

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, JULY 06, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Reformist Masoud Pezeshkian wins Iran's presidential runoff election, besting hard-liner Saeed Jalili



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BRIEFLY

Jagannath Rath Yatra 2024: Heavy Rainfall May Lash Odisha Districts, IMD Issues Alerts For 2 Days

NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): The stage is all set for the grand annual Rath Yatra, also known as the chariot festival of Lord Jagannath and his siblings which is scheduled to commence on Sunday in the sacred coastal city of Puri. However, the Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecasted heavy rainfall in Odisha for the coming two days.

The weather department of Bhubaneswar Regional Centre informed that due to a cyclonic circulation over the East-central Bay of Bengal, heavy rainfall is expected over the regions of Mayurbhanj, Koraput, and Malkangiri districts on Saturday.

On Sunday, July 7, heavy to very heavy rainfall is anticipated in Gajapati, Rayagada, Kalahandi, Nabarangpur, Khurda, Nayagarh, Cuttack, Puri, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Koraput, Malkangiri, Kandhamal, and Ganjam districts, the IMD bulletin said agency.

The weather department issued yellow warnings for Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Malkangiri, Koraput, Rayagada,

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Over 12 000 drunk drivers fined between Jan 1 and Jun 30

NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): The traffic police has fined more than 12,000 people for drunk driving from January 1 till June 30, an almost 27 per cent increase over the corresponding period of the previous year, officials said on Saturday.

The highest number of fines, 770, were issued in the Rajouri Garden Circle area, followed by 514 in the Samaypur Badli Circle area, data showed.

From January 1 till June 30, police have fined 12,468 people for drunk driving, compared to 9,837 during the same period last year. This is an almost 27 per cent increase in prosecutions, the traffic police said.

Besides Rajouri Garden and Samaypur Badli, the Rohini (441), Punjabi Bagh (387), Mehrauli (367), Mayur Vihar (364), Narela Circle (364), Kalkaji (344), Karol Bagh (342) and the Sadar Bazar (342) circles were among the areas that reported a high number of cases of drunk driving, the data showed.

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Union Budget 2024-25 to be presented in Lok Sabha on July 23

NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): The Union Budget for the financial year 2024-25 will be tabled in the Lok Sabha on July 23. The budget session of the parliament is scheduled to be conducted between July 22 and August 12.

While announcing the schedule, Union Minister Kiren Rijju on his official X handle said, "President of India, on the recommendation of the Government of



India, has approved the proposal for summoning both the Houses of Parliament for the Budget

Session, 2024, from July 22, 2024, to August 12, 2024 (subject to exigencies of Parliamentary

Business)."
Hon'ble President of India, on the recommendation of Government of India, has approved the proposal for summoning of both the Houses of Parliament for the Budget Session, 2024 from 22nd July, 2024 to 12 August, 2024 (Subject to exigencies of Parliamentary Business). Union Budget, Kiren Rijju (@KirenRijju) July 6, 2024

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Why Congress is not keen on alliance with AAP in Delhi and Haryana

NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): For the Congress in the national capital, post the Lok Sabha polls, it has been a quick change of tack and it has swiftly resumed its adversarial stance against the ruling Aam Aadmi Party amidst clear indications emanating from the party that it will not tie up with the AAP in the coming assembly elections in Delhi.

The Congress and the AAP had a seat-sharing arrangement in Delhi for the Lok Sabha polls,



with the top leaders of the two parties such as Rahul Gandhi and Arvind Kejriwal calling upon the workers of the two parties to collaborate. But the bonhomie has fast



dissipated post the Lok Sabha elections. At the state level, according to local Congress leaders, there is no scope for an alliance with the AAP.

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Two BSF personnel killed in separate road accidents in J&K

JAMMU, Jul 6 (Agencies): Two Border Security Force (BSF) personnel, including an assistant sub-inspector, were killed in separate road accidents in Kathua and Udhampur districts of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, officials said.

ASI Parshotam Singh (58), a resident of Himachal Pradesh, lost his

life, while two of his colleagues were rescued when their vehicle skidded off the road and fell into Ujh canal near Rajbagh in Kathua district, they said.

They said Singh was driving the car when he lost control over the vehicle while moving from Jasrota to Rajbagh.

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President Droupadi Murmu confers 10 Kirti Chakras, 26 Shaurya Chakras

NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu on Friday conferred 10 Kirti Chakras, including seven posthumously, to personnel of the Army and paramilitary forces for displaying indomitable courage and extraordinary valour in the line of duty.

Kirti Chakra is India's second-highest peacetime gallantry award. President Murmu, who is the Supreme Commander of the armed forces, also presented 26 Shaurya Chakras, including seven posthumously, to the personnel of the armed forces, Central

Armed Police Forces and state/Union Territorial police during a defence investiture ceremony held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, the defence ministry said in a statement.

Sepoy Pawan Kumar of The Grenadiers, 55th Battalion, the Rashtriya

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Soldier injured in gun battle with terrorists in Kulgam

SRINAGAR, Jul 6 (Agencies): A soldier of the elite unit was injured in an ongoing gun battle that broke out between militants and security forces in Kulgam district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, officials said.

The gun battle broke out at a time when there is a heightened security

across the valley due to the ongoing Amarnath yatra that started on last Saturday from the twin tracks of Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag district and the Baital route in Ganderbal district.

The encounter erupted at Modergam Village of Kulgam when joint teams

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One killed, 17 injured as 2 buses overturn in UP's Muzaffarnagar

MUZAFFARNAGAR, Jul 6 (Agencies): Both the buses were en route to Haridwar in Uttarakhand from Rajasthan. Muzaffarnagar. One person was killed and 17 were injured when two buses overturned and one fell into a roadside ditch here, police said on Saturday.

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BJP reviews strategy, plans future programs in J&K: G. Kishan Reddy

JAMMU, Jul 6 (Agencies): Ahead of the assembly polls, Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, who is in charge of poll-bound Jammu and Kashmir, said on July 6 that they are conducting a review and will discuss the upcoming programs of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in



the Union Territory. The BJP will hold an executive meeting with its Jammu and Kashmir unit on July 6, which will be chaired by Union Minister J.P. Nadda, who will arrive in Jammu city later in the day. The meeting will be held in Jammu

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Amarnath Yatra: J-K Police issue special traffic advisory for yatra convoy, non-convoy movement

RAMBAN, Jul 6 (Agencies): To ensure safe and efficient movement of pilgrims and other commuters during the holy Amarnath Yatra, the Jammu and Kashmir Traffic Police have issued an advisory on National Highway-44 with cut-off timings and instructions for various convoy and

non-convoy movements. Speaking to agency on Saturday, Senior Superintendent of Police, Traffic (NH-44) Rohit Basotra, outlined specific cut-off times and guidelines for managing the traffic during the Amarnath Yatra.

"After the Amarnath Yatra convoy sets off in

the morning, the non-convoy vehicles plying on the NH-44 can cross Nagrota around noon, Jikhaini Udhampur around 1 pm, Chandrakot Ramban around 2 pm, and Banihal around 3 pm, after which they will not be allowed," he said.

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MBA MOTORS

MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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

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

Ahead of Muharram, Basharat Bukhari seeks availability of adequate facilities during holy processions

SRINAGAR, Jul 6 (Agencies): Former Law Minister and PDP Senior leader Syed Basharat Bukhari on Saturday urged administration to make adequate arrangements during Muharram.

In a statement, Bukhari said that Muharram Processions carry a huge religious significance among Muslim Ummah, therefore, the administration need to have a comprehensive strategy in place for providing facilities to the mourners.

The PDP leader, meanwhile spoke to Deputy Commissioner Baramulla Urging him to ensure that all necessary arrangements are made in Shia dominated areas in Baramulla district particularly in Wagoora-Kreeri Constituency including Hygam, Bulgam, Authora, Watergam and other areas of the district.

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CREMATION

With profound grief & sorrow we regret to inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved **Sdr. Manjeet Singh Dutta** S/o Late S. Gurbaksh Singh Dutta R/o Ambedkar Chowk near Ambuja Cement Railway Road Udhampur.

The **Cremination** will be performed on 7th July 2024 (Sunday) at Devika Ghat Cremation Ground Udhampur at 11:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sdn. Harneet Kour - Wife
Daughter & Son-in-law
Sdn. Jasmine Kour & Anwant Singh
Miss Gursheen Kour - **Daughter**
S. Bin Pal Singh - **Son**
S. Devinder Singh Dutta & Rajinder Kour - **Brother & Sister-in-law**
Sdn. Harbhajan Kour W/o Late Sdr. Kripal Singh - **Sister**
Sdn. Surrender Kour W/o Late Sdr. Mohan Singh - **Sister**
Sandeep Kour W/o Late Sdr. Devinder Jeet Singh - **Sister**
Rahul Dev Singh & Vajinder Kour - **Nephew & Daughter-in-law**
Ivleen Kour - **Niece**



Sdr. Manjeet Singh Dutta

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Omkar Nath Turki** S/o Late Sh. Shankar Nath Turki originally resident of Rainawari/ 473, Karan Nagar, Srinagar and presently residing at 7/4, Hazuri Bagh, Talab Tillo, Jammu on 2nd July, 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya shall be performed on Thursday 11th July, 2024 (8.30 AM) at Muthi Ghat.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Shanta Turki - Wife
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Surinder & Saroj Turki
Daleep & Sangeeta Turki
Sanjay & Rajni Turki
Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-law
Sakshi & Saurav Jammal (Gaurika)
Sanchit, Saahil, Saksham, Saarthak & Saanvi - **Grand Children**
Contact Nos: 6005167807, 6005787407, 9469571203



SH. OMKAR NATH TURKI

TENTH DAY KRIYA

TENTH DAY KRIYA of **Smt. Sheela Kaul Kotru** W/o Late Piyare Krishan Kotru (originally from Baghaji, Rainawari, Srinagar, Kashmir) presently at 401-C (Regent) Shipra, Sun City, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad (UP) who left for her heavenly abode on 29-06-2024, will be performed on 07-07-2024 (Sunday) at Brij Ghat, Garmukteshwar, (Ghar Ganga) at 7:30 AM.

Shanti Pathi/Homage at Kashyap Rishi Bhawan, Sector 34, Noida from 12 PM-1 PM.
In GRIEF:
Aashutosh & Nutan Kotru (Son & Daughter-in-law)
9420689992, 9011336850
Rajeev & Anupama Koul (Son-in-law & Daughter)
9810412561, 9312052609
Pallavi Kaul, Rahul & Anyan Kotru (Grandchildren)
Kauls, 18, Karan Nagar, Srinagar.

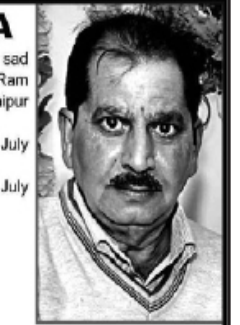


Smt. Sheela Kaul Kotru

TENTH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Sh. Raj Kumar Gondi** S/o Lt. Sh. Chel Ram & Krishna Devi R/o H.No. 248, Krishna Vihar, Janipur Colony, Jammu who expired on 2nd June 2024. **Tenth Day** will be performed on Sunday, 7th of July 2024 at 10 AM at Shiv Mandir, Janipur. **Kriya** will be performed on Wednesday, 10th of July 2024 at 4:00 PM onwards at Shiv Mandir, Janipur.

GRIEF STRICKEN :-
Smt. Nirmal Gondi - (Wife)
Ayush Gondi - (Son)
Daughter & Son-in-Law
Mehek Gondi & Niketan Gupta
GONDI FAMILY
Ph. No. : 8006504776, 9419194740, 9858570555, 7298017298



LT. SH. RAJ KUMAR GONDI

BARKHI

"YOUR LIFE WAS A BLESSING
YOUR MEMORY A TREASURE
YOU ARE LOVED BEYOND WORDS
AND MISSED BEYOND MEASURE"

Barkhi of our beloved **Late Sh. Rajesh Khullar** will be performed at our Residence 20A/D Opp. Hotel Asia, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu on Sunday, 7th July 2024 at 12 noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Jyoti Khullar - **Wife**
Tanja Khullar - **Daughter**
Chachi and Chacha
Chandrika and C.L. Khullar
Sister-in-law and Brother-in-law
Komal and Munish Pandhoh



Rajesh Khullar

Khullars and Handas
9419194557,
9858536945

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform you the sad demise of our beloved mother, **Sdn. Harbans Kour** Ji W/o. S. Avtar Singh(Ex-Army). R/o- Lower Gadi Garh, Jammu, who left us for heavenly abode on 29-06-2024.

ARAMBHI SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB on 05-07-2024 (Friday) at our residence.
BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB on 07-07-2024(Sunday) at 09:00 AM at our residence, Lower Gadi Garh, Jammu.
SHABD KIRATAN AND ANTIM ARDAS will be performed from 10:30 AM to 12 noon at Gurudwara Baba Fateh Singh Ji, Gole Market, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.
GRIEF STRICKEN :-
S. Avtar Singh (Ex-Army) - **Husband**
S. Jasmeet Singh and Sdr. Gurepreet Kour (Son and Daughter -in-law)
Sdr. Rasmeet Kour and S. Rajinder Singh (Daughter and Son-in-law)
Contact : 9906107369, 9622068337



Sdn. Harbans Kour

OBITUARY AND 10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of **Dr. Ved Vyas Kuchroo** S/o Late Sh. Modi Lal Kuchroo R/o Raj Ghat Saramulla, Kashmir presently residing at 702-B, Tower-7, Trishla City, Zirakpur, Punjab on 28th June 2024.

