was promoted



to the role of Chancellor. This made Sunak the first minister of Indian origin to hold one of the highest offices in the UK government.

Mr Sunak was praised during the COVID-19 lockdown for his series of mini Budgets that introduced measures such as the furlough scheme that went on to save many jobs and businesses. He was even pitted as a clear favourite to succeed Johnson as the Tory leader.

Rishi Sunak vs Liz Truss In 2022, when Mr Johnson announced his decision to resign as the UK Prime Minister

following a mass revolt by ministers over his leadership that was sparked by major scandals, including Partygate, both Mr Sunak and Ms Truss started their bids to succeed Johnson.

Ultimately, Ms Truss went on to win the Conservative Party leadership race and became the new British PM. However, after six weeks amid an open revolt, Ms Truss had to resign.

Rishi Sunak becomes PM Mr Sunak went on to create history and became the Prime Minister of the UK in October 2022 after Penny Mordaunt, the last remaining rival in the Tory leadership contest, dropped out of the race.

Back then, Mr Sunak reportedly won the public support of around 200 of his Conservative MP colleagues and succeeded Truss as the new UK Prime Minister.

Veteran Sri Lankan politician and Tamil leader Sampanthan dies at 91



COLOMBO, Jul 1 (Agencies): R Sampanthan, a veteran Sri Lankan politician and a moderate Tamil leader, passed away last night while receiving treatment in a hospital, the Tamil National Alliance has announced.

Sampanthan, 91, led the Tamil National Alliance (TNA) from 2004

and became only the second Tamil to become the main opposition leader in the Sinhala-majority country.

He was ailing for a long time and was missing the current parliamentary sessions for a long time.

He was a moderate Tamil who had been leading the political

movement to achieve a negotiated political settlement to the Tamil demand for political autonomy.

The Tamils put forward their demand for autonomy since gaining independence from Britain in 1948, which, from the mid-70s, turned into a bloody armed conflict.

He took office as the leader of the opposition in 2015 and was actively involved in the process of drafting a new Constitution until 2019.

brilliant lawyer, Sampanthan entered Parliament for the first time in 1977 from the eastern port district of Trincomalee.

IIM Jammu inaugurates fifth batch of Capacity Building Program

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, in collaboration with the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce (DICC), commenced the fifth batch of the Capacity Building Program on Small Business Development Units (SBDUs).

The inauguration took place at the Patanjali Classroom, IIM Jammu Jagti Campus on Monday, heralding a new chapter in entrepreneurial empowerment.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, presided over the event in an online mode. The fourth batch comprised 39 participants from various parts of the country, including individuals from the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Among the notable attendees were Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu; Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Chairperson, Centre for Small Business Development, IIM Jammu; Dr. Sarbjit Singh, Program Director, SBDU, IIM Jammu; Dr. Vivek Sharma, Chief Innovation Officer (CIO), Centre for Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Skill Development, IIM Jammu; and Shri Naren Karunakaran, Consultant, Centre for Diversity and Inclusion, IIM Jammu.

The ceremony commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp,



symbolizing the enlightenment and empowerment that the program seeks to instill.

Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Chairperson, Centre for Small Business Development, IIM Jammu, in his welcome address, provided an overview of the program, setting the stage for an enriching journey of learning and growth.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, joining online, emphasized the importance of the five-day program.

He stated that big business is always talked about in India, but not small business, and this initiative aims to strengthen the small businesses thriving in the country. He mentioned that today, entrepreneurship has taken center stage, with the rise of unicorns and \$1 million startups.

He expressed immense joy in seeing many women participating in this program and stressed the importance of participants aspiring beyond the skies. He noted that IIM Jammu is in the process of opening 22 SBDUs in the Union Territories of Jammu and

Kashmir, and Ladakh.

He emphasized the importance of focusing on the program, learning the nuances of developing business plans, and marketing products and businesses through various online avenues such as the GEM Portal, Amazon, and Flipkart registration.

He urged Dr. Mahesh Gadekar to facilitate networking with past participants of the SBDU program. With 150 participants already trained in the earlier SBDU programs, along with many other participants in other training programs, IIM Jammu is committed to fostering entrepreneurship in the country.

He stressed the importance of participants asking questions, engaging in fruitful discussions, and making the most of this opportunity.

He extended his gratitude to the Ministry of Skill Development, Govt. of India, for this initiative and mentioned that successful startups are key to community, society, and nation-building. He wished all the participants and the program great

success.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, reflected on the institution's journey and the inception of the Capacity Building Program, envisioned by Padmashri Dr. Milind P. Kamble, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Jammu in collaboration with the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce (DICC) under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development, Govt. of India.

He emphasized the Institute's commitment to fostering innovation and inclusivity while highlighting the necessity of establishing a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region.

He underscored the importance of creating enterprises that lead to job creation.

He noted that entrepreneurship is built on two factors: identification of an opportunity and utilization of that opportunity, leading to the creation of unicorns.

He urged participants to make full use of the five-day module, which would sensitize them to different aspects of entrepreneur-

ship and mark the start of a new journey and relationship, thereby contributing to the nation's development.

The ceremony also included the Campus Audio Visual of IIM Jammu followed by brief introductions from the participants, offering insights into their backgrounds and aspirations, further enriching the diverse tapestry of the program.

Dr. Sarbjit Singh, Program Director, SBDU, IIM Jammu, proposed the vote of thanks. Candidates from various districts of Jammu and Kashmir, representing the One District One Product (ODOP) initiative, also participated in a program organized at IIM Jammu by Invest India to enhance their skills.

The program aims to refine their abilities, enabling them to play a crucial role in realizing the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, as envisioned by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

The event concluded with the rendition of the national anthem, symbolizing unity and collective aspirations. The event was coordinated by the Small Business Development Unit Team, IIM Jammu.

The Capacity Building Program on Small Business Development Units by IIM Jammu sets the stage for transformative growth, empowering aspiring and existing entrepreneurs to realize their dreams and contribute meaningfully to the socio-economic development of the nation.

BFDC protests against Archaeology & Distt Administration, urges to protect Dogra's Historical Monument

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: The Bahu Fort Development Committee (BFDC), led by President Rajeev Charak along with Vice Chairman BFDC Advocate Ishant Gupta, has launched a protest against the Archaeology and Museums Department of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, as well as the District Administration of Jammu.

The protesters shouted slogans against the Archaeology Department, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Jammu, and the Jammu and Kashmir Police.

During the protest, Charak spoke to the media, expressing their anger over the lack of action against unauthorized construction within the protected Bawe Wali Mata Temple at Bahu Fort.