The **10th Day Kriya** will be performed on 7th July 2024 (Sunday) at Baghgar Ghat, Panchohra at 08:30 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Smt. Shalini Kuchroo (Wife)
(Brother & Bhabhi)
Lalit Mohan Kuchroo & Sarojini Kuchroo (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Vimla & Ashwani Kumar Churungoo (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Vishal Kaur W/o Lt. Sh. Anil Kaur (Sister)
Santosh Kaul S/o Lt. Sh. Anil Kaur (Nephew)
Phoola Kuchroo W/O Lt. Sh. K.L. Kuchroo (Aunt)
Neetu & Sanjay Mahalder (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Dr. Vinod Sharma (Father-in-law)
Smita Sharma & Anil Sharma (Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law)
Ravinder Sharma & Kusum Sharma (Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law)
Sanjay Sharma & Renu Sharma (Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law)
Phone Numbers: 7506604119, 920287669

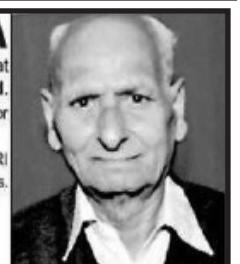


DR. VED VYAS KUCHROO

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound regret we wish to inform you that our beloved **SH. KASTURI LAL GUPTA** (Rtd. CHO), R/O Patel Nagar, Kathua has left us for heavenly abode on 29.06.2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at TANGRI PALACE on 08.07.2024 (Monday), 10.30 AM onwards.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Bhushan Rani (Wife)
Son & Daughter in law:
Sh. Sanjeev Gupta & Smt. Neelam Gupta
Daughters & Sons in law
Sh. Pawan Gupta & Smt. Anju Bala
Late Sh. Sanjeev Mahajan & Smt. Manju Bala
Grand Children: Chinay Gupta & Vaidehi Gupta
The Reading Camel Library (TRC) kalibari/Patel Nagar/Cpt. Sunil Choudhary Chowk
9419150445, 9070254672, 9149431106



SH. KASTURI LAL GUPTA (Rtd. CHO),

10TH DAY / 11TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief, we announce the passing of **Smt. Kamia Devi** (Retd. JKAS) on 28th June, 2024.

Her warmth, kindness, and love will be deeply missed by all who knew her. She leaves behind a legacy of cherished memories and will forever remain in our hearts.
10th Day (Dasva) will be held on 7th July, 2024 from 11:00 AM.
11th Day Kriya will be held on 8th July, 2024 from 9:00 AM at our residence House No. 353, Sector 5, Channi Hamat, Jammu.
Rasam Pagri will be held at Panch Mandir Channi Hamat, Jammu from 4:00 to 5:00 P.M.
GRIEF STRICKEN :-
Prof. B.C. Sharma (Husband)
(Son, Daughter-in-law) Nitin Sharma, Shikha Arora
Jiya Sharma (Grand Daughter)
Sabin Sharma (Son)
& Families, Relatives, Friends and Well-wishers.
Ph.: 9717364555, 9419183794, 9086028232



Smt. Kamia Devi (Retd. JKAS)

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our father **Sh. Ramesh Kumar Tickoo** S/o Lt. Manohar Lal Tickoo originally resident of Mattan at present H.No. 20 Lane No. 1 Vinayak Vihar, Paloura Jammu.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 11th of July 2024 (Thursday) at 8:00 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Son & Daughter-in-law
Sanjay Tickoo & Pooja Tickoo
Daughter & Son-in-law
Jyoti Pandit & Ravi ji Pandit
Binny Bhat & Vikas Bhat
M.Nos.: 9419987777, 8899217489, 9469549493



Sh. Ramesh Kumar Tickoo

5TH DAY

With profound grief we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Kushia Devi** (Ludhiana wale) W/o Lt. Sh. Om Prakash D/o Late Sh. Kaka Ram & Smt. Vidya Devi (Kohag wale) R/o Sanjay Gandhi Colony, Ludhiana.

5th Day will be performed at our residence opp Sec. 3 EWS Colony, Dr. Sushil Kotru lane, near Heart Hacker Gift Gallery, Lower Roop Nagar, Jammu on 8th of July, 2024 (Monday) at 10:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Brothers & Sister-in-Laws:
Sh. Raj Kumar Gupta & Smt. Neelam Devi
Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta & Late Smt. Santosh Kumari
Sh. Sanjay Gupta & Smt. Neelam Gupta
Sisters & Brother-in-Laws:
Smt. Rita Devi & Sh. Tilak Raj Gupta
Smt. Saroj Gupta & Sh. Pawan Gupta
Smt. Sarfa Devi & Sh. Ram Kumar Kharka
Smt. Veena Devi & Sh. Kuldeep Gupta
7889662316, 9419139662, 7889570548, 9419208476



Smt. Kushia Devi

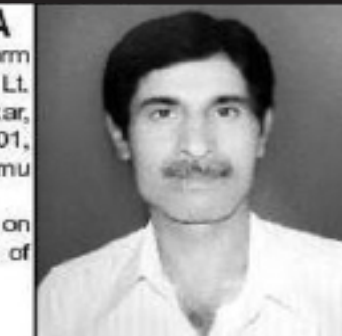
OBITUARY AND TENTH DAY KRIYA

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 650796732, 9419792428, 7383954183, 9899032412



Sh. Rup Kishen Bhan

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With Profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Veena Raina (Santosh)** W/o Sh. Bansi Lal Raina R/o Balhama Srinagar Kashmir A/P Janipur Colony, Jammu on 29-06-2024, Saturday.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be held on 08-07-2024 Monday at Muthi Ghat Near Director School Education Jammu, at 8:30 AM

NOTE : Venue for **10TH, 11TH & 12TH DAY KRIYA** will be at Arya Sama Mandir Near Ram Sharnam Ashram Janipur Colony Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Sh. Bansi Lal Raina (Husband)
Daughters in law & Sons
Smt. Rakha Ji & Sh. Anil Raina
Smt. Archana J & Sh. Amit Raina
Daughter & Son in law
Smt. Anupama Ji (Renu) & Sh. Ravinder Kumar Tickoo
Grand Children
Naha, Oshoon, Patak, Akarsha, Ansh, Anshu, Aditi & Arnav
SAMAST RAINA, RAZDAN, HANDOO, TICKOO, JOTSHTI, ZADOO FAMILY.
MOBILE NO.:- 9622232147, 9622821801, 7889325217, 7006827169



SMT. VEENA RAINA (SANTOSH)

TENTH DAY, KRIYA & RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Sansaro Devi** W/o Late Sh. Hemraj Khajuria R/o Talab Tillo Bohri Anand Vihar near J&K Bank Bohri.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 07-07-2024 (Sunday) at 9:30 AM at our residence. **KRIYA** will be performed on 08-07-2024 (Monday) at 12 PM. **RASAM PAGRI** will be performed on 08-07-2024 (Monday) from 5 PM to 6 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law
Smt. Kamala Devi & Sh. Madan Lal Sharma
Son & Daughter-in-law
Smt. Chanchala Devi & Sh. Sat Pal Khajuria
Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Bimla Devi and Sh. Sat Pal Sharma
Late Smt. Chanchala Devi and Sh. Boddh Raj Sharma
Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law
Shikha and Verinder Khajuria
Vishal and Gulshan Khajuria
Great Grand Son : Adharaj Khajuria & Viggo Khajuria
M/S KHAJURIA MEDICAL SHOP
TALAB TILLO BOHRI NEAR J&K BANK BOHRI
CONTACT NO: 9419250677, 9796046655, 7006272929, 7006707028



SMT. SANSARO DEVI

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, it is informed that our beloved father, **Shri M. L. Bhat** S/o Late Shri Samsar Chand Bhat of Wandhama, Ganderbal, Kashmir, presently residing at 45 Ashoka Enclave Main, Sector 34, Faridabad, Haryana 121003 left for heavenly abode on 29th June-2024.

10TH DAY KRIYA will take place at Chota Haridwar, Murad Nagar at 07:00AM on 8th July, 2024

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Smt. Kishni -Wife
Shri Suriender Bhat & Anita Bhat - **Son & Daughter-in-law**
Smt. Geeta & Sh. R K Pandita - **Sister & Brother in law**
Smt. Madhu and Sh. Rakesh Bhat.
Deeply missed by
Grand Children : Ojas, Kartik, Ehsaas and Parnika
Mo: 09873622029, 09811230887, 09811322029, 07678124170.



SHRI M. L. BHAT

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Surekha Sharma** W/o Late Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma R/o 731-A Last Mohr Gerdh Nagar Jammu on 28th of June 2024.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 07th July, 2024 (SUNDAY) 11:00 am at Home.

KRIYA will be performed on 08th July, 2024 (Monday) 10:00 am at our residence.

UTHALA will be performed on 08th of July, 2024 (Monday) from 05:00 pm to 06:00 pm at Duga Bhawan Ram pura Shastri Nagar Jammu

GARUD PURAN from 03rd of July 2024 to 08th of July 2024 at our residence.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Surita & Sh. Satish Bindrao
Smt. Anuradha & Sh. Anil Sharma
Smt. Tejashwini & Sh. Rajeev Sharma
Grand Children: Raghav, Akhish, Anjali, Vandhika, Aina and Raha (Great grand Daughter)
All the members of Barotra Family
CONTACT: 7089477064, 7006251213, 7006843754



SMT. SUREKHA SHARMA

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With Profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Veena Raina (Santosh)** W/o Sh. Bansi Lal Raina R/o Balhama Srinagar Kashmir A/P Janipur Colony, Jammu on 29-06-2024, Saturday.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be held on 08-07-2024 Monday at Muthi Ghat Near Director School Education Jammu, at 8:30 AM

NOTE : Venue for **10TH, 11TH & 12TH DAY KRIYA** will be at Arya Sama Mandir Near Ram Sharnam Ashram Janipur Colony Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Sh. Bansi Lal Raina (Husband)
Daughters in law & Sons
Smt. Rakha Ji & Sh. Anil Raina
Smt. Archana J & Sh. Amit Raina
Daughter & Son in law
Smt. Anupama Ji (Renu) & Sh. Ravinder Kumar Tickoo
Grand Children
Naha, Oshoon, Patak, Akarsha, Ansh, Anshu, Aditi & Arnav
SAMAST RAINA, RAZDAN, HANDOO, TICKOO, JOTSHTI, ZADOO FAMILY.
MOBILE NO.:- 9622232147, 9622821801, 7889325217, 7006827169



SMT. VEENA RAINA (SANTOSH)

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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“CONG, NC, PDP EXPLOITED PEOPLE”

BJP has substantial credentials to win elections in J&K: Dr Varinder

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: Dr Varinder Sharma, Co-convenor Professional Cell Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) today said that the kind of development that Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed in past ten years is exemplary and could be set as a benchmark for future growth of this Union Territory (UT) which has always faced sheer neglect in the hands of previous rulers, majority of whom were dynasts and didn't want people to progress, become prosperous or self-reliant. Now that controversial article 370 stands abrogated and doors of development opened for commoners, there's no limit to development or prosperity.

Dr Varinder Sharma said that as desired by the union minister of coal and mines, G Krishna Reddy who is also election in-charge of J&K BJP, professional cell of party is fully geared up to face elections and had immense data that can

be shared with common people enabling them to count their blessings in days to come. Massive infrastructural development that's been completed or in being built testifies how the UT is emerging as the most sought-after destination of pilgrims, tourists and especially investors.

Locked from all sides with mountains, international borders or states, Jammu and Kashmir was confined to a marginalised kind of development but ever since massive road network and rail link up to Kashmir has come into existence, the UT is well geared up to make the presence of mega investors felt in a big way in days to come, Dr Varinder said adding that be it religious places like Mata Vaishno Devi or Shri Amarnath Ji cave shrine, educational institutions like IIT or IIM besides health institutions like AIIMS, Jammu and Kashmir could never ever have witnessed their presence here during the regime of

Congress, PDP or NC. It's because of the visionary policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi that J&K is developing at par with any other UT or state in the country. In addition to this, whatever BJP had said in his party manifesto during past elections including abrogation of article 370, everything stands done in the larger interest of people. Now from here onwards J&K is writing a new chapter of development and prosperity in which young boys and girls are equal partners and are writing their own destiny.

Away from violence of gun culture, Jammu and Kashmir youth are doing their best and adding to their socio-economic upliftment in a big way. The BJP leader said, political parties like Congress, NC or PDP are terribly shaken to witness this kind of development which is why they still are trying to create confusion amongst masses, polarise societies, misguide

youngsters or trying to play same old divisive politics to create enmities between regions and religions but nothing is going to work as people have come to know about their old tactics of staying in power.

Dr Varinder Sharma said, "Professional Cell of J&K BJP is all geared up to visit every nook and corner of J&K and make people know about massive roads and bridges that are connected Kashmir to Kanyakumari, health sector that's providing people insurance, education that's coming up with world class institutions, borders that have fallen silent and tourism that's attracting millions". These, he said, will ensure that BJP emerges triumphant in the coming Assembly poll. He added that the Modi Government is committed to pace up the development in Jammu & Kashmir which people realise and are prepared to receive with open arms.

Dr Varinder also appre-

GDC Ramnagar organizes Plantation Drive

Top News Report

RAMNAGAR, July 6: Government Degree College (GDC) Ramnagar organized Plantation Drive in collaboration with Forest Department Ramnagar Division under the guidance of Prof. (Dr) Bhavnai Chand (Principal GDC Ramnagar). Mega Plantation and cleanliness drive were carried out in the college campus which was carried out by Prof. (Dr.)

Bhavnai Chand, Ashish Thakur (Ranger), Vinod Kumar, Sh.Rangeel Singh from Forest Department, teaching and non-teaching staff and students of the college.

In the drive an orientation session was organised where the officials from forest division interacted with students and discussed the issues of land restoration, desertification and drought resilience.

About 50 plants were

planted in the college premises. In the end, Prof. Bhavnai Chand shared his views on the relevance of Plantation drive. Vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Sham Singh (Hod Geology).

The program was attended by Prof. Parminder Kumar, Prof. Tanmeet Kour Prof. Sunil Kumar and Dr. Puyesh Kant Sharma, Dr. Sham Singh, Prof. Sanjay Malhotra and Prof. Jewan Kumar.

DC Jammu, community leaders participate in Langer Sewa at JCMS

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: The ongoing Langer Sewa at Jammu Central Mahajan Sabha (JCMS) has received significant support from community leaders and officials during its eighth day.

Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, Romesh Chander Gupta, President of JCMS, and Arun Gupta, President of CCI Jammu, joined in serving meals to the public.

The Langer Sewa is being organized throughout the duration of the holy Amarnath Yatra, accommodating pilgrims from across India and abroad who transit through Jammu before proceeding to the sacred cave.

Sachin Kumar Vaishya expressed satisfaction with the facilities provided by JCMS, highlighting Jammu's role as a crucial stopover for thousands of visitors who stay for several days.



Seema Parhiar, SDM R.S.Pura, Incharge Mahajan Hall, Jammu also accompanied with DC Jammu along with her team officers on duty.

Various religious and social organizations, including JCMS, have been instrumental in providing essential services such as registration counters and hygienic vegetarian meals.

Romesh Gupta emphasized that visitors at the Sabha premises have

access to amenities like toilets, bathrooms, and drinking water, alongside nutritious meals served in the langer. Arun Gupta, President of CCI, commended JCMS for their dedicated service during the yatra period.

Shiv Partap Gupta, Senior Vice President, and Sanjay Mahajan, General Secretary, urged members and residents of Jammu to contribute to the Langer Sewa initiative, ensur-

ing that pilgrims are well cared for during their stay.

Present during the Langer Sewa were office bearers of JCMS, including Shiv Pratap Gupta, Harinder Gupta, Sanjay Mahajan, Subash Gupta, Balbir Gupta, Atul Gupta, Surinder Gupta, C.P Gupta, Ram Saroop Gupta, Satish Gupta, Darshan Gupta, Vijay Gupta, Rajan Gupta, Balraj Gupta, and Bhunashwar Gupta.

Tarun Chugh as J&K Prabhari will strengthen BJP, lead it to new heights: Raman

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: Hailing the reappointment of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National General Secretary, Tarun Chugh as Prabhari of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh UTs, BJP J&K Executive Member Raman Suri on Saturday said that Tarun Chugh is well-versed with the politics, geography, and social fabric of the UTs and has been managing party affairs ably. His reappointment will give a fillip and new direction to party activities, especially when J&K is heading towards assembly elections in months to come.

Raman Suri said, the decision to reappoint Tarun Chugh as Prabhari of J&K taken by party leadership is in the larger interest of the party and its functions here. He also hailed the reappointment of Ashish Sood as Seh Prabhari for J&K UT. Committed to national



integration, Tarun Chugh, he said had actively been exposing those leaders in J&K who promoted secessionism or favoured a dialogue with hostile neighbouring countries like Pakistan.

Hailing from Amritsar district of Punjab and being a MBA in HR, Tarun Chugh is well-versed with the socio-political affairs of J&K and has been taking the anti-national elements head on. His in-depth knowledge about politics of J&K, BJP's internal affairs, Union Government's programmes and policies viz-a-viz J&K, socio-economic conditions prevailing here,

and the role of youth post abrogation of Article 370 has enabled him to work effectively and strengthen the party at all levels.

Tarun Chugh, Raman Suri said, started his political career from Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and with immense experience, he now possesses in-depth understanding of the political processes, party ideologies, and guiding principles of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). He had also delivered well in J&K, Ladakh as well as in Telangana as party in-charge. His ability to plan campaign strategies, coordination and implementation will be quite handy for the party leadership in J&K in days to come.

Raman Suri said, Tarun Chugh had also handled party affairs well in Andaman, Nicobar and Delhi and mobilized individuals and organizations at all levels. Having able leadership skills, he has

also served as President of BJYM, Amritsar in 1993 and displayed his motivational skills. He is remembered for his Yuva Chetna Yatra that he undertook in 1999 and covered a stretch of 2100 kms, touching almost all district headquarters in Punjab.

A strong believer of education for all, he works tirelessly to ensure that the party's programmes and policies reach every nook and corner of the state or UT that he becomes in-charge of.

Raman Suri said that with him taking over as in-charge of J&K again, the party will get even more strengthened at all levels and will do well in the upcoming assembly elections. His vision to strengthen the party, especially in Kashmir, has already been bearing fruits and making more and more people join BJP to strengthen the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Department of Wildlife Protection J&K Government
Office of the Wildlife Warden, Jammu
Manda Hills, Near Hotel Ashok Jammu.
Email: ujwujammu@gmail.com

TENDERING

Tender Notice : e-NIT No.:- 4/WLWJ of 2024-25 dated: 03-07-2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. /Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:

Name of work	Adv. Cost (in lacs)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document (in Rs.)	Time of completion	Receiving/Opening Authority
Construction of Chain-link fencing along the boundary wall of Raj Bhawan in Co. 2/R of Ramnagar Wildlife Sanctuary	9.068 lacs	D	600	45 days	Tender opening committee

EMD (2% of advertised amount):- Rs 18,200/-

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the departmental Website:- <http://jktenders.gov.in>.

AA/TS No. & Date	37 of 2024-25 (RWLWJ) dated 01-07-2024
Position of Funds	Approved under CAPEX

Publishing Date	03-07-2024
Download Start Date	04-07-2024
Bid Submission Start Date	04-07-2024
Bid submission End Date	24-07-2024 up to 02:00 PM
Date of opening of Technical Bid	25-07-2024 at 12:00 PM (In the Office of Regional Wildlife Warden, Jammu, Manda Hills, Jammu)
Date of opening of Financial Bid.	25-07-2024

Bid documents can be seen at and download from the website: - <https://jktenders.gov.in>. Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details.

DIP/J-2400/24 (Vijay Kumar, SFS)
Wildlife Warden
Jammu

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION BAKSHI NAGAR, JAMMU

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No.13of 2024-2025 Dated 03-07-2024

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

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (Rs. in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time Allowed for complete-on	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	Balance work of Upgradation of Boys hostel block at SPMR College of Commerce Jammu	PWD (R&B) DIVISION BAKSHI NAGAR Jammu	5.90	600	2% of Advertised Cost	30 Days	11-07-2024 (12.00Pm)	"A,B,C&D" Class

Position of AAA: Accorded
Position of TS: Sanctioned
Position of Funds: Demanded

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per below schedule :-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	03-07-2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 03-07-2024 to 10-07-2024 upto 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	XXXXXXXX at XXXX Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) DIVISION BAKSHI NAGAR Jammu
4	Bid submission Start Date	03-07-2024
5	Bid Submission End Date	10-07-2024 upto 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	11-07-2024 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) DIVISION BAKSHI NAGAR Jammu
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to MH 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) DIVISION BAKSHI NAGAR Jammu and upload the same i.e treasury challan /receipt, Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) DIVISION BAKSHI NAGAR Jammu. The CDR/FDR/BG shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of LI be submitted to the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) DIVISION BAKSHI NAGAR Jammu at the time of allotment.

No :- **EE/R&B/BN/2365-70** **DIP/J-2360/24**
Dated :- **03-07-2024**

Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division
Bakshi Nagar Jammu

EDITORIAL

MONSOON
ARRIVAL

The arrival of the monsoon in India is an eagerly awaited annual event, critical not only for agriculture but also for the overall economy and livelihoods of millions across the country. In 2024, the monsoon's onset and progression have been significant, marking both relief and challenges for different regions.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) declared the onset of the southwest monsoon over Kerala on June 1, 2024, consistent with its normal arrival date. This announcement was met with anticipation and optimism, especially after the previous year's erratic rainfall patterns that impacted agricultural output in several states.

The monsoon's timely onset brought initial showers to Kerala and gradually progressed northwards, covering significant parts of the southern and eastern states. By mid-June, states like Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana had received substantial rainfall, replenishing reservoirs and rejuvenating parched lands. The early monsoon rains provided relief to farmers preparing for the kharif sowing season, boosting their confidence in agricultural prospects for the year.

However, the monsoon's progress was not uniform across the country. Parts of central and western India experienced delayed onset and erratic rainfall patterns, causing concerns in states heavily dependent on agriculture. Maharashtra, Gujarat, and parts of Madhya Pradesh faced delayed monsoon arrival, impacting sowing schedules and agricultural planning. Farmers in these regions had to adjust their strategies based on the evolving rainfall patterns, highlighting the unpredictability inherent in monsoon dynamics.

In northern India, including states like Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh, the monsoon arrived on time but with varying intensity. Some areas received heavy rainfall, leading to localized flooding and waterlogging, while others experienced below-average rainfall, necessitating cautious water management strategies.

The northeastern states witnessed abundant rainfall from the onset of the monsoon, contributing to lush greenery and replenishing rivers and water bodies. Assam, Meghalaya, and Arunachal Pradesh benefited from the monsoon's consistent presence, supporting their predominantly agrarian economies and ensuring adequate water supply for irrigation and household needs.

The monsoon's impact extends beyond agriculture, influencing various sectors of the economy. The tourism industry in hill stations and coastal areas witnessed an influx of visitors seeking respite from the heat and enjoying the natural beauty enhanced by monsoon showers. However, the construction and infrastructure sectors faced challenges due to intermittent rainfall, affecting project timelines and logistics.

In urban areas, the monsoon brought relief from the scorching summer heat but also posed challenges such as waterlogging, traffic disruptions, and occasional power outages. Municipal authorities worked to mitigate these issues through improved drainage systems and disaster preparedness measures, ensuring minimal disruption to daily life.

Looking ahead, meteorologists and policy-makers continue to monitor the monsoon's progression closely, analyzing rainfall patterns and their implications for agriculture, water resources, and socio-economic activities. The timely distribution of rainfall across regions will be crucial for agricultural productivity, food security, and overall economic stability.

In conclusion, while the arrival of the monsoon in 2024 brought much-needed relief to parts of India, its uneven distribution and varying intensity underscore the country's dependence on timely and well-distributed rainfall. As the monsoon season progresses, concerted efforts in water management, agricultural planning, and disaster preparedness will be essential to harnessing its benefits while mitigating potential risks.

Collapsing bridges, airports no promo for 'Viksit Bharat'

By: Patralekha Chatterjee

In times of war, bridges make attractive targets. They are attacked. Their collapse disrupts the enemy's lines of communication. It is called "bridge busting". But what explains the collapse of not one, but ten bridges, in just over a fortnight, in Bihar? Bridges have been collapsing with monotonous regularity in Bihar, catapulting the state to the status of a top headline-grabber amid all the turbulent national and international news. The state government, headed by JD(U) chief Nitish Kumar, a nine-time chief minister and an engineer by training, has responded in predictable ways -- it has set up a high-level committee to probe the recent bridge collapses; it is talking about stern action against anyone found guilty of lapses. The Bihar Engineering Services Association (BESA) has warned that there could be more such collapses in the monsoon season, when rivers are in spate.

The BESA has demanded a structural audit of all recently completed and under-construction bridges in the state. Familiar questions are being asked about the possible use of substandard materials by contractors, poor maintenance, carrying capacity and lack of resilience in extreme weather.

While Bihar's record of collapsing bridges may be hard to match, this is not a new story, nor is it only about Bihar. A suspension bridge over Machchu river in Morbi city, Gujarat, collapsed in October 2022. Scan the headlines in recent days, and disasters leap out, from different corners of the country. Not just bridges. On June 28, in Delhi Airport's Terminal 1, a canopy collapsed after heavy rain, leading to the death of a 45-year-old taxi driver, the sole breadwinner for his family, and injuries to many more. Canopies of two other airports --

at Jabalpur and Rajkot -- have also collapsed in recent days. As I write comes the news of a portion of the four-lane Gurgaon-Sohna elevated flyover caving in again, within eight months, and a slab of another flyover collapsing on a moving car in Mumbai's Andheri area. The list goes on.

A common thread emerges from all the talk about investigations and compensation. It knits the recent disasters, and should force us to turn our gaze to the other side of India's infrastructure story, beyond ribbon-cutting and inaugurations. Why is the government at the Centre, and in affected states, so quiet on maintenance and regular structural and safety audits? What is being done to equip critical infrastructure for climate-change fuelled extreme weather?

"Every structure is meant to last for a certain number of years. It comes with an 'expiry date'. That works if there is regular maintenance. Every structure must be maintained. It must be subjected to a rigorous structural audit. This means paying attention and prompt response to recommendations and strengthening the structure when necessary. That is key to avoiding a disaster. But unfortunately, in India, often there is a silo approach to development which hampers collaboration of every stakeholder. Whether in construction or maintenance or audit, one must look at who is doing the job and whether they are qualified for it," says Dr Rita Savla, a medical doctor and founder-director of RADHEE Disaster and Education Foundation, a Mumbai-based NGO working in post-disaster trauma management and road safety.

"This also means scrutinising how tenders are drafted, how companies are selected when it comes to construction and maintenance. There have been many disasters in the past. We have not learnt too many

lessons. This leads to a culture of impunity. Because errant parties know they will get away," she adds.

The government routinely out-sources many projects to private firms but, as Dr Savla points out, "the overall oversight remains with the government". When lapses are detected after a disaster, government officials are merely transferred. But as she says: "A transfer is not a punishment... There is tremendous lethargy in the system. It is critical that a tender is drafted in a language that does not leave loopholes. There should be a strict monitoring system to prevent disasters. Finally, it is very important to look at what happens after a disaster." If a bridge collapses, people can get injured. Post-disaster, it is medical help that determines the fate of a person, whether she or he will survive or die, as Dr Savla points out. "We should talk about the rights of survivors if they are injured -- which means access to required medical care which should not only save life, but also ensure early recovery, prevent disability along with financial compensation."