He revealed that they had informed the Archaeology Department two months ago about the illegal construction of a shed by unknown individuals.

Despite multiple complaints, the department has only passed the responsibility to the DC Jammu without taking any concrete action.

Charak further added that this type of incident is not happening for the first time. It has now become a habit to damage the protected monument, and every time the archaeology department plays the game of passing responsibility to the district administration and others by writing letters but doing nothing and taking no appropriate action.



He said seven years ago, they also informed the department that illegal construction was at its peak, but no action was taken, and the protected monument was damaged with multiple illegal constructions like Langar shed, multiple temples, concrete cement shelter shed, and other cemented constructions.

Charak highlighted a letter from the Directorate of Archives, Archaeology, and Museums, dated May 17, 2024, which was sent to the DC Jammu. The letter was about the erection of a shed on the main entry gate of the Bahu Fort within the prohibited area under the J&K Ancient Monument Preservation Act, 1920.

The letter emphasized that the Bahu Fort, a protected monument, is being encroached upon without any approval from the competent authority. The letter also referred to the J&K Ancient Monument Preservation Act, 1920, which prohibits new construction within 100 meters of the monument site. Violations of this act can lead to the removal of unauthorized structures and legal action against the offenders.

The letter also referred to the Jammu and Kashmir Ancient Monument Preservation Rules, 2012, which require permission from the government for any construction or excavation within a protected area. Despite these regulations, the district administration has not taken any effective measures to stop the illegal construction.

Charak also questioned the role of the police, pointing out that there is a police post within the monument. He raised concerns about how construction materials could be transported and used without the police's knowledge and approval. The Bahu Fort Development Committee urges the District Administration to take immediate action to halt the illegal construction, investigate the matter, and hold the culprits accountable under the law to protect this historic site.

Prominent members present at the protest included Kuldeep Raj Gupta, Harsh Khokhar, Capt Moti Lal, Kasturi Lal Sagotra, Dr. Davinder Singh, Vinod Kumar, Vijay Kumar, Girdhari Lal, Nitesh Thapa, Deepak Kumar, Tanish Mehra Bal Krishan and others.

Vi Movies, TV App strengthens entertainment offering with Zee5

INTRODUCES NEW SUBSCRIPTION PLANS WITH ACCESS TO 17 OTT APPS

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: In line with its continuous endeavour to cater to the growing consumer demands of bringing more entertainment at an affordable price, a leading telecom operator Vi, had launched their content aggregator App i.e Vi Movies & TV

in its new avatar earlier this year. In addition to existing top players like Disney+ Hotstar, Vi today announced a new partnership with one of the leading OTT player ZEE5. With this new addition, Vi Movies & TV App now offers access to 17 OTT Apps in one single subscription, at 248 per month. Vi users

can binge on their favourite content on top OTT Apps such as Disney+ Hotstar, Sony LIV, ZEE5, and others all with a single subscription to Vi Movies and TV, on their Mobile & TV.

Vi users will be able to enjoy a wide range of movies, shows, and popular titles such as the Vidya Balan star-

rer - Do Aur Do Pyaar, the ongoing ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024, regional blockbusters such as Manjumel Boys, Aranmanai 4 and many more on the Disney+ Hotstar app; UEFA Euro Cup, 'Gullak Season 4, India Tour of Sri Lanka Scam 2003, Rocket Boys etc. from Sony LIV and shows

like 'Sunflower', 'Broken News', TAJ and movies such as 'Sirf Ek Banda Kaafi Hai', 'Kadak Singh', 'Veer Sawarkar', 'Sam Bahadur', 'Hanuman', and more from ZEE5.

Avneesh Khosla, Chief Marketing Officer, Vodafone Idea, said "At Vi, we understand that convenience and great value are two critical factors

influencing buying decisions in India and we are committed to offering solutions that meet the needs of our customers. Our content aggregator platform, Vi Movies & TV App, offers access to 17 OTT platforms with a single plan. This not only reduces the cost of entertainment consumption but also eliminates

the hassle of subscribing to multiple OTT apps separately."

He further added, "We are confident that Vi Movies & TV App will strike a chord with our consumers for its cost-effectiveness and convenience, opting for a seamless entertainment experience over multiple independent subscrip-

tions. Our aim is to make high-quality entertainment accessible to our users and enhance their overall viewing experience through strategic partnerships with various OTT platforms. We will continue to expand our offerings by bringing the best entertainment experience for our users."

FROM PAGE 1

Indian Army ready to face all challenges: Gen Dwivedi

and the Air Force and other stakeholders, we will always be prepared for operations under the full spectrum of conflict, he said. "I assure the country and all the citizens that the Indian Army is ready and capable to face all current and future challenges," he said.

The remarks came amid the lingering border row with China in eastern Ladakh. Gen Dwivedi was serving as the Vice Chief of the Army since February 19.

Before becoming the Vice Chief, he was serving as the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Northern Command from 2022-2024.

An alumnus of Sainik School, Rewa (MP), Gen Dwivedi was commissioned into regiment of Jammu and Kashmir Rifles in 1984. He has a unique distinction of balanced command as well as staff exposure across Northern, Eastern and Western theatres in varied operational environment.

Fresh batch of pilgrims leaves for Amarnath Shrine

the valley since June 28 when Lt Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch. The 52-day-long yatra began from June 29 and will conclude on August 19.

Terrorist associate arrested with arms, ammunition in Sopore: Police

were made at around 7.40 pm on Sunday. The apprehended terror associate has been identified as Waheed ul Zahoor who hails from Hadipora in the Mustafabad region of Srinagar.

The recovered arms and ammunition include two Turkish Pistols, three Turkish Pistol Magazine, 41 Pistol Rounds, two Chinese Grenade, one Turkish Pistol Silencer, and incriminating IED materials.

According to the press release issued by the Sopore Police, "During the naka, one white-colored car... coming from Bomai towards Machipora was intercepted. It was signaled to stop but the driver of the vehicle tried to flee from the spot but was apprehended tactfully by the alert naka party."

Upon interrogation, he disclosed his identity and during the search operation, the above-mentioned arms and ammunition were recovered.

"An FIR has been registered in this regard and is further investigating the case. More recoveries are to be expected," said a press statement.

New Criminal Laws fully capable to deal with Pak-Sponsored Terrorism: ADGP Jammu

Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) replaced the British-era Indian Penal Code (IPC), Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act, respectively.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of 'Thana Diwas' function at a police station here, the ADGP said the two important things of the new criminal laws are justice in place of punishment and security which means that the new laws will not only punish the guilty but also provide justice to the victims.