One common refrain in the wake of the recent infrastructure-related disasters pivots around intense rainfall. But it should surprise no one that it rains during the rainy season. And in times of climate change, erratic and extreme weather are the new normal. The discussion should be around what is being done.

"Climate change will likely lead to more extreme weather events, exacerbating the effect on airports that are already affected and putting at risk those that have not yet experienced climate-related adverse effects. Airports face numerous climate challenges which may impact their operations, infrastructure, and business continuity," notes a report by the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

Many airports around the world

have begun adapting to wild weather swings. Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport, for example, has installed a special hydraulic model developed to calculate a variety of climatic scenarios and established new standards for drainage.

What about India?

"The country's urban infrastructure is not developed with climate resilience in mind. We need to prepare our infrastructure for intense storms and floods that climate change will churn out in the next fifty years," says Dr Roxy Koll, climate scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology and lead author of IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) reports.

Niranjan Sahoo, a senior fellow at the Observer Research Foundation, also notes that "extreme weather events are becoming a regular phenomenon. Our infrastructure planning, as evident from recent incidents, is clearly out of sync with requirements".

Worryingly, disasters are weaponised in political battles in hyper-polarised India. Discussions pivot around who inaugurated a structure, and not when the last safety audit was done. Despite all the brouhaha, even today, an ordinary citizen does not know when Delhi's Terminal 1 had its last safety audit and whether it was overseen by a government agency.

"Sharpening polarisation around infrastructure is very unfortunate. Instead of owning up and investing on their upkeep, it has become a blame game between the two principal (political) parties. In the process of scoring points, the moot issues of climate resilient infrastructure are lost," says Mr Sahoo.

The new coalition government, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, promises a "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) by 2047. Collapsing bridges and airports are not good promos.

Exploring Career Paths Beyond Clinical Practice

By: Vijay GarG

For medical graduates, the journey doesn't end with the culmination of clinical practice. While clinical practice remains a traditional and highly respected career path, the field of medicine offers a vast and expansive landscape of diverse opportunities that extend far beyond the realm of direct patient care. These alternative career paths provide avenues for medical graduates to branch out, discover new horizons, and make a profound impact on healthcare in ways that transcend the boundaries of traditional clinical practice. Whether you're seeking a change of pace, looking to explore new avenues, or eager to contribute to healthcare on a broader scale, the possibilities are boundless.

Alternative career paths that await medical graduates, opening doors to exciting opportunities and allowing them to leverage their internationally-recognised medical degree and their study of medicine in Malaysia. So, let's embark on this exploration of career paths that go beyond the traditional confines of clinical practice and uncover the multitude of possibilities that lie ahead for medical graduates.

1. Medical Research and Academia
For those with a passion for inquiry and a thirst for knowledge, a career in medical research and academia may be a perfect fit. Medical graduates can contribute to groundbreaking discoveries, advancements in medical science, and the development of innovative treatments. Pursuing research grants, publishing research papers, and collaborating with experts in the field are some of the avenues available to medical graduates in the realm

of medical research. Additionally, academia offers opportunities to teach, mentor aspiring healthcare professionals, and shape the future of medicine through education and curriculum development.

2. Public Health and Global Health
If your interests lie in population health, disease prevention, and healthcare policy, a career in public health may be a rewarding choice. Public health professionals work to improve the overall health of communities, develop and implement health programmes, and address health disparities on a larger scale. Medical graduates can contribute their clinical expertise to public health organisations, government agencies, non-profit organisations, and international health initiatives. From designing public health interventions to analysing epidemiological data and advocating for evidence-based policies, a career in public health allows medical graduates to make a substantial impact on the health and well-being of communities.

3. Health Administration and Healthcare Management

For individuals with a keen interest in the business side of healthcare, a career in health administration and healthcare management can provide a dynamic and influential role. Medical graduates can pursue positions in hospital administration, healthcare consulting firms, health insurance companies, or healthcare organisations. With their clinical background and understanding of healthcare systems, they can contribute to the strategic planning, policy development, quality improvement, and efficient delivery of healthcare services. A career in health administration and healthcare management allows

medical graduates from medical universities in Malaysia to influence the organisational and operational aspects of healthcare, fostering positive change on a broader scale.

4. Medical Writing and Communication

If you have strong communication skills and a knack for translating complex medical information into accessible content, a career in medical writing and communication may be a fulfilling choice. Medical graduates can explore opportunities in medical journalism, scientific writing, medical education, healthcare marketing, and pharmaceutical communications.

By conveying medical knowledge through various mediums such as articles, reports, educational materials, or multimedia presentations, medical writers and communicators play a crucial role in disseminating accurate medical information to healthcare professionals, patients, and the general public. This career path provides opportunities for medical graduates to showcase their expertise in the field of medicine.

5. Medical Technology and Innovation

With the rapid advancements in healthcare technology, medical graduates can contribute to the development and implementation of innovative solutions. From digital health startups to medical device companies, there are diverse opportunities to leverage technology for improved patient care, diagnostics, telemedicine, and data analytics. Medical graduates with an entrepreneurial spirit and a passion for innovation can explore roles in healthcare technology startups, research and development, product management, or healthcare consulting focused on emerging technolo-

gies. Malaysia, with its vibrant medical field study, offers a conducive environment for medical graduates to contribute to the advancement of medical technology.

6. Medical Consulting and Industry

Medical graduates possess a deep understanding of medical science, patient care, and healthcare systems, making them valuable assets in the healthcare consulting and industry sectors. Consulting firms, pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology firms, and medical device manufacturers seek medical expertise to guide their strategies, regulatory compliance, clinical trials, medical affairs, and product development. A career in medical consulting and industry allows medical graduates to utilise their knowledge gained from their Bachelor of Medicine. It offers opportunities for collaboration and involvement in shaping the future of healthcare.

As a medical graduate, your options are not limited to clinical practice alone. Exploring these alternative career paths can lead to fulfilling and impactful careers that utilise your medical expertise while expanding your horizons. Take the time to reflect on your passions, strengths, and long-term goals, and consider how these alternative paths align with your aspirations. By embracing these diverse opportunities, you can chart a unique and rewarding career journey that goes beyond the confines of traditional clinical practice.

(Vijay GarG Retired
Principal Educational
columnist Malout)

FADA releases June'24 Vehicle Retail Data for UT of J&K

Top News Report

NEW DELHI/JAMMU, July 6: The Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) today released Vehicle Retail Data for June'24 for the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

The 2-Wheeler category witnessed a downfall of -2.65% at 7,708 units in June 2024, as compared to 7,918 units in June 2023. The 3-Wheeler category witnessed a downfall of -13.35% at 863 units in June 2024, as compared to 996 units in June 2023.

The Commercial Vehicle category witnessed a downfall of -16.79% at 763 units in June 2024, as compared to 917 units in June 2023.

The Passenger Vehicle category witnessed a downfall of -22.23% at 3,977 units in June 2024, as compared to 5,114 units in June 2023.

The Tractor Vehicle category witnessed a downfall of -6.94% at 295 units in June 2024, as compared to 317 units in June 2023.

In total the retail is 13,606 in June'24 compared to it is 15,262 in June'23 thereby registering a downfall of -10.85%.

Aggarwal said, that the Indian automobile industry has historically been a good indicator of how well the economy is doing, as the automobile sector plays a key role in both macroeconomic expansion and technologi-

cal advancement. The two-wheelers segment dominates the market in terms of volume, owing to a growing middle class and a huge percentage of India's population being young.

Moreover, the growing interest of companies in exploring the rural markets further aided the growth of the sector.

The rising logistics and passenger transportation industries are driving up demand for commercial vehicles. Future market growth is to be anticipated and fueled by new trends including the electrification of vehicles, particularly three-wheelers and small passenger automobiles.

Commenting on how June'24 performed,

FADA Jammu UT Chairperson, Sanjay Aggarwal said, "Factors such as extreme heat which resulted in 13% less walk-in's, stalled monsoons and election-related market slowdowns particularly affected rural sales, which fell from 59.8% in May to 58.6% in June. J&K in June 24 witnessed degrowth of -10.85% over corresponding month of previous year. Major portion of degrowth is by PV, CV & 3V, whereas 2W and Tractor showed less degrowth.

Aggarwal said, "For two-wheelers, the arrival of the monsoon is expected to provide a boost, although challenges such as agricultural cash flow constraints and

regional market variations remain. In the passenger vehicle segment, high inventory levels and ongoing low market sentiment necessitate cautious management.

Meanwhile, the commercial vehicle sector looks forward to potential growth driven by renewed infrastructure projects and seasonal demands, despite current slowdowns."

Based on current market conditions, the overall rating for July auto retail performance is cautiously optimistic with a moderate outlook. While some segments may see improved activity, overall growth is likely to be tempered by persistent challenges he added.

Bharat Vikas Parishad Tridev Branch organises medical camp



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: Bharat Vikas Parishad Tridev Branch Shastri Nagar Jammu organised a medical camp in collaboration with Ayush Department of the State Government on Saturday at Community Hall Gangyal Jammu.

About 150 patients from the local area were examined by the team of doctors led by Dr. Sukh

Preet Kour. The patients were provided with free consultation and free medicines.

The Mahilla wing of Bharat Vikas Parishad Tridev Branch Shastri Nagar, Jammu played a key role in organising this programme.

Many esteemed members of BVP were also present in the camp.

Among others, the prominent were B. B

Sharma State President, BVP, Ved Prakash Sharma, President Dogra Brahmin Pratinidhi Sabha Jammu, Shivram Sharma, State General Secretary, BVP Arun Sharma, Ashok Gupta, Prof. B.B Sharma, Gurmeet Singh, M.L. Padha, B.R. Sharma, J. S. Slatia, Darshan Gupta, Ajay Gupta, Suman Khanna and Kailash Mohini.

NABARD conducts zonal sensitization cum review meet on RIDF

Top News Report

ANANTNAG, July 6: State Projects Department NABARD, J&K regional office organized one day Zonal Level Sensitization cum Review Meet on Rural Infrastructure Fund (RIDF).

The meeting was chaired by Ashok Khokar, Chief Engineer R&B South Kashmir and Surinder Singh DGM, NABARD Srinagar Cell in the presence of AGM NABARD Sanjeev Sharma and DDM NABARD Rouf Zargar.

The Superintendent Engineers, Executive Engineers and AEEs from R&B department from Anantnag, Kulgam, Pulwama and Shopian attended the meet.

DDM NABARD, Rouf Zargar welcomed all dignitaries and participants to the meeting. He informed that there are currently 158 ongoing projects in South Kashmir which have been sanctioned to R&B by NABARD with total sanctioned amount of Rs 692 Cr. Out of total

sanctioned amount, an amount of Rs 310 Cr has been disbursed till date.

Speaking on the occasion, DGM NABARD Surinder Singh indicated that NABARD has been providing financial support to the State Governments and Union Territories for strengthening of rural infrastructure under RIDF.

He stated that RIDF which started as a "last mile approach" to facilitate completion of ongoing irrigation, flood protection & watershed management projects since 1995-96, has become more broad based over the years and as on date covers as many as 39 eligible activities.

He highlighted that the disbursement against utilization certificates during the current financial need to be enhanced.

Chief Engineer Ashok Khokar advised all the Executive Engineers to expedite submission of Utilization Certificates (UCs) for works completed. He emphasized on early grounding of projects, quarterly submis-

sion of UCs and submission of PCC/PCR after completion of projects.

Sanjeev Sharma and Shubham Suyal from State Projects Department NABARD answered various queries of the house about the RIDF sanction and disbursement process.

They gave a detailed presentation on the operational issues involving DPR formulation, submission of Utilization Certificates, Projects Yet to be Grounded (PYGs), Slow Moving Projects, submission of Project Completion Reports (PCRs) etc.

Thereafter, department wise review of ongoing projects of all the districts of Kashmir division was undertaken. The implementing departments were advised to quicken the pace of implementation of projects.

Chief Engineer in his concluding remarks assured that the implementing department will extend all the possible support to remove the bottlenecks in smooth implementation of NABARD RIDF projects.

Director Horticulture conducts extensive tour of Kishtwar & Doda

Top News Report

DODA, July 6: Director Horticulture Jammu Chaman Lal Sharma conducted an extensive tour of twin districts, Kishtwar & Doda to have a complete review of achievements of all the schemes viz: Capex as well as Centrally Sponsored Schemes especially Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) besides other developmental activities being carried out in both the districts.

Director Horticulture chaired the meeting of the District Officers, Horticulture Development Officers, officials & field staff of district Kishtwar and Doda in their respective districts.

At the outset, Chief Horticulture Officer, Kishtwar Sh. Sajid Mustafa briefed the chair about the achievements made under all the schemes being implemented in the district.

While taking a review of the ongoing schemes, Director Horticulture impressed upon all the officers and officials to expedite the works undertaken for the development of the departmental nurseries and organize awareness camps, Kissangoshtis, etc. to ensure better implementation of departmental schemes for the ultimate benefit of the fruit growers. He also had an interaction with the farmers at Panchayat Pochal and listened to their problems patiently.

The Holistic Agriculture Development Plan, in

particular, emerged as a focal point of discussion, showcasing the department's commitment to holistic development and innovation in horticulture.

Further, in district Doda, Chief Horticulture Officer Raghunath Upadhyay appraised the chair about the status of progress made under different departmental Schemes. The director stressed upon all the officers and officials to put their efforts with zeal and dedication to disseminate the developmental schemes of the department to the last possible farmer of the district for better utilization of funds in time. He also inspected Olive Oil Extraction Plant and Soil Testing Laboratory set up at the District Horticulture complex Doda.

Director Horticulture stressed upon officers/officials of twin districts of Doda and Kishtwar to identify walnut clusters which can be supplemented with High density varieties of walnut to raise economic standards of rural populace.

Later, he visited Govt. Fruit Plant Nursery, Khelaniand took stock of the ongoing developmental activities and gave on spot instructions to the nursery staff regarding the production of quantity and quality of grafted planting material in the nursery.

At last, all the officers of both the districts assured the chair to extend full co-operation and vowed to work hard for the betterment of farming community.

Two notorious drug peddlers arrested, narcotic substance, cash recovered

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, July 6: District Police Kishtwar has achieved a significant breakthrough in its anti-drug campaign, code-named "Operation Sanjeevani," with the arrest of two notorious drug peddlers and the recovery of a heroin-like substance.

SSP Kishtwar Abdul Qayoom, while divulging the details, said that information was developed regarding the smuggling and sale of narcotics among the youth in the Akhyarabad Waseer Kund area of Kishtwar by one notorious drug peddler, namely Mudassar Hussain S/O Aziz Mohd R/o Thakrie caste Sheikh presently residing at waseer kund Mohalla Kishtwar, and is having Herionie like drug in his possession.

On this information, a case FIR No. 179/2024 U/Sec. 8/21/22 NDPS Act was registered at PS Kishtwar. A team led by SHO Police Station Kishtwar and supervised by Dy SP Hqrs Kishtwar, raided the rented accommodation of accused person.

During the search, 06 grams of a heroin-like substance was recovered from their possession along with cash Rs



32,900, and aluminum foil.

Moreover, in the evening hours, a patrolling party from PP Shalimar noticed the suspicious behavior of one person attempting to evade the patrol near Sarthal Morh Kishtwar. Acting swiftly, the team apprehended him, resulting in the recovery of a heroin-like substance weighing about 2 grams. The accused disclosed his identity as Haris Hussain S/o Rifat Hussain R/o caste Najjar kotwal Mohalla Kishtwar. In this regard, case FIR No. 180/2024 U/Sec. 8/21/22 NDPS Act was registered at PS Kishtwar and an investigation was taken up.

SSP Kishtwar emphasized that the investigating officer has been

instructed to thoroughly examine the backward and forward linkages in the case, including scrutinizing the bank account statements of the accused persons. This is to ensure that all individuals involved in the illegal trade of narcotic substances are brought to justice under the relevant provisions of the law.

SSP Kishtwar urged the general public of the district to come forward with any information related to the illegal drug trade. He assured the public that the identity of informants would be kept confidential, and suitable rewards would be provided. For assistance or to report any information, the public can contact PCR Kishtwar at 9906154100.

World Zoonoses Day observed in Doda

Top News Report

DODA, July 6: To celebrate World Zoonoses Day 2024, the District Surveillance Unit, IDSP under District Health Society Doda organized a debate cum awareness programme, on the transmission, control and prevention of Zoonoses at Make Shift Campus, Govt Medical College Doda.

Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh was the Chief Guest who inaugurated the programme in presence of Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr Om Kumar, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Dr Mayen ud Din, EO MC Doda Amit Sharma, Chief Accounts Officer GMC Doda Mohd Iqbal Ganai, BMO Ghat Dr Ab Gafoor, BMO Assar Dr Shabir Dar, Dr Walied Khawar Balwan, Ranger Wildlife Kishtwar Bansi Lal Bhandari, Mohd Shafi Attu and Principal ANMT Doda Anusuya Bhan, Sr Journalist Naseer Khora & Adv Sanjeev Rana.

The programme was attended by Medical Officers from different Blocks besides Paramedical Nursing Students from different Institutions of the district.

In his welcome address, District Epidemiologist Umar Anayat welcomed all the guests and informed the participants that World Zoonosis Day is observed on July 6th every year to raise



awareness about zoonotic diseases and their impact on human and animal health. He further said that the primary goal of World Zoonoses Day is to educate people about the risks associated with zoonotic diseases and promote measures to prevent their spread.

Other Guest Speakers from different department viz Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Doda Dr Mayen ud Din, Executive Officer Municipal Council Doda Amit Sharma and Dr Walied Khawar from Community Medicine GMC Doda were the Resource Persons who educated the participants that Zoonotic diseases can have significant public health implications, causing illness, death, and economic losses. Many of these diseases originate in animals and can be transmitted to humans through various means, including direct contact, consumption of contaminated food or water, or exposure to vectors like mosquitoes and ticks" they explained.

CMO Doda Dr Om Kumar in his speech,

said that this day plays a vital role in safeguarding public health and fostering a One Health approach, which recognizes the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health by promoting awareness and knowledge about zoonotic diseases.

During the programme, a debate competition was also organized which was attended by 08 Paramedical Students from different Nursing Colleges and later on they were awarded the Certificate of Participation and Mementos.

Dr Ab Gafoor, Dr Sarwar Khan and Anusuya Bhan acted as Judges for the debate competition, alongside Mashhood Latief who compiled the data related to the result score sheet.

Notable to mention here that, World Zoonoses Day is observed every year to honour French scientist Louis Pasteur who invented the first vaccine and spread awareness about zoonotic diseases. The theme of the day for this year was "Preventing the spread of zoonotic diseases".

Vivek Bali demands immediate action against plastic bag usage

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 6: In light of the resurgence of plastic bag usage, JD(U) State General Secretary Vivek Bali urgently called for immediate action to halt their use due to the severe impact on both public health and the environment. Despite previous efforts to reduce plastic waste, the return of plastic bags poses a significant threat that cannot be ignored.

Plastic bags are notorious for their detrimental effects. They contribute to pollution, harm wildlife, and are a significant source of non-biodegradable waste that clogs our ecosystems. Moreover, the chemicals in plastic bags can leach into food and water, posing serious health risks to humans.

Vivek Bali emphasizes the urgent need for alter-

native solutions. "We cannot afford to revert to old habits that harm our environment and endanger our health," he stated. "It is crucial that we adopt sustainable practices and enforce policies that eliminate the use of plastic bags."

"The call to action includes Immediate enforcement of bans on plastic bags in all retail and grocery stores, Promotion of reusable bags and other eco-friendly alternatives, Public awareness campaigns to educate communities on the importance of reducing plastic waste."

Vivek Bali urged local authorities, businesses, and citizens to unite in this effort. By working together, we can protect our environment, safeguard our health, and ensure a sustainable future for generations to come.

SKUAST-J celebrates World Zoonoses Day 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry, R.S Pura, SKUAST-Jammu celebrated World Zoonoses Day 2024 at international border village Flora of Suchetgarh tehsil. The programme was organized under the leadership and guidance of Prof. B.N Tripathi, Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu. Dr. M.S. Bhadwal, Associate Dean, F.V.Sc & A.H inaugurated the World Zoonoses Day, 2024 and grace the occasion as the Chief Guest.

In his address, he informed the gathering of farmers & students of Faculty that World Zoonosis Day is observed on July 6th every year to raise awareness about zoonotic diseases and their impact on human and animal health.

He further said that the primary goal of World Zoonosis Day is to educate people about the risks associated with zoonotic diseases and promote measures to prevent their spread. It aims to highlight the importance of collaboration between human and animal health sectors, as

well as environmental agencies, in addressing zoonotic threats.

Zoonotic diseases can have significant public health implications, causing illness, death, and economic losses. Many of these diseases originate in animals and can be transmitted to humans through various means, including direct contact, consumption of contaminated food or water, or exposure to vectors like mosquitoes and ticks.

At the outset, Dr. H.K. Sharma, Prof. & Head, Division of Veterinary Public Health & Epidemiology welcomed the Chief Guest, experts and farmers and he emphasized on the theme for the celebration of this year's World Zoonoses Day, "Preventing the spread of zoonotic diseases".

He said that this day plays a vital role in safeguarding public health and fostering a One Health approach, which recognizes the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health by promoting awareness and knowledge about zoonotic diseases.

Expert lectures on different topics and interaction with farmers

were carried out by Dr. H.K.Sharma (Overview of zoonotic diseases - One Health approach), Dr. M.A.Malik (Prevention of Rabies in Rural Areas), Dr. Ashok Kumar (Prevention of infectious zoonoses during handling of clinical cases), Dr. Hans Raj Bhardwaj (Accidental zoonotic infections during surgeries) and Dr. Pranav Kumar (Dairy Practices and Zoonoses).

A large number of farmers of Flora and its neighboring villages; post graduate students, teaching and non-teaching staffs of Faculty participated in the programme. Farmers were given pamphlets on zoonotic diseases, its prevention and control and also inputs like mineral mixture, dewormer, sanitizers etc were distributed among the farmers.

Dr. H.K. Sharma, Prof. & Head, Division of Veterinary Public Health & Epidemiology and organizing Secretary of this event conducted the proceeding and thanked the farming community, Sarpanch, Panch, elderly farmers, Chief Guest, experts, media persons, students and non-teaching staff for making the event a grand success.

Justin Bieber gives electrifying performance at Anant Ambani, Radhika Merchant's sangeet

Pop star Justin Bieber made Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's sangeet ceremony extra special with his energetic performance. He set the stage ablaze as he performed his popular chart-topping songs.

Anant and Radhika's sangeet ceremony turned out to be a star-studded affair.

From Salman Khan to Madhuri Dixit Nene and Hardik Pandya, several celebrities marked their presence at the function of Anant and Radhika at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre (NMACC) in Mumbai on Friday.

Ambanis arranged a special musical night for their guests with the performance of none other than Justin Bieber.

In the viral videos, Justin can be seen wearing a jacket with a white vest and loose pants with his signature style cap for the occasion. He interacted with the guests at the event while performing on the stage.

He made guests groove on songs such as 'Baby', 'Never



Let You Go', 'Love Yourself', 'Peaches', 'Boyfriend', 'Sorry' and 'Where Are U Now'.

Videos from inside the bash have taken over the internet. Later, Justin was spotted leaving Mumbai, in the early hours of Saturday. He arrived in Mumbai in the early hours of Friday. Bieber's first concert in India

was held in 2017. He was supposed to return to the country in 2022 but the tour was cancelled due to the singer's bad health.

As part of the wedding celebrations, Mukesh Ambani and Nita Ambani recently organised a mass wedding for the underprivileged on July 2 at Swami Vivekanand Vidyamandir in

Palghar.

On July 3, Ambanis organised a spectacular Mameru ceremony- a Gujarati wedding tradition where the maternal uncle (mama) of the bride visits her with sweets and gifts.

The wedding festivities are meticulously planned, adhering to traditional Hindu Vedic customs. The main ceremonies will commence on Friday, July 12, with the auspicious Shubh Vivah, or wedding function and according to sources, guests are encouraged to embrace the spirit of the occasion by dressing in traditional Indian attire.

The celebrations will continue on Saturday, July 13, with Shubh Aashirwad. The final event, Mangal Utsav or the wedding reception, is scheduled for Sunday, July 14.

Earlier this year, the couple hosted a series of pre-wedding festivities in Jamnagar, which saw a star-studded guest list from around the globe.

Jay Bhanushali turns mentor



Jay Bhanushali, a seasoned host, is known for his quirky nature and light-hearted banter that keeps everyone engaged. On the show

India's Best Dancer 4, Jay will be seen training Aniket Chauhan to become an impeccable host. Aniket, a humble ex-contestant, will now

don the hat of the host and dance his way into your hearts with his cuteness and simplicity.

About his return, Jay shared, "I'm thrilled to be back as a host for India's Best Dancer Season 4. My bond with Geeta ji and Terence has been great and I have always been a fan of Karisma Kapoor, so I am really looking forward to hosting this edition of the show. I can't wait to have fun alongside Aniket, who has been a contestant on the previous season of the show." On his part, Aniket shared, "Returning to the show as a co-host is a dream come true for me. Sharing the same stage as the amazing judges, Jay bhaiya and the new talent of this season will be exciting."

Pratiksha Honmukhe talks about working with Kishori Shahane

Pratiksha Honmukhe from the ZEE TV's show Kaise Mujhe Tum Mil Gaye has admired Kishori Shahane's work and is thrilled to share the screen with an actress she has looked up to for years. She took to her social media account to express her fondness for the actor, as she used to watch her movies with her family and believes that her vast experience in the industry not only enhances her own acting skills, but also enriches the people who work with her. That's not it, she revealed how it is a dream come true for her to work with Kishori Shahane.

Pratiksha said, "Working alongside Kishori ma'am is a great opportunity. She is sweet, kind and polite.

Kishori ji has always been an inspiration to me, and sharing the screen with her is truly a dream come true. Having grown up watch-



ing her on screen and now sharing the same space with her, it feels like life has come a full circle for me. I remember watching her movies and being mesmerised

by her talent and grace. Her performances have always captivated me, and I have admired her ability to bring such depth and authenticity to her roles."

Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya attend Anant-Radhika's sangeet ceremony

After receiving the grand welcome in Mumbai, T20 World Cup champs cricketer Suryakumar Yadav and star all-rounder Hardik Pandya arrived in style to attend Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's sangeet ceremony.

Cricketer Suryakumar Yadav was seen posing for the camera along with his wife Devisha Shetty.

Hardik Pandya, Krunal Pandya and Ishan Kishan were also spotted attending the event.

Suryakumar was one of the stars for India during the World Cup, contributing 199 runs in eight games at an average of 28.42, with two half-centuries and some other fine contributions in tough matches. His contribution also included some stunning catches throughout the tournament.

Despite being trolled mercilessly during the Indian Premier League, on a personal and professional level, Pandya produced what may have been the World Cup-winning moment when he removed Heinrich Klaasen.

The all-rounder, who made a big contribution in the final with the crucial wickets of Heinrich Klaasen and David Miller, had a good tournament with bat and ball and became the first Indian man to reach No. 1 in the category.