'Vandalism' at place of worship in J&K: 3 More people detained, shutdown observed

superintendent of Police to identify and arrest the culprits. While 12 people were apprehended till Sunday, three more suspects were detained on the intervening night of Sunday and Monday. The total number of those taken into custody for questioning in the case stands at 15, a police officer said.

He said the SIT is working on various clues to crack the case and requesting people to maintain law and order. Responding to a call for bandh by a local group, a shutdown was observed in Reasi town and adjoining areas on Monday with groups of youth burning tyres on different

roads. A large number of agitated people also assembled at Zanana Park in the town and took out a march towards nearby Thapa Chowk, demanding stern action against the culprits. Officials said police and paramilitary forces were deployed in strength in the sensitive areas as a precautionary measure to maintain law and order. Deputy Commissioner of Reasi Vishesh Paul Mahajan visited the protest site and tried to pacify the protesters, assuring that stern action would be taken against the culprits.

"Anyone trying to vitiate the peaceful atmosphere will not be spared. It is an attempt to create hurdles and sabotage developmental activities, besides communal harmony. "This is my guarantee.... We will not tolerate any attempt to damage peace in the district," the deputy commissioner had said. Senior Superintendent of Police, Reasi, Mohita Sharma reiterated her appeal to the people to maintain calm and communal harmony, assuring that the police were committed to solving the case and tracing the culprits at the earliest.

"Those found involved in the case will be booked under the Public Safety Act (PSA), while the district administration has decided to prepare a list of all temples for installation of CCTV cameras to work as a deterrent against such incidents," she told reporters.

Jammu Kashmir Road Transport Co turnover reached Rs 190 Cr in 2023-24

also outlined, focusing on increasing trip frequencies, optimising fleet strength for

business potential, commercial utilization of assets, and resuming contract services with government organizations. Technological upgrades like the completion of an E-ticketing module, installation of CCTV cameras and fuel sensors, and the implementation of IRASTAY in the Union Territory are also on the agenda.

The review meeting, led by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, involved key officials such as Secretary Transport Niraj Kumar, the Transport Commissioner, and other senior officers. Dulloo emphasised the need for enhanced supervision over the fleet to further increase revenue collection and stressed the importance of resolving internal matters through regular board meetings.

Additionally, Dulloo addressed broader issues within the Transport Department, such as the timely delivery of driving licenses and actions against repeat traffic violators. He directed the department to devise mechanisms for speeding up the delivery process, including bulk messaging, holding camps, and using speed post for distribution.

J&K Govt drops charges against former PHE XEN

from the Anti Corruption Bureau, the action alleged procedural violations in issuing contractor cards and allotting works, including not including estimated costs in the electronic Notice Inviting Tender (eNIT), which impacted transparency and competition. After reviewing Choudhary's response and recommendations from the Anti Corruption Bureau and the Chief Engineer of the UEED, it was concluded that the bidding process was fair, with no compromise on performance security or Government loss. The Competent Authority accepted the recommendations to drop the charges, and the case was closed.

IPO alert: Niva Bupa Health Insurance files draft prospectus to raise Rs 3,000 crore

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company Ltd has filed a draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with SEBI to raise Rs 3,000 crore through an initial public offering.

The shares will be listed on the BSE and NSE. The book-running lead managers to the issue are ICICI Securities, Morgan Stanley India Company, Kotak Mahindra Capital Company, Axis Capital, HDFC Bank and Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors.

This marks the second time a standalone health



insurer is planning to float an IPO with the first one being Star Health & Allied Insurance Company.

Formerly known as Max Bupa Health Insurance Company, Niva

Bupa has 210 physical branches across 22 states and four UTs. It is majorly controlled by Bupa, a UK-based global healthcare firm. Bupa Singapore Holdings Pte owns 62.27 per

cent stake while Fettle Tone LLP holds 27.86 per cent stake in the insurance firm.

What does the IPO comprise?

The proposed IPO, with a face value of Rs 10 each, is a combination of fresh issuance of Rs 800 crore worth of equity shares as well as an offer for sale (OFS) of up to Rs 2,200 crore by a promoter and an investor shareholder, according to the DRHP filed on Saturday.

Out of the offer for sale, investor Fettle Tone LLP will offload shares amounting to Rs 1,880 crore while pro-

moter Bupa Singapore Holdings Pte Ltd will raise Rs 320 crore from its side.

Niva Bupa said it is also mulling to issue securities worth up to Rs 160 crore as a part of "pre-IPO placement". If this materialises, the fresh issue size will be reduced.

What will the proceeds be used for?

The net proceeds from the IPO to the extent of Rs 625 crore will be utilised to bolster the company's capital base and improving its solvency levels while a portion will be used for general corporate purposes.

SMVD Narayana extends bid-adieu to Dr. Gopal Sharma

Top News Report

KATRA, July 1: Consequent to his further posting for a crucial assignment as Asstt. CEO at Shrine Board's Central Office at Katra, Dr. Gopal Sharma got relieved from his assignments as Chief Administrative Officer of SMVD Narayana Hospital and Administrator, SMVD Nursing College.

In this context, an impressive function was organized on Monday at Kakryal to extend a bid-adieu to Dr. Sharma.

The function was attended by Dr. J.P. Singh, Clinical Director, Dr. M M Mathavan, Facility Director, Sudesh Sharma, Dy General Manager, Shylaja S. Nursing Superintendent,

Shailla Cainne, Principal Nursing College, Rohit Sethi, Sr. Manager Finance and a brief yet impressive gathering of other key officers and staff of Hospital.

Sharing their experience, speaker after speaker were unequivocal of the impeccable reputation of Dr. Gopal Sharma, his critical contribution in the growth of institutions, professional acumen and great personal & leadership traits.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Gopal Sharma shared his experience of more than 8 years at the Hospital and claimed that his posting at the Hospital remained quite significant and satisfying for him; not only from professional angle but

also from perspective of personal learning.

Extending warm welcome to his successor Dr. Yashpal Sharma, the outgoing officer vociferously appreciated vast domain wisdom and rich experience profile of Dr. Yashpal. He added that with the joining of Dr. Yashpal, the Hospital / Nursing College is all set to touch the new horizons of clinical / academic excellence. He exuberated confidence that joining of Dr. Yashpal shall ensure early setting up of Medical College of the Board in a short time.

The farewell function concluded with a lavish lunch hosted by all staff and presenting of mementos as a token of their affection and love for the outgoing officer.