Hardik Pandya made impactful cameos down the order with the bat and made breakthroughs with the ball when the team needed him to. He finished with 144 runs at a batting strike rate of over 150 and also took 11 wickets.

Talking about the grand sangeet ceremony, the event was attended by several celebs, sports personalities and other well-known faces. Salman Khan, Madhuri Dixit, Disha Patani, Mouni Roy, Ananya Pandya, Sonam Bajwa, MS Dhoni, Vidya Balan, Sonali Bendre, Varun Dhawan with his wife, Atlee to many more graced the event.

The couple are set to tie the knot at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai on July 12. As part of the wedding celebrations Mukesh Ambani and

Nita Ambani organised a mass wedding for the underprivileged on July 2 at Swami Vivekanand Vidyamandir in Palghar.

On July 3, Ambanis organised a spectacular Mameru ceremony- a Gujarati wedding tradition where the maternal uncle (mama) of the bride visits her with sweets and gifts.

The wedding festivities are meticulously planned, adhering to traditional Hindu Vedic customs. The main ceremonies will commence on Friday, July 12, with the auspicious Shubh Vivah, or wedding function and according to sources, guests are encouraged to embrace the spirit of the occasion by dressing in traditional Indian attire.

The celebrations will continue on Saturday, July 13, with Shubh Aashirwad. The final event, Mangal Utsav or the wed-

ding reception, is scheduled for Sunday, July 14. For this grand occasion, guests have been asked to dress in 'Indian chic.' Radhika Merchant, daughter of Encore Healthcare CEO Viren Merchant and entrepreneur Shaila Merchant, is set to join the Ambani family, marking a union of two prominent industrialist families.

Earlier this year, the couple hosted a series of pre-wedding festivities in Jamnagar, which saw a star-studded guest list from around the globe.

Business leaders, heads of state, and celebrities from Hollywood and Bollywood graced the occasion.

Among the distinguished guests were Meta founder Mark Zuckerberg and his wife Priscilla Chan, Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates, and Ivanka Trump. The highlight of the pre-wedding celebrations was an electrifying performance by pop sensation Rihanna, marking her debut performance in India.

The three-day extravaganza also featured the world-renowned illusionist David Blaine, who left guests spellbound with his incredible feats.

Bollywood stars and family members joined in the sangeet performances, with a special appearance by actor-singer Diljit Dosanjh, captivating the audience.

Taylor Swift declares 'Summer of Sabrina' Carpenter for achieving breakout milestone

Taylor Swift has always been the biggest cheerleader of her girlfriends be it in any award show or concert.

And Taylor did it again when as she cheered Sabrina Carpenter's accomplishments for the successful year she has had so far. Sabrina's Please Please Please topped the Billboard Hot 100 last week. She also announced her Short n' Sweet tour for her upcoming studio album.

Taylor hypes Sabrina and calls it the 'Summer of Sabrina'

Taylor who has been quite busy making headlines with her The Eras Tour, recently praised her fellow pop singer Sabrina on Instagram. Sabrina who had a great year and established herself at the top of most charts with her songs Espresso and Please Please Please posted on Friday on Instagram.

As reported by USA Today, he expressed her gratitude to her fans around the world for streaming her songs and tickets sold out on the Short n' Sour tour.

The cation of the post read, "and just like that you guys sold out the entire short n' sweet tour, espresso went #1 at pop radio anddddd i slid down this slide :") thank you all so so much!!! i can't wait to see you on the road."



The Folklore singer took the opportunity to hype up her friend on social media as she wrote under Sabrina's post, "SUMMER OF SABRINA AND MAY IT CONTINUE FOREVER".

Taylor herself had a breakout year with back to back sold out shows during The Eras Tour and the release of her latest album The Tortured Poets Department. The two pop sensation friends are riding the horse of success professionally and personally.

While Sabrina's Please Please Please music video featured her rumoured boyfriend, actor Barry Keoghan, one of Taylor's Tour acts

featured a surprise performance by beau Travis Kelce.

Sabrina's upcoming tour updates The Espresso singer is all set for her tour scheduled to begin on September 23 in Columbus, Ohio. However, the fir performanc will be san Francisco in August followed by the scheduled tour dates.

The tour is scheduled for 29 dates all the way through November this year.

The tour is organised in support of her sixth studio album and cover the North American arenas of US including states of New York and Canada. The tour will also cover states of Canada.

Karan Johar on body dysmorphia; the need to put out lights during intimacy

Director Karan Johar opened up in a recent interview about his struggles with body dysmorphia. Talking to Faye D'Souza, Karan claimed that nothing has changed through the years and that he sought the help of a mental health professional to overcome his issues.

'I feel very awkward' Talking about feeling uncomfortable in his skin, Karan said, "I have body dysmorphia, I am very awkward getting into a pool. I don't know how to do it without feeling pathetic. I've tried very hard to overcome it. No matter what the success you achieve, no matter who you think you are in your own head, I'm always in oversized clothes. Even if I lose the weight, and I try very hard, I'm always battling with it, but I'm always feeling I'm fat. So I don't want you to see any part of



my body." He added that even while entering the pool with his closest friends, he stays in his robe until the last minute. "Nothing has changed since I was eight. I self-body shame myself all the time. The day you feel

you're looking good... doesn't matter what you've achieved. Even in situations of intimacy, I need to put the lights out. I've been to therapy for it. All these issues... all fester and create mental health issues. I even took medication

after suffering from a panic attack."

Karan Johar on mental health

This is not the first time Karan has opened up about his mental health. While promoting season 8 of Koffee with Karan, he told PTI, "What happens to me or anybody else, it can happen to anybody. It doesn't mean you need a trigger, sometimes it is a result of many things, sometimes there's a trigger. When I spoke about my anxiety, it was to share a part of life that exists. That exists today as well, while I speak. I've no fear in saying that I'm on medication." He also spoke on the topic with Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh in one of the episodes.

Kill, produced by Dharma Productions, released in theatres this Friday. He has also produced Bad Newz, which will be released on July 19.

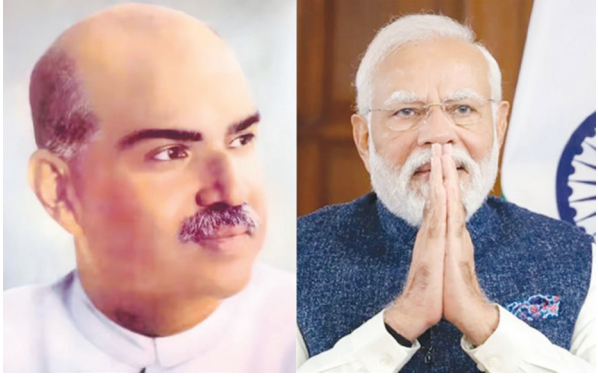
PM Modi Pays Tribute To Syama Prasad Mookerjee

NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid homage to BJP ideologue Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his 123rd birth anniversary on Saturday.

Modi said Mookerjee made India proud with his fierce nationalistic ideas, and that his sacrifice and dedication to the motherland will always inspire people.

Mookerjee was one of the founders of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the forerunner to the Bharatiya Janata Party.

He was a member of Jawaharlal Nehru's Cabinet, which he quit in protest over his differences with the



prime minister and then formed the Jana Sangh with support from the RSS.

Mookerjee died in 1953 following his arrest in Jammu and Kashmir during his agitation against the restriction imposed there on Indian citizens

who were not from the state. He was opposed to the special status given to the state.

Modi had described his government's decision to revoke Article 370, which granted the state special rights, in 2019 as a fulfilment of Mookerjee's wish.

Every Indian Indebted To Syama Prasad Mookerjee, Says Amit Shah

NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah paid tribute to Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his birth anniversary on Saturday. The minister said every Indian is indebted to Mookerjee for "his unique efforts for the integrity of the country."

"I remember and pay my tribute to the eminent nationalist thinker Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee on his birth anniversary. Whenever there is talk of fighting for the unity and integrity of the country, Dr. Mukherjee will definitely be remembered," Shah said in a post on X.

"Whether it is his struggle to keep Bengal



a part of the country or making the supreme sacrifice to keep Jammu and Kashmir an integral part of India with the resolution of 'Ek Nishan, Ek Pradhan, Ek Vidhan', every Indian is indebted to him for his unique efforts for the integrity of the country. Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, who provided an ideological

alternative to the country by establishing the Jan Sangh, will forever be a guide on the path of nation first." Meanwhile, Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva and other leaders of the party paid floral tribute to the Jana Sangh founder and planted a sapling at the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Statue Park

in New Delhi on Saturday.

Sachdeva told ANI, "Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee is an idea. The message he gave to the country was that one nation cannot have 'do nishaan', 'do vidhaan', and 'do pradhan'. His resolution was fulfilled by PM Narendra Modi on August 5, 2019."

BJP MP Bansuri Swaraj told ANI that Mookerjee was a leader who sacrificed his life for the integration of India.

"Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee is a leader who sacrificed his life for the integration of our country. He dreamt of a unified India... It is our fortune that the BJP, under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, has been able to fulfil his

dream."

Syama Prasad Mookerjee was the founder of Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the ideological parent organisation of the BJP. He also served as the Minister for Industry and Supply in Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's cabinet.

According to the BJP's official website, on the issue of the Delhi pact with Liaquat Ali Khan, Mookerjee resigned from the Cabinet on April 6, 1950. Later on October 21, 1951, Mookerjee founded the Bharatiya Jana Sangh in Delhi and became its first president.

Mookerjee went to visit Kashmir in 1953 and was arrested on May 11. He died under detention on June 23, 1953.

Excise policy case: Arvind Kejriwal's role being investigated, probe against all other accused done, CBI tells court

NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) clarified on Saturday that the investigation into the roles of all other accused has been completed and only the role of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is being investigated in relation to the excise policy case.

CBI's counsel DP Singh further added that they will brief the Supreme Court about some new developments that took place after June 4, which led to arrest of Arvind Kejriwal.

The CBI further stated that only the role and investigation of Kejriwal have been further inves-

tigated, and the probe against the rest of the accused is almost complete.

The CBI further clarified that the statement made by the Solicitor General before was related to all the arrested accused in the case except Kejriwal.

Earlier on June 4, before the Supreme Court noted the submissions of Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General, that the investigation would be concluded and a final complaint and charge sheet would be filed expeditiously on or before July 3, 2024, and immediately thereafter, the trial court will be free to proceed with trial.

In light of the said



submissions made and having regard to the fact that the period of "6-8 months" fixed by this court by order dated October 30, 2023, has not come to an end, it would suffice to dispose of these petitions with liberty to the petitioner to revive his prayer afresh after filing the final complaint/charge sheet as

assured by the Solicitor General.

Counsels for Manish Sisodia and K Kavitha on Saturday allege that CBI is miscreating and misleading the statements.

The Special Judge Kaveri Baweja on Saturday extended the judicial custody of Delhi's former deputy chief

minister Manish Sisodia and other accused till July 15.

Meanwhile, the court also allowed Manish Sisodia to sign documents related to the development of his constituency from MLA funds. The court also allowed him to sign bank cheques for his family's expenditures.

However, the court deferred its hearing on the aspect of taking cognizance on the third supplementary chargesheet filed by the CBI against BRS leader K Kavitha.

The court deferred the matter for July 8, 2024, after noting that some of the pages of said chargesheet are incorrectly paginated.

PM Modi speaks to UK counterpart Keir Starmer, both agree to work for early free trade agreement



NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday spoke to newly elected British Prime Minister Keir Starmer as the two leaders agreed to work towards an early conclusion of a mutually beneficial India-UK free trade agreement, a statement said.

Modi congratulated him on assuming charge and a remarkable vic-

tory of his Labour Party in the election.

The statement said both the leaders recalled the historic relations between the India and the UK and reaffirmed their commitment to further deepen and advance the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the countries.

Appreciating the positive contributions of the

Indian community in the social, economic and political development of the UK, they agreed to continue to promote the close people-to-people ties.

Modi also extended an invitation to Starmer for an early visit to India as the two leaders agreed to remain in touch, the statement said.

In a post on X, Modi said, "Pleased to speak with @Keir_Starmer. Congratulated him on being elected as the Prime Minister of the UK. We remain committed to deepening Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and robust India-UK economic ties for the progress and prosperity of our people and global good."

Congress will defeat BJP in Gujarat as it did in Ayodhya, says Rahul Gandhi

NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): In a day-long visit to Gujarat, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi met with the party workers in Ahmedabad and asserted that the party will defeat the BJP in Gujarat in the next election the same way it did in Ayodhya in the recent Lok Sabha polls.

Rahul's visit follows a recent clash between Congress and BJP workers outside the Gujarat Congress headquarters, allegedly sparked by his purported "anti-Hindu" remarks in his Parliament speech. The police have arrested five Congress workers following the altercation.

Addressing the party workers' convention in Ahmedabad, Rahul Gandhi said, "They (BJP) have challenged us. We will defeat Modi, BJP in Gujarat just like we did in Ayodhya."

During his visit, Gandhi also planned to meet with the families of victims of recent tragedies in Gujarat, including the Rajkot game zone fire, the boat capsize incident in Vadodara, and the Morbi



bridge collapse.

In his speech, the former Congress chief also targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the BJP's defeat from the Faizabad Lok Sabha seat in Uttar Pradesh, where Ayodhya is located.

"Farmers of Ayodhya lost their lands when the airport was built.

The people of Ayodhya felt angry when they found that not a single local person was invited to the inauguration of the Ram Temple.

The movement that was initiated by Advani ji, centred around Ayodhya, has been defeated by the INDIA alliance," he said.

Conduct NEET-UG again in transparent manner: Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge

NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): The Congress demanded Saturday that the medical entrance exam NEET-UG be conducted again and all "paper leak scams" thoroughly investigated under the Supreme Court's supervision.

Amid the growing clamour for the cancellation of the controversy-ridden NEET-UG 2024 over alleged malpractices, the Centre and the National Testing Agency told the apex court on Friday that scrapping it without any proof of large-scale breach of confidentiality would be counterproductive as it could "seriously jeopardise" lakhs of honest candidates.

The National Testing



Agency (NTA), which conducts the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test-Undergraduate (NEET-UG) for admissions to MBBS, BDS, AYUSH and other related courses, and the Union education ministry have been at the centre of media debates and protests by students and political parties over alleged large-scale malpractices ranging from

question paper leaks to impersonation in the test held on May 5.

In a post on 'X' in Hindi, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said the Modi government has told the Supreme Court that no paper has been leaked in NEET-UG.

"This blatant lie is being told to lakhs of youths. Their future is being ruined," Kharge

said.

The Congress leader pointed out that the education ministry has said that "there have been irregularities or cheating only at a few places" but this is "misleading".

The BJP-RSS has promoted the "education mafia" by taking control of the entire education system, he claimed.

"Be it NCERT books or leakage in exams, the Modi government is bent on destroying our education system," Kharge alleged.

"We reiterate our demand that NEET-UG should be conducted again. It should be conducted online in a transparent manner," he said.

Kharge also demanded that all "paper leak scams" should be thor-

oughly investigated under the supervision of the Supreme Court, and strict action should be taken against the culprits.

"The Modi government cannot escape from its misdeeds," he said on 'X'.

The Union education ministry and the NTA filed separate affidavits opposing the pleas which have sought the scrapping of the exam plagued by controversy, a re-test and a court-monitored probe into the entire gamut of issues involved.

In their responses, they said the CBI, the country's premier investigating agency, has taken over the cases registered in various states.

Furious At Being Stopped, Man Attempts To Set Woman Cop On Fire In Pune

PUNE, Jul 6 (Agencies): In another shocking incident in Pune, a drunken man allegedly poured petrol and attempted to set ablaze a woman traffic police officer who had stopped him during a drunk-and-drive combing operation, an official said here on Saturday.

The incident happened at around 8 P.M. on Friday night when the traffic police officer, API Shailaja Jankar, along with other colleagues,

was on duty at Laxmi Road in the jurisdiction of the Faraskhana Traffic Police Station.

The traffic police team stopped one person riding a motorcycle but finding his attitude suspicious, they asked him to get down and accompany them to the nearby traffic police station.

Furious at being stopped, the man Sanjay F Salve, 32, fled from the spot but returned an hour later with some petrol.

Sanjay F Salve suddenly lunged at the woman officer and poured petrol on her, whipped out a lighter and tried to set her on fire, but her colleagues pinned him down.

"Fortunately, the police officer is unharmed. The other police personnel on duty rushed to her help and caught the accused, and further investigations are on," Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic), Rohidas Pawar, told agency.

The accused Sanjay F Salve is a resident of Pimpri-Chinchwad.

The Vishrambaugh Police Station, Senior Police Inspector Deepali Bhujbal told media-persons on Saturday that they registered a case against Sanjay F Salve on various charges, including attempt to murder, drinking-and-driving, obstructing a public servant, etc. and arrested him.

A further probe in underway.

Faridabad tragedy: Three children killed as dilapidated house eaves collapse

FARIDABAD, Jul 6 (Agencies): Three siblings were killed when their house's eaves collapsed on them, here in Sikri village on Saturday. The deceased were identified as Akash (10), Muskaan (8) and Adil (6).

According to the police, the eaves commonly called 'chhajja', were not in good condition and a concrete slab collapsed after rain in the area.

The three siblings were sitting under the



eaves on Friday evening.

A case is registered against the house owner, who rented the house even after knowing it was in a dilapidated condition. We are

trying to catch him, said the police.

After removing the debris, the local residents took the unconscious children to a nearby hospital where doctors declared all

three of them dead.

Based on the complaint by Dharmendra Kumar, the father of the children, an FIR was registered under Section 105 (culpable homicide) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) at Sector 58 police station on Saturday, police stated.

The bodies will be handed over to the family after the post-mortem, said Inspector Krishan Kumar, SHO of Sector 58 Police Station.

NATO summit, mending EU relations among first tasks for new British PM Keir Starmer

Starmer is set to make high-profile international debut next week, when he is expected to attend NATO's 75th-anniversary summit in Washington

LONDON, Jul 6 (Agencies): New British Prime Minister Keir Starmer doesn't get to take a breather. After a draining six-week election campaign, the centre-left politician must get straight to work assembling his government, tackling a mountain of domestic problems and putting his stamp on the UK's relations with the rest of the world.

It's a daunting list for a new leader who has never served in, much less led, a government. But Starmer, who was officially appointed prime minister Friday, insisted that he is up to the challenge of heading the UK in a world that is "a more volatile place" than it has been for many years.

Appoint a government
Like someone moving into a new home with their IKEA furniture, Starmer's first task was to assemble a Cabinet.

Starmer began putting together his government soon after he walked through the door of 10 Downing St on Friday afternoon following his landslide election victory. He has a plethora of lawmakers to choose from - his Labour Party won more than 400 seats in Thursday's election, almost two-thirds of the 650 in the House of Commons.

Key players in the new administration include Treasury chief Rachel Reeves - a former Bank of England economist and the first woman to hold that job - who will liaise with international financial institutions.

The new foreign secretary, Britain's top diplomat, is David Lammy, a Harvard Law School graduate who vowed to "reconnect Britain for our security and prosperity at home."

Make friends on the world stage

Starmer has said his message to the world from the UK is: "We're back." He wants Britain to take a larger role on the global stage after years of soured relations with Europe



over Brexit and the inward-looking UK political soap opera that followed.

He takes office at a time of multiple crises - including the war in Ukraine and the Middle East, a surging far right, a muscle-flexing China - that will test the cool head he honed in his former job as Britain's chief prosecutor.

Malcolm Chalmers, deputy director general of the Royal United Services Institute, a military think-tank, said that with France facing a far-right surge in legislative elections and the US embroiled in a polarizing, high-stakes presidential election, Britain "has the most stable government of all the major Western democracies."

"It therefore has the opportunity, and responsibility, to help steady the ship of Western unity at a time of exceptional political fluidity," he said.

Starmer is set to make a high-profile international debut next week, when he is expected to attend NATO's 75th-anniversary summit in Washington. The gathering is overshadowed by questions about President Joe Biden's fitness and the uncertain outcome of the November US presidential election.

Starmer has said there will be no change to Britain's staunch support for Ukraine, and has pledged to increase UK military spending to 2.5% of GDP - though he hasn't put a date on it. "The decision for Starmer is

how much to try to persuade the US - as well as other wavering members of NATO - to remain a defender of Ukraine, on the grounds not just of sovereignty but European security," said Bronwen Maddox, director of international affairs think-tank Chatham House.

Starmer also faces divisions within his party over Israel's war against Hamas. Several Labour lawmakers were defeated in the election by challenges from pro-Palestinian independents angered by the party's initial refusal to call unambiguously for a cease-fire in the Gaza conflict.

Patch things up with the neighbours
On July 18, Starmer will host leaders from across Europe at England's Blenheim Palace for a meeting of the 47-nation European Political Community. It's a chance to begin to mend ties with the UK's neighbours in Europe, which have frayed and soured since the UK left the European Union in 2020.

Starmer says he wants to reduce some of the post-Brexit barriers for people and goods that have hobbled relations between Britain and the bloc. He insists, though that he won't reverse Brexit, or rejoin the EU's single market and customs union.

Critics say that shows a lack of principle, but supporters say it respects Britons' desire not to reopen the divisive Brexit debate.

Tackle a long to-do list

Starmer also faces a daunting range of domestic challenges, underlaid by the widespread sense that many facets of Britain's public life have broken down during 14 years of Conservative rule.

Stagnant growth and low productivity restrain the economy while millions of people struggle with the cost of living. The country's aging infrastructure is creaking and the state-funded National Health Service is at breaking point, with long waiting lists for treatment, a situation has been worsened by a long-running series of doctors' strikes.

Ending that dispute will be a priority, but Starmer has vowed to keep a tight lid on spending and won't want to agree to the big salary increases the doctors are seeking.

Starmer promises to take control of migration and stop people making dangerous journeys across the English Channel in small boats, but he will cancel the Conservative government's controversial plan to send asylum-seekers on a one-way trip to Rwanda.

The UK has paid Rwanda hundreds of millions of pounds (dollars) as part of the deal without a single flight taking off.

He's also expected to emphasize Britain's commitment to fighting climate change after a series of backwards steps under the Conservatives.

The new government's legislative plans for the next year will be set out July 17 in a speech delivered by King Charles III at the ceremonial State Opening of Parliament.

"A lot of people are feeling a sense of potential transformation," said Lise Butler, senior lecturer in modern history at City University of London. "I think that there's going to be elevated expectations for Starmer, which are going to be difficult to meet."

Reformist Masoud Pezeshkian wins Iran's presidential runoff election, besting hard-liner Saeed Jalili



DUBAI, Jul 6 (Agencies): Reformist candidate Masoud Pezeshkian won Iran's runoff presidential election on Saturday, besting hard-liner Saeed Jalili by promising to reach out to the West and ease enforcement on the country's mandatory headscarf law after years of sanctions and protests squeezing the Islamic Republic.

Pezeshkian promised no radical changes to Iran's Shiite theocracy in his campaign and long has held Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei as the final arbiter of all matters of state in the country. But even Pezeshkian's modest aims will be challenged by an Iranian government still largely held by hard-liners, the ongoing Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip, and Western fears over Tehran enriching uranium to near-weapons-grade levels.

A vote count offered by authorities put Pezeshkian as the winner with 16.3 million votes to Jalili's 13.5 million in Friday's election.

Supporters of Pezeshkian, a heart surgeon and longtime lawmaker, entered the streets of Tehran and other cities before dawn to celebrate as his lead grew over Jalili, a hard-line former nuclear negotiator.

But Pezeshkian's win still sees Iran at a delicate moment, with tensions high in the Mideast over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip, Iran's advancing nuclear program, and a looming US election that could put any chance of a detente between Tehran and Washington at risk.

The first round of voting June 28 saw the lowest turnout in the history of the Islamic Republic since the 1979 Islamic Revolution. Iranian officials have long pointed to turnout as a sign of support for the country's Shiite theocracy, which has been under strain after years of sanctions crushing Iran's economy, mass demonstrations and

intense crackdowns on all dissent.

Government officials up to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei predicted a higher participation rate as voting got underway, with state television airing images of modest lines at some polling centres across the country.

However, online videos purported to show some polls empty while a survey of several dozen sites in the capital, Tehran, saw light traffic amid a heavy security presence on the streets.

The election came amid heightened regional tensions. In April, Iran launched its first-ever direct attack on Israel over the war in Gaza, while militia groups that Tehran arms in the region - such as the Lebanese Hezbollah and Yemen's Houthi rebels - are engaged in the fighting and have escalated their attacks.

Iran is also enriching uranium at near weapons-grade levels and maintains a stockpile large enough to build several nuclear weapons, should it choose to do so. And while Khamenei remains the final decision-maker on matters of state, whichever man ends up winning the presidency could bend the country's foreign policy toward either confrontation or collaboration with the West.

The campaign also repeatedly touched on what would happen if former President Donald Trump, who unilaterally withdrew America from the Iran nuclear deal in 2018, won the November election. Iran has held indirect talks with President Joe Biden's administration, though there's been no clear movement back toward constraining Tehran's nuclear program for the lifting of economic sanctions.

More than 61 million Iranians over the age of 18 were eligible to vote, with about 18 million of them between 18 and 30. Voting was to end at 6 pm but was extended until midnight to boost participation.

The late President Ebrahim Raisi, who died in a May helicopter crash, was seen as a protégé of Khamenei and a potential successor as supreme leader.

Still, many knew him for his involvement in the mass executions that Iran conducted in 1988, and for his role in the bloody crackdowns on dissent that followed protests over the 2022 death of Mahsa Amini, a young woman detained by police over allegedly improperly wearing the mandatory headscarf, or hijab.

France's president called a surprise election, the result could diminish his power in world affairs

The second round of the high-stakes legislative election on Sunday will almost certainly impact how much say France's president has in the fields of defense and foreign affairs

PARIS, Jul 6 (Agencies): French President Emmanuel Macron could awake - if he has slept at all - with clipped wings on Monday morning.

The high-stakes second round of the legislative election on Sunday will almost certainly impact the French leader's sway in the areas of defense and foreign affairs. It could diminish his role as an energetic and influential figure in European and world affairs and as one of Ukraine's primary backers in the war against Russia, say retired French military officers and analysts of France's defense and foreign policies.

After the centrist president's bloc finished a distant third, behind the surging far right, in last weekend's first round of voting for a new parliament, one of the only certainties before Sunday's decisive round two is that Macron himself can't emerge strengthened.

With many of its candidates already out of the race, Macron's camp can't secure the absolute majority that gave him ample maneuvering

room in his first term as president from 2017. It also is likely to fall well short of the 245 seats it won after his reelection in 2022. That made it the largest single group - albeit without a clear majority - in the outgoing National Assembly that Macron dissolved on June 9, triggering the surprise election after the far right handed his alliance a painful beating in French voting for the European Parliament.

That leaves two outcomes most likely to emerge on Sunday night to Monday as official results come in.

In one scenario, France could end up with a fragmented parliament and a prime minister too weak to seriously undermine Macron's constitutionally guaranteed role as head of the armed forces and, more broadly, unable or unwilling to majorly challenge his defense and foreign-policy powers. Still, even in this best-case scenario for Macron, France risks becoming inward-looking, more focused on its polarized and unstable domestic politics than its place

and military activities in the world.