Rashtriya Bajrang Dal stages protest against demolishing Shiv temple in Reasi, seeks action



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: The Rashtriya Bajrang Dal on Monday staged a strong protest against the Reasi administration regarding the incident of demolishing a Shiv temple in the Reasi area. Leading the demonstration, Rakesh Bajrangi, the State President of Rashtriya Bajrang Dal, criticized the administration for its inaction.

He demanded swift action against the culprits responsible for the temple destruction, urging their immediate arrest and imprisonment. Rakesh highlighted a

pattern of temple desecrations in Jammu and Kashmir, including areas like Doda, Bhadarwah, and Reasi, where incidents are often reported but justice remains elusive.

He condemned the authorities for not taking such matters seriously, emphasizing that Hindu sentiments are continuously being targeted, whether through cow slaughter, temple vandalism, or other means, to provoke and insult their faith.

The protest gained momentum, with significant support from the Hindu community, lead-

ing to widespread outrage against the administration's lack of decisive action.

District Collector of Reasi issued a statement regarding the incident but the Hindu community made it clear that they will not tolerate any disrespect to their faith and will continue their protests throughout the state, and the serious consequences of this occasion will have to bookstores.

Many activists were present on this occasion including Sandeep Sharma, Parveen, Ashwani Singh, Sunil Khullar Divyanshu Kapahi, Abhi.

Indians spend 3.5 times more on foreign travel than they did 5 years ago

NEW DELHI, July 1 (Agencies): Indians are spending a lot more on overseas travel. And with a rise in the number of those travelling abroad, the they took out (outward foreign exchange remittances) jumped to almost \$1.42 billion (around Rs 12,500 crore) a month on an average in 2023-24 compared with just \$400 million (about Rs 3,300 crore) a month on an average five years ago in 2018-19.

According to Reserve Bank of India data, Indians took out a total of \$17

LRS was \$13.73 billion.

Under LRS, all resident individuals, including minors, can remit up to US \$250,000 (approximately Rs 2.08 crore) abroad a year without prior approval from the RBI.

Indians spend 3.5 times more on foreign travel than they did 5 yrs ago

"Over the last 10 years, there has been a significant change in the nature of outward remittances. Purpose wise, 'gifts' had the highest share in India's outward remittance in FY14, fol-



billion (Rs 1,41,800 crore) in 2023-24 for overseas travel under the RBI's liberalised remittances scheme (LRS). This is 24.4 per cent more compared with \$13.66 billion in the previous year.

Travel has emerged as the primary source of remittance outflow from India, accounting for 53.6 per cent of total outflows in FY24 from just 1.5 per cent share in 2013-14 and 35 per cent in 2018-19.

With an increase in disposable income and growth of the aspirational middle class in the country, there has been an increase in foreign travel. This trend gained further traction after travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic were lifted.

"The share of maintenance of close relatives has remained around 15 per cent over the last 10 years. However, there has been a sharp decline in the share of gifts and education in this period," a report by Bank of Baroda said.

Resident Indians are also investing more abroad. In 2023-24, they invested on an average \$100 million abroad every month (\$1.51 billion for the full year) in foreign equity and debt as against \$1.25 billion in the full year 2022-23, RBI data shows. Remittances for 'maintenance of close relatives abroad' were \$4.61 billion and 'studies abroad' were \$3.47 billion in 2023-24.

Overall, total outward remittances under LRS were \$31.73 billion in 2023-24 as against \$27.14 billion in the previous year, a rise of 16.91 per cent. Five years ago in 2018-19, the total outward remittances under

lowed by 'others'. Maintenance of close relatives and investment in equity/debt were the other major heads. On the other hand, their share has declined significantly in subsequent years," says a Bank of Baroda report.

Latest data also shows that tax collection at source (TCS) rates on payments under the LRS from October 1 had limited impact on remittances. However, TCS is not an additional tax liability as people can claim a refund while filing income tax returns.

As per the TCS rates under LRS proposed in the 2023-24 Budget, overseas tour packages will attract TCS of 20 per cent from October 1, compared with 5 per cent. However, TCS will not be levied on credit card spending abroad. On International spends through credit cards, HDFC Bank said in a communication to account holders, "the classification of use of international credit cards while being overseas, as LRS is postponed. Therefore, no TCS shall be applicable on expenditure through international credit card while being overseas till further order."

However, for education where the source of fund is a loan, there will be no TCS for less than Rs 7 lakh per individual per annum; for amounts equal to or more than Rs 7 lakh, the applicable TCS will be the same at 0.5 per cent. For education purposes where the source is self-funding, for amounts less than Rs 7 lakh no TCS will be levied, but for amounts of Rs 7 lakh and above, TCS rate will continue to be 5 per cent.

Agr Deptt promotes green manuring to restore default organic status of Basmati

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: The Agriculture Department of Jammu under the leadership of A.S. Reen, Director of Agriculture, Jammu aimed at revitalizing the organic status of Basmati rice in the R.S. Pura area of Jammu Region. This initiative focuses on promoting green manuring to counterbalance the effects of past inorganic fertilizer use and restore the region's natural organic heritage.

Under this program, 120 quintals of Dhanicha seed have been distributed among farmers across the Basmati-growing belt. The purpose is to implement green manuring practices that enhance soil fertility and sustain the

organic integrity of Basmati cultivation areas in the Jammu region.

"The distinct quality of Basmati rice from Jammu's R.S. Pura owes much to the organic status of its soil and the low night temperature during seed formation stage at its growth," highlighted A.S. Reen, Director of Agriculture, Jammu. "By promoting green manuring with Dhanicha, we are committed to preserving and enhancing these natural attributes crucial for Basmati cultivation."

A significant demonstration of incorporating Dhanicha in an area of 200 hectares in Basmati growing fields by providing subsidised Dhanicha seed, serves as a practical example of the initiative's objectives. This

effort is part of a mission to regain the by-default organic status of Basmati 370 in R.S. Pura. Farmers of the area highly appreciated the efforts by Agriculture Department in converting a larger area under green manuring this year.

The organic certification of locally grown Basmati rice also opens up significant opportunities for export markets, reinforcing its global appeal based on unparalleled flavour and aroma.

"The organic status of Jammu's Basmati rice is paramount to its global reputation," emphasized A.S. Reen. "This initiative not only safeguards our agricultural heritage but also ensures sustainable practices that benefit farmers and consumers alike."

Wrestlers Reezak, Dillar share Bambyal Dangal title



Top News Report

KATRA, July 1: Wrestler Reezak of Mallerkotla in Punjab and Dillar Khan of J&K Police shared annual Bambyal (Nagrota) Dangal title 2024 in the first main bout that lasted for 26 minutes at Village Bambyal in District Jammu. Prize money for the main bout of Rs. 1,00,000 jointly equally distributed to both the Wrestlers.

Annual Bambyal Dangal was organized by Bambyal Dangal Committee in association with J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association under the overall supervision of Bashir Ahmed Kohli (President), Dr. Manjor Hussain and Kartar Chand.

Former Joint Secretary J&K State Sports Council and President J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association, Shiv Kumar Sharma graced the occasion as chief guest who gave away cash prizes to the winners.

President Yuva Rajput Sabha Vikram Singh Chib and former President Yuva Rajput Sabha Rajan Singh (Happy) were the guests of honour. Prominent persons present on the occasion were Sub-Inspector Ishfaq Ahmed, ASI Balbir Singh and Sumit Singh of Nagrota.

Second main bout was won by Fiza of J&K Police of Billawar (Kathua) who defeated Sujay of Rohtak in Haryana. Winner Fiza was awarded with cash prize of Rs. 45,000 while runner-up Wrestler Sujay got Rs. 30,000.

Third bout was won by Shubam of Guru Hanuman Akhara Delhi who defeated wrestler Akib of Billawar (Kathua), Winner Wrestler Shubam was awarded with cash prize of Rs. 20,000 while runner-up wrestler got Rs. 11,000.

A very interesting women bout was fought between Wrestler Tanu Rajput of CCS University Meerut (U.P) V/s

Pooja Rani of Prem Nath Akhara, Sabzi Mandi Delhi. This bout was won by Tanu Rajput and she was awarded with cash prize of Rs. 10,000 while runner-up wrestler Pooja Rani got Rs. 6,000.

In all, 45 bouts were played in the Dangal and Rs. 3,50,000 was distributed as cash prizes among the winner and runner-up Wrestlers by Chief Guest Shiv Kumar Sharma.

Members of Bambyal Dangal Committee who helped in smooth conduct of Dangal were Bashir Ahmed Kohli (President), Dr. Manjor Hussain, Kartar Chand, Sher Singh Numberdar, Randeep Singh, Rajesh Kumar, Hamid Khan, Mohd Deen, Farooq Mohd., Sham Lal, Farooq Ahmed, Des Raj Bral, Alib Hussain Sanjay Kumar, Pawan Kumar Master, Babu Pahawan, Vijay Kumar, Gaffar Mohd., Jagdish Sharma, Ajit Raj Fouji and Rattan Lal.

Bureaucracy fails to address issues of common masses: Manjit Singh



Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, July 1: Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh has said that the bureaucracy has failed to address issues of the common masses.

As per a press release, a monthly meeting of the Party workers was held at Vijaypur to review the functioning of the party cadre in the district and to discuss issues faced by the people in the district.

The Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh, who chaired the meeting, held a threadbare discussion with the party cadre and issued directions to improve the working of the party in the district and to enhance public outreach programs.

He also said that the party is committed to work for the welfare of the people irrespective of any kind of disparity.

"The people are worried about their day-to-day issues that often remain unaddressed, and the administration fails to resolve their issues. Hence, the public grievance redressal system seems to have collapsed

completely in Jammu and Kashmir, especially in rural areas and towns," he said.

He asked the party cadre to come forward and listen to the problems of the people and highlight them accordingly for early redressal.

"The party is working day and night for the welfare of people, but the administration does not work in the interest of the people. The people are facing multiple problems, but it appears that the bureaucracy is not willing to resolve the issues," he stated.

He said that during the heatwave in Jammu plains, the people faced unscheduled power cuts for more than 8 hours, and there was no accountability on the JPDC and other officials who are deputed to ensure essential supply system.

"The canal water is not reaching at the tail-end villages along the border in Ramgarh, and other areas due to which the farmers are facing problems to irrigate their fields," he added.

He said that "The flood control and irrigation department along with

the civil administration should resolve the issue confronted by the farmers."

He also demanded construction of a band at the flood prone areas close to the rivers and water bodies so that life and property can be saved in case of heavy rains.

He also demanded that the administration should streamline the drinking water and electricity supply system in the rural areas and Vijaypur town which has faced the worst kind of unscheduled power cuts.

He also referred to the road infrastructure in the rural areas that need attention of the authorities, but the demands of the people remain unheard for years.

He said that if the Apni Party forms the next Govt in Jammu and Kashmir, the development and improvement in infrastructural development would be on prime focus.

He also sought an end to the discrimination with the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe residential colonies and demanded that these areas should be provided basic amenities.

So many words but can't find the right ones: Rohit Sharma on Team India's T20 World Cup triumph

37-year-old retires from the T20 Internationals

BRIDGETOWN, Jul 1 (Agencies): After a successful journey at the recently concluded T20 World Cup and winning the prestigious ICC trophy, India skipper Rohit Sharma said that he doesn't have the right words to describe the feeling.

The 37-year-old retired from the T20 Internationals after winning the 2024 T20 World Cup. With 4,231 runs in 159 games, Rohit is the format's best scorer going out. He also owns the record for most hundreds (five) in T20 Internationals. He has won two T20 World Cups: the first in 2007 while competing and the current one in 2024 as a captain.

Rohit took to his official Instagram account and said that he



is currently basking in a dream come true.

'This picture epitomises how I'm feeling right now. So many

words but can't find the right ones to express what yesterday meant to me but I will, and I will share them, but right now I'm

basking in a dream come true for a billion of us.'

Summarising the final match of the tournament, India won the toss and opted to bat first. After being reduced to 34/3, a counter-attacking partnership between Virat (76) and Axar Patel (47 in 31 balls, with one four and four sixes) of 72 runs restored India's position in the game. A 57-run stand between Virat and Shivam Dube (27 in 16 balls, with three fours and a six) took India to 176/7 in their 20 overs.

Keshav Maharaj (2/23) and Anrich Nortje (2/26) were the top bowlers for South Africa. Marco Jansen and Aiden Markram took a wicket each.

Chinese junior player Zhang Zhijie dies during event in Indonesia



YOGYAKARTA, Jul 1 (Agencies): Badminton Asia expressed condolences on Monday following the death of 17-year-old Chinese player Zhang Zhijie, who passed away after collapsing on court during the Asian Junior Championships in Yog-

yakarta, Indonesia. Indonesia's Badminton Association (PBSI) and Badminton Asia said in a joint statement that Zhang collapsed during a match against Japan. The tournament's medical team arrived on the scene before an ambulance took him to a hos-

pital, where Zhang died at 11:20 pm, they added. "Badminton Asia, PBSI and the organising committee are immensely saddened and expressed their deepest condolences to Zhang's parents, family and Chinese Badminton Association," they said.

Indonesia's National Olympic Committee also offered their deepest condolences on Zhang's death.

China's badminton association told state-backed China Newsweek that they were in communication with the Indonesian side about concerns over whether Zhang had received timely medical attention.

Lok Sabha congratulates Indian cricket team on T20 World Cup win



NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): The Lok Sabha congratulated the Indian cricket team on Monday for winning the T20 World Cup.

Speaker Om Birla said the country's youngsters and sportspersons would

derive inspiration from the victory.

Birla congratulated the team led by Rohit Sharma on the feat.

India lifted the T20 World Cup after a 17-year gap, beating South Africa by seven runs in the final on June 29.

Team India stuck in Barbados after T20 World Cup win; hurricane threat forces airport shutdown

BRIDGETOWN (BARBADOS), Jul 1 (Agencies): After winning the T20 World Cup 2024, Rohit Sharma-led Team India has been stranded in Barbados due to a hurricane warning.

The Men in Blue got hold of the prestigious T20 WC trophy for the second time, defeating South Africa by seven runs in Barbados.

Currently, the Men in Blue are staying at the Hilton Hotel and Hurricane Beryl will pass by Barbados on Sunday night local time for which the airport has been closed. Curfew has been imposed in the city due to the hurricane.

Speaking to the reporters, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) secretary Jay Shah said that they are 'stuck' in Barbados and will think about the felicitation once the travel plans are clear.

"Like you we are also stuck



here. After the travel plans are clear, we will think about the felicitation," Shah was quoted by ESPNcricinfo as saying.

Summarising the final match of the tournament, India won the toss and opted to bat first. After being reduced to 34/3, a counter-attacking partnership between Virat (76) and Axar

Patel (47 in 31 balls, with one four and four sixes) of 72 runs restored India's position in the game. A 57-run stand between Virat and Shivam Dube (27 in 16 balls, with three fours and a six) took India to 176/7 in their 20 overs.

Keshav Maharaj (2/23) and Anrich Nortje (2/26) were the

top bowlers for SA. Marco Jansen and Aiden Markram took a wicket each.

In the run chase of 177 runs, Proteas was reduced to 12/2 and then a 58-run partnership between Quinton de Kock (39 in 31 balls, with four boundaries and a six) and Tristan Stubbs (31 in 21 balls, with three fours and a six) brought back SA into the game. A half-century by Heinrich Klaasen (52 in 27 balls, with two fours and five sixes) threatened to take the game away from India. However, Arshdeep Singh (2/18), Jasprit Bumrah (2/20) and Hardik (3/20) made a fine comeback in death overs, keeping SA to 169/8 in their 20 overs.

Virat secured the 'Player of the Match' for his performance. Now, by securing their first ICC title since the Champions Trophy in 2013, India has ended their ICC trophy drought.

Jay Shah confirms 2 names shortlisted for India coach job after T20 World Cup win

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): The BCCI Secretary Jay Shah has confirmed that two names have been shortlisted for the role as the new India coach on July 1, Monday. Rahul Dravid's tenure as the India coach came to an end after the triumphant T20 World Cup campaign, with BCCI having started the process of taking in applications for the job from June 13.

According to reports, Gautam Gambhir has been considered to be the favourite to succeed Dravid as the new coach following his successful stint as mentor with KKR in IPL 2024. Gambhir himself has made it no secret he would be happy to take up the job recently.

Reports also stated that Gambhir had taken the interview for the role on June 18. Shah has now confirmed that a new coach will join the team



before the Sri Lanka series and the CAC had interviewed and shortlisted two names for the job. The BCCI Secretary, who is with the team in Barbados at the moment, also told agency they would make the call after reaching Mumbai.

"Both coach and selector appointment will be made shortly. CAC has interviewed and

shortlisted two names and after reaching Mumbai whatever they have decided we will go by that. VVS Laxman is going to Zimbabwe but new coach will join from Sri Lanka series," Shah told select media, referring to the Zimbabwe tour beginning July 6.

According to the reports, Gambhir, WV Raman and an

overseas candidate was shortlisted for the job.

Seniors to be there for the Champions Trophy

Shah also hinted that the seniors would be present for the Champions Trophy, despite a new era kicking in Indian cricket. The BCCI Secretary said that the target is to win the World Test Championship and the Champions Trophy in 2025 and a similar squad would be fielded.

"The way this team is progressing, our target is to win World Test Championship final and Champions Trophy. There will be a similar squad playing there. The seniors will be there," said Shah.

Following the T20 World Cup win, Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Ravindra Jadeja all retired from the T20I format for India.

Eduard Bello leads 2nd-half charge in Venezuela's 3-0 victory over Jamaica in Copa America



AUSTIN, Jul 1 (Agencies): Eduard Bello opened the scoring in the 49th minute and Venezuela completed Group B play with a perfect record, beating Jamaica 3-0 on Sunday night in Copa America.

Venezuela (3-0-0) played without coach Fernando Batista after he was handed a one-match suspension by CONMEBOL for his team's late arrival to the field in a victory over Mexico.

By winning Group B, Venezuela avoided a Thursday matchup in the quarterfinals against tournament favorite and defending champion Argentina. Instead, the Venezuelans will take on

Group A runner-up Canada on Friday at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

Bello took a crossing pass from Jon Aramburu and sent a header to the bottom right corner of the net from the right side of the 6-yard box. It was the second goal of the tournament for Bello, who scored the winner in a 2-1 victory over Ecuador in the opener.

In the 56th minute, Salomón Rondón used an assist from Yangel Herrera to send a left-footed kick from the center of box to the middle of the net. It was also the second goal for Rondón, who scored on a penalty kick in a 1-0 victory over Mexico in the team's second match.

Eric Ramírez completed the scoring when he took a through ball from Kervin Andrade in the 85th minute and drilled a right-footed shot from the center of the box to the center of the goal.

Goalkeeper Rafael Romo stopped one shot on goal for Venezuela.

Jahmali Waite did not have a save in goal for Jamaica (0-3-0).

Dinesh Karthik joins RCB as batting coach and mentor in IPL after retirement

NEW DELHI, Jul 1 (Agencies): Dinesh Karthik has joined RCB as their batting coach and mentor in the Indian Premier League (IPL). Earlier this year, Karthik decided to end his IPL career after an impressive season for the Faf du Plessis-led RCB. He finished IPL 2024 as one of their prolific run-scorers, having notched 326 runs from 15 matches at an average of 36.22 and a strike-rate of 187.35 with 2 half-centuries and a top score of 83 to his name.

Earlier, Karthik pulled the curtains down on his glittering career through an emotional statement on his 39th birthday. He expressed "deepest gratitude" to his near and dear ones for supporting him through thick and thin. Karthik said that he had been thinking about

contemplating retirement for a while and giving a thought about "new challenges".

"I've been overwhelmed by the affection, support and love I have received in the last few days. My deepest gratitude and sincere thanks to all the fans who have made this feeling possible," Karthik said.

"Having given it plenty of thought for sometime now, I have decided to move on from playing representative cricket. I officially announce my retirement and put my playing days behind me as I square up for the new challenges that lie ahead," Karthik added.

Speaking about Karthik's appointment, Mo Bobat, Director of Cricket, Royal Challengers Bengaluru, said, "DK is an excellent addition



to our coaching group. He was thrilling to watch on the field, and I'm sure he will be just as impact-

ful as a coach. His longevity and track record as a player speaks volumes about his skill and dedica-

tion. I know he will bring that same quality and commitment to this new professional chapter.

"DK's experiences across both international cricket and the IPL, make him a huge asset to RCB. I have no doubt that our players will benefit hugely from his expert support. As a player, DK demonstrated an elite mindset under pressure and a real drive to keep evolving his game.

"I'm looking forward to him instilling those same qualities and values into our players, and in particular, our batters. We have exciting times ahead and it's great for us that we can retain DK's involvement, as someone who knows what it takes to play for RCB and our special fans," Bobat further added.

RCB's wait for title continues

As far as RCB was concerned, they had their fair share of troubles, having lost 6 matches in a row. However, they made a stunning comeback after winning 6 matches. They defeated CSK in their last league game at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru to sneak into the playoffs. The Challengers, however, crashed out of the tournament after losing to Sanju Samson's RR in the Eliminator.

Karthik played quite a few match-winning knocks for them lower down the order and showed his utility. In 257 IPL matches since his debut back in 2008, Karthik scored 4842 runs at an average of 26.31 and a strike-rate of 135.36 with 22 half-centuries to show for his efforts.

Dr ML Dogra of JK-UT Awarded Prestigious Rabindra Ratna Puraskar-2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: Dr. Mohan Lal Dogra, a versatile personality in the field of Performing Art and Education, hailing from the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, has been honored with the prestigious "RABINDRA RATNA PURASKAR 2024" awarded by the John Thomas, Chairman & Chandrasekhar KN, Award Committee, Ratna Puraskar National Committee, VEYL foundation (Sun-Shine) recognized by Govt. of India, Ministry of Corporate Affairs. This national NGO is dedicated to working towards the Sustainable Development Goal set by the United Nations. Dr. Dogra's excellence in the category of Performing Art and Education has earned him this esteemed award, recognizing his outstanding contribution to the growth and development of Indian Folk Music and Dance. As a Folk Theatre Director and multi-talented traditional theatre artist, Dr.



Dogra has set a prominent benchmark for the promotion of Folk Music and dance dramas, also known as Musical Plays. His exceptional work and dedication have earned him various prestigious awards, making him a true legendary icon in the world of Performing Art. Dr. Dogra's enthusiasm and dedication to promoting India's rich Folk Dance and Folk Songs culture have been evident in his numerous accomplishments, including the authorship of high-selling books, the creation of original Dogri songs, and the financial support he provides to hundreds of artists under his mentor-

ship. Dr. Dogra worked in Directorate of Field Publicity and Song and Drama Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India as media person for awareness I.E.C. activities especially on health education. In addition to promotion of the traditional culture of Jammu and Kashmir, he produced light and sound performances and presented in national Festival like Kumbh Melas, Haridwar, Allahabad, Ladakh Festivals and Sadbhavana Samrohs and Autumn Festivals Navratra Festivals in various state of India "Dogra's main theatre productions are Maa Sheran Wali, Raja Mandlik, Kathoti Main Ganga, Ram Charit Manas, Bhasmasur, Doll, Rang Dari Deo in Dogri / Kamauni, Hindustani theatre style and he bring the same international notice and was honoured by the Global empire events. Dr. Dogra one of the few names of the country who have made a unique

contribution in establishing a folk Theatre workshops for children of Govt. Schools in coordination with J&K Social welfare departments, cultural performances, Musical Plays (Opera's) Jammu and Kashmir and other states of India. He has created over three dozen Dance drama spectacles on health and social evils which really represent the ethos, aspirations of the society and started a weekend two shows called Saturday musical Play and Friday Music Concerts, (One is on Health and other social evils) and reflected in the Regional, National papers, Radio and Doordarshan and social media on Face Book, youtube, instagram and Twitter and local channel. Dr. Dogra's work has made way for his reorganization from the Media houses and he has been decorated with more than 30 awards from the Government and other renowned nationally and internationally organizations, mainly cultural

bonaza award-1995 on world population day by Ministry of Health and Family welfare Information Broadcasting for best Production on Health, Child marriage in Jammu and Kashmir, Beti Bachao Beti Padoo 1995, Life time Achievement Award-2016 by Nav Dogri Sansthan, biggest India's Historical awards i.e. "Bharat Bhushan Award-2022-23", Icons of Asia-2022 by Global of empire events, Rashtriya Samaj Seva Rattan-2021 by Global human rights foundation, and Influential Indians award-2021 in best man of Excellence creation (Cultural) by the Crazy Tales (National and Sadbhavana awareness award from the Song and Drama Division, Government of India, Global Health care Award -2023 and Global Educational excellence award 2023 by NURCLM, 27 may 2023 New Delhi & Rashtriya Pratibha Samman 2024 by the Chief Guest Sudha Chandran, Famous Bollywood actress at Teen Murti Bhawan, New Delhi.

Sham Lal congratulates Indian Cricket Team on their historic T20 WC win

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: Sham Lal Gupta, Chairman, Anti Crime Bureau (ACB) NGO, congratulated the Indian Cricket Team for their remarkable victory in the T20 World Cup. Under the brilliant captaincy of Rohit Sharma, the Indian team achieved a historic victory in one of the most thrilling matches in cricket history.



Gupta said, "Hearty congratulations to the Rohit Sharma-led Indian cricket team on their historic win in the T20 World Cup. This incredible achievement has brought immense pride and joy to the nation. The dedication, skill and passion of the team has truly inspired us all."

The victory of the Indian cricket team is being celebrated across the country and fans and supporters are expressing their happiness in various ways. People are waving the national flag on the streets, bursting crackers and shouting slogans in support of the team. This victory has not only increased the spirits of the country but has also highlighted the potential and capability of Indian cricket on the global stage.

Played in a packed stadium, the final match was a thrilling encounter that kept fans on the edge of their seats till the last ball. Rohit Sharma's leadership played a key role in pulling the team out of

pressure situations. His strategic decisions and exceptional performances from key players turned the tide in India's favour. The captain's composed demeanour and tactical acumen were clearly visible throughout the tournament, earning him praise from cricket experts and fans alike.

Emphasising the importance of this win for the younger generation, Sham Lal Gupta said, "The team's victory is a testament to what can be achieved with hard work, perseverance and unity. It serves as a powerful inspiration for young aspiring cricketers across the country. The players have set a benchmark of excellence and shown that any challenge can be overcome with determination and team effort."

Gupta also acknowledged the contribution of the coaching staff, support team and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in nurturing talent and preparing the team for such high-stakes competitions.

He said the seamless coordination and support provided by these entities played a vital role in the team's success. Apart from celebrating the win, Gupta urged the nation to recognise and appreciate the efforts behind the scenes.

He said, "While we celebrate the victory on the field, we must also acknowledge the tireless efforts of the coaching staff, support team and the BCCI. Their work behind the scenes is crucial in shaping the team's performance and ensuring that our players are well prepared to face the toughest challenges."

The Indian cricket team's victory in the T20 World Cup has undoubtedly left an indelible mark on the country's sporting history. It has united the nation in celebration and set a new standard for excellence in cricket.

As the entire nation rejoices this historic achievement, Sham Lal Gupta's congratulatory message resonates with the pride and joy of millions of Indians.

This victory is not just a triumph in a cricket tournament; it is a symbol of the spirit of a nation that strives for greatness and celebrates the achievements of its heroes. The Indian team's success story will be remembered for years to come, inspiring future generations to dream big and achieve even greater heights.

Degree College Thathri working in Higher Secondary School Thathri: Rao

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: In his statement, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, a Senior AAP leader in Jammu and Kashmir, strongly criticized the government's approach to the allocation and sanctioning of Degree Colleges in the region, particularly highlighting discrepancies and alleged political favoritism.



He expressed deep concern over the decision-making process in 2008, where Degree Colleges were sanctioned in certain Assembly constituencies without clear criteria. Rao cited specific examples, such as the allocation of a Degree College in Chhatru for the Inderwal Constituency and Killotran, Bhellassa for Bhadarwah, which he claimed were politically motivated decisions favoring specific leaders.

Rao pointed out that Sub-Division Thathri, despite having a higher number of Higher Secondary Schools and serving a significant BPL, SC, and ST population,

was initially overlooked. He criticized the delay in sanctioning a Degree College in Thathri until 2012, attributing its eventual approval to public pressure and protests by the Thathri Development Front.

Even after its establishment, Rao highlighted deficiencies in infrastructure and staffing at the current Degree College location within a Higher Secondary School in Thathri, which he deemed unfair to both school and college students. Furthermore, Rao drew attention to similar issues in the health sector across the Chenab Region, where inadequate infrastructure forces residents to travel long distances for specialized treatment.

He criticized the lack of significant budgetary allocations for education and health, alleging that institutions were opened primarily for political gains rather than genuine development needs.

Rao concluded by appealing to the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, to intervene urgently.

He urged for immediate remedial measures to address the educational and healthcare challenges faced by the people of Sub-Division Thathri and the wider Chenab Region.

Rao also advocated for the inclusion of additional Tehsils under Thathri Sub-Division, arguing that this would facilitate better accessibility and make a compelling case for elevation to district status.

He criticized the recent delimitation process for allegedly ignoring the genuine representation of Thathri Sub-Division in Assembly constituencies, reflecting a broader pattern of neglect by successive governments.

HSS condemns incident of vandalism of temple in Reasi Identify culprits and take strict action: Vikrant Kapoor



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: State President of Hindustan Shiv Sena Vikrant Kapoor has strongly condemned the incident of vandalism of Hindu temple in Dharmadi area of Reasi district of Jammu division and said that the culprits should be identified and strict action should be taken against them. Calling upon people to maintain mutual brotherhood he said that Hindustan Shiv Sena will not let any attempt to disturb peace in the area by some vested selfish elements to succeed.

Vikrant Kapoor said this while addressing a press conference in Jammu. He said that some mischievous elements are not able to digest peace and they are hatching conspiracies to disrupt peace in Jammu and Kashmir during Amarnath Yatra. He said that under this

conspiracy the incident of vandalism in the temple in Dharmadi area of Reyasi district has been carried out.

Vikrant Kapoor has appealed the Governor's administration including the Director General and DIG Reasi Jammu and Kashmir Police to identify the elements responsible for this incident and arrest them and take strict action against them so that recurrence of such incidents can be prevented in future.

He warned that if strict action is not taken against the culprits immediately then Hindustan Shiv Sena will take to the streets and protest strongly against it.

Senior Hindustan Shiv Sena leaders Sunil Dabgotra, Rakesh, Baba Ram Kaith, Rohan, Abhishek, Himanshu, Amit, women wing leader Jyoti Devi and others were also present during the press conference.

Khalid Baqaal listens to PM's 'Mann Ki Baat' program

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 1: Khalid Baqaal, the Additional IT Head of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM), participated in the 'Mann Ki Baat' program held at Booth No. 51, Malla Bagh, Baghat Shooru B, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the nation.

The event was attended by enthusiastic workers and supporters of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and Baqaal used the platform to warmly welcome new members into the party fold.

He stressed the importance of unity and collective effort in advancing the nation and society, urging everyone to pool

their strengths towards national development.

Baqaal's involvement exemplified BJYM's dedication to supporting the initiatives outlined by Prime Minister Modi, emphasizing a proactive role in contributing to India's progress and fostering a sense of unity among party members and supporters alike.

JKBS members grieve unfortunate demise of Gidhawari Devi

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 1: To mourn the unfortunate demise of Batwal Community's most respected woman Smt. Gidhawari Devi, who left for her heavenly abode early in the morning today, the Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha's members held a condolence meeting here today.



She hailed from Village Chohala

and was the wife of Shri Baldev Raj Tugga.

JKBS member Dhian Chand Lakhotra said, Gidhawari Devi was the guiding soul who helped everyone always to progress on the right path and achieve success in life.

All present prayed to Almighty to grant eternal peace to the departed soul and give immense strength to the bereaved family to bear this immeasurable loss boldly.

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