In a second scenario, a worst case for Macron, the far right could secure an historic victory on Sunday that saddles the president with Jordan Bardella as prime minister, in an awkward and possibly conflictual power-sharing arrangement. The 28-year-old Bardella is a protégé of Marine Le Pen, who leads the far-right National Rally party, with Bardella as its president. Both Le Pen and Bardella have made clear that, in power, they would seek to rein in Macron and exert themselves in defense, European and foreign affairs decision-making.

The French Constitution only gives limited answers to how the various scenarios might play out. In large part, it could depend on the personalities of those involved and their ability to compromise, French analysts say.

Although the constitution says the president is commander in chief, it also says the prime minister "is responsible for national defense."

During the campaign,



Bardella laid out what he said would be "my red lines" with regards to Ukraine, if he ends up sharing power with Macron: No more French deliveries of long-range weaponry that Ukraine could use to strike targets in Russia and no sending of troops, a scenario that Macron floated this year. Bardella said he doesn't want nuclear-armed France to be drawn into direct confrontation with nuclear-armed Russia. His party has historically been close to Russia and Le Pen cultivated ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin for many years and supported Russia's illegal annexation of the Crimean Peninsula from Ukraine in 2014.

Who would have the final word in potential

arguments over long-range weapons for Kyiv is "actually quite a tricky one," says François Heisbourg, a French analyst on defense and security questions at the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

"The president can probably do it if he wanted to, but the prime minister could also state that he can prevent the president from doing so," he says. "It can become a deadlock."

"If they don't agree, they can actually prevent each other from doing anything."

Power-sharing isn't new to France. But in previous cases, the president and prime minister weren't as sharply opposed politically as Macron and Bardella.

"Nobody until now

has tried to test these respective powers to their ultimate conclusion. This is completely uncharted territory," Heisbourg says.

On military affairs, Le Pen has already delivered a warning shot, calling Macron's role as commander in chief "an honorary title for the president since it's the prime minister who holds the purse strings." Macron retorted: "What arrogance!"

French retired Vice Adm. Michel Olhagaray, a former head of France's center for higher military studies, is concerned that what he describes as the constitutional "blur" about shared military responsibilities could ripple through the ranks of the country's armed forces.

Conflictual power-sharing could be "something extremely painful for the armies, to know who the armies will obey. Very painful, very difficult," he says.

"In any case, the president of the republic can no longer take personal initiatives, like launching a (military) operation, etc., because that requires an understanding with the prime min-

ister."

Because the French military operates across the globe, with forces deployed on the eastern flank of the NATO alliance, in Africa, the Middle East and elsewhere, changes to its posture by a power-sharing government are sure to be scrutinized by France's international network of allies and partners.

"They will all ask, 'But what is happening? How will this evolve? What will become of France? Will France keep its commitments?'" Olhagaray says.

But analysts say France's nuclear forces shouldn't be impacted. The president holds the nuclear codes, not least to ensure that the arsenal remains credible as a deterrent by making sure that potential enemies understand that any decision to strike isn't taken by committee.

If no clear majority emerges for any single bloc from Sunday's voting, lawmakers may have to do something that's not a tradition in France: build a coalition government. Because the prime minister at its

head will need broad consensus in parliament to keep the government from falling, that person is more likely to be a weakened junior partner in sharing power with Macron.

"The president will have much more control," says retired Gen. Dominique Trinquand, a former head of France's military mission at the United Nations.

In a coalition government, consensus-building on tough foreign policy questions - such as whether to greatly boost aid to Ukraine - could take time, and issues that divide might be put on the back burner.

"The room to maneuver would be narrowed," says Frédéric Charillon, a professor of political science at Paris Cité University.

"In France, we are much more used to this kind of, you know, presidential system of monarchic foreign policy, when the president says, 'I will do this, I will do that.'"

But in the power-sharing arrangement with a new prime minister that now awaits Macron, "It cannot work like that."

LG Mishra meets members of Committee on Public Accounts from Karnataka Legislative Assembly

Top News Report

LEH, July 6: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) met the members of the Committee on Public Accounts from Karnataka Legislative Assembly on the Study Tour to Ladakh led by the Chairman of the Committee, CC Patil, at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat.

Advisor to the HLG, Dr Pawan Kotwal, and ADGP Ladakh, Dr SD Singh Jamwal, were present in the meeting. The Committee on Public Accounts from Karnataka Legislative

Assembly are on a study tour to Ladakh from July 4 to 7.

After a brief introduction of the members of the Committee, the Chairman of the Committee, Patil apprised the LG of the functioning of the Committee along with the objective of the study tour.

The Committee members inquired about the functioning of various sectors in Ladakh, including agriculture, hydro-electric projects, industrial policy, the election of Hill Councils along with their roles in the governance, the crime rate in Ladakh and the healthcare facilities

provided to the people of Ladakh, etc.

Stating that he is happy to interact with an illustrious team who have served the public for many years, the LG informed the Committee members that Ladakh is still in a nascent stage after becoming a union territory in 2019.

He also informed about the neglect faced by the people of Ladakh when the region was a part of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in budget allocation, communication and connectivity, etc.

He further informed about the challenges

faced by the Administration in spending the funds allocated by the Government of India due to the absence of a proper mechanism.

The LG stated that the UT Administration is now ensuring proper and full utilisation of the funds allocated by the Government of India for the region's development.

The LG informed about his six-decades-long association with Karnataka state, especially Mysuru when he was commissioned in Infantry, the 18th Battalion of the Madras Regiment, in 1961. He also highlighted the challenges faced by the UT Administra-

tion, including ensuring the availability of drinking water for posterity, ensuring round-the-year road connectivity and reducing the mortality rate of pashmina goat kids, etc.

The LG also felicitated the members of the Committee on Public Accounts.

Advisor to the LG, Dr Pawan Kotwal, informed about various steps taken by the UT Administration in all the fields/sectors along with the challenges faced due to the short working season. He also highlighted initiatives taken to make Ladakh a carbon-neutral region.

Shiv Sena accuses BJP of serving its own interests, not caring for common people

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: BJP has once again proved that it has no concern with the common people of Jammu, its political reach only means to benefit its own interests and business friends, even if the cost is to put the lives of common people at risk, this is the allegation of Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit chief Manish Sahni.

In a press conference held today at the party's state central office, state chief Manish Sahni said that not lifting the road between Kunjwani and Narwal on pillars on the Delhi-Katra Expressway and cancelling the decision to build a blind wall, is putting the lives of the common people at risk and giving an open invitation to accidents.

He said that with the mere apprehension that the construction of the blind wall would affect the business of some BJP leaders and their favourites, many senior BJP leaders became active and the decision to construct this blind wall was cancelled by ignoring the safety of the general public.

Sahni said that even before this, blind walls have been constructed in many areas on the Jammu-Kashmir National Highway.

The safety of the general public was given importance by ignoring the objections of the affected people.

On the other hand, about 2 dozen families in the Warehouse and Nehru Market of Jammu are forced to live in dilapidated residential quar-

ters declared unsafe by the JDA, risking their lives.

This building was declared unsafe by the PWD in 2012. Despite the passage of a long period of 12 years, no alternative arrangement has been provided for these families.

Sahni said that the people of Jammu division had given a historic victory to the BJP in the 2014 assembly elections and also made the BJP candidates victorious in the 2019, 2024 Lok Sabha elections, but whenever the people of Jammu faced problems, the BJP never paid any attention. Jammu got nothing but deception and disappointment. On this occasion General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Vice president Sanjeev Kohli were present.

ABDPSS continues Bhandara for Amarnath pilgrims

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: The Akhil Bhartiya Dham Prachar Sewa Samiti (ABDPSS) in Jammu and Kashmir has been organizing a Bhandara at the Railway Station in Jammu since June 30, 2024, specifically to cater to the needs of pilgrims embarking on the Baba Amarnathji Yatra.

As of today, they are celebrating the 7th day of continuous service. Mahant Narinder Dass ji Maharaj, a prominent figure, inaugurated



today's Bhandara, underscoring the dedication and efforts of the volunteers, particularly Sunil

Sharma, the National Coordinator.

The initiative aims to provide pilgrims with

pure, healthy meals round the clock, emphasizing the importance of "sattvic" food—food that is pure, nutritious, and energetically balanced according to traditional principles.

Notably, they have special arrangements to accommodate pilgrims observing fasts on significant days like Ekadashi and other festivals, a feature not commonly found in Jammu's transit camps.

This effort is supported by a committed team comprising Vishal

Sharma, Amrit Bhivani, Ajay Kumar, and Raman Kumar, who have been instrumental in ensuring seamless service delivery.

Community participation is robust, with attendees such as Vishal Sharma, Swatantar Bakshi, Vikram Sharma, Raja Mankotia, Anil Kumar, Tarachand, and others actively engaging and supporting the initiative, reflecting widespread community endorsement and involvement in this noble cause.

Silt flushing of Dulhasti project on July 10

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, July 6: Management of Dulhasti Power Station of National Hydroelectric Power Corporation has cautioned people of Kishtwar and Doda districts not to move near river Chenab on June 10 as gates of Dulhasti Power Station Dam shall be opened for periodical silt reservoir flushing.

In a statement the authorities have particularly cautioned people

residing in Dul, Benzwar, Cherhar, Bhanderkoot, Hasti, Kandni, Thathri, Premnagar and Pul Doda, not to move near the River Chenab on June 10 July 10, 2024 (Wednesday) from 00:00 Hrs to 24:00 Hrs when the de-silting will be carried out.

"During this period the water level may rise two to three meters temporarily, therefore the public residing near Chenab downstream areas is being warned to refrain

from moving themselves, their cattle, pets and vehicles near the bank of the river to avoid any mishap," said the statement.

People have been requested to cooperate for the safety of their lives.

"Anybody violating the advisory shall be doing so at his own risk and NHPC/management of Dulhasti power station shall not be responsible for consequences thereof," said the statement.

FROM PAGE 1

Union Budget 2024-25 to be presented in Lok Sabha on July 23

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will introduce the full budget of the Narendra Modi-led NDA government. Earlier, ahead of the Lok Sabha elections, an interim budget was tabled in Parliament on February 1.

Why Congress is not keen on alliance with AAP in Delhi and Haryana

According to Delhi Congress leaders, the factors that made an alliance with the AAP a necessity in the Lok Sabha polls were different as compared to the scenario in the assembly polls. In the general elections, the priority was to minimise division of votes in contests with the Bharatiya Janata Party, while at the state level, the main focus of the Congress will be on regaining lost ground, as per the party's local unit. Delhi is scheduled to have assembly elections in early 2025.

The Congress has struggled to make a comeback electorally in Delhi since its defeat in the state elections in 2014. Prior to that, it had been in power in the national capital for 15 years in a row. At present, it does not have a single MLA in the state assembly. A major reason for the Congress failing to make a mark in the elections in Delhi is that it has lost its support base to the AAP. The party's assessment is that the AAP has grown in Delhi at the Congress' cost.

"The state's political scene is in turmoil, with the many allegations of corruption made against the Kejriwal government. It was the Congress that had first taken up the issue of corruption in the excise policy. Corruption and misgovernance are the two main issues with which we will hit the ground," said a Delhi Congress leader.

The party might find it challenging though to balance its stance with regard to Kejriwal's continued incarceration in the excise policy case at the national level with its opposition to the AAP government at the state level. Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, in his inaugural speech in the Lok Sabha, talked about how it bothered him when opposition leaders are targeted, and he mentioned that Kejriwal continues to be in jail.

Meanwhile, in neighbouring Haryana too, where the Congress had contested on nine out of the ten seats, leaving Kurukshetra constituency for the AAP, there appears to be little chance of the two parties entering any understanding for the assembly elections. Haryana goes to polls later this year.

The Congress, which had failed to win a single seat in the previous Lok Sabha polls, won five seats this time round. The party feels that in the assembly elections, the fight will be primarily between the ruling BJP and the Congress.

The AAP, the Congress feels, will add little to the Congress' prospects since it is not a significant player in the state's politics. It is

felt that the popularity of the BJP government has reduced drastically, with issues such as farmers' ire and unemployment playing an important role in this. The Congress's state unit feels it can capitalise on these issues in the Assembly elections to a much greater extent than it did in the Lok Sabha polls.

Soldier injured in gun battle with terrorists in Kulgam

of forces were carrying out a cordon and search operation (CASO) in the area following an input about the presence of militants. "The CASO turned into a gun battle as the joint team of forces came under fire. In the initial exchange of fire, a soldier was injured," a security officer said.

He said additional forces have been rushed to the area to ensure that militants don't manage to break the cordon.

J&K Police said that forces were on job. "Encounter started at Modergam Village of #Kulgam District. Police and Security Forces are on job. Further details shall follow," J&K Police said in a post on X

President Droupadi Murmu confers 10 Kirti Chakras, 26 Shaurya Chakras

Rifles; Captain Anshuman Singh of the Army Medical Corps, 26th Battalion, the Punjab Regiment; and Havildar Abdul Majid, 9th Battalion, the Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) from the Indian Army have been conferred the Kirti Chakra posthumously, according to the list of awardees shared in the statement.

Inspector Dilip Kumar Das, Head Constable Raj Kumar Yadava, Constable Bablu Rabha and Constable Sambhu Roy of 210 CoBRA Battalion, CRPF have been also conferred the Kirti Chakra posthumously.

Three personnel, including two of major-rank and one naib subedar, have been conferred the Kirti Chakra, the ministry said.

The Rashtrapati Bhavan later also shared pictures from the ceremony on its official X handle.

"President Droupadi Murmu conferred Kirti Chakra upon Captain Anshuman Singh, The Army Medical Corps, 26th Battalion Punjab Regiment, posthumously. Disregarding his own safety, he exhibited exceptional bravery and resolve to rescue many people in a major fire incident," it said.

Two BSF personnel killed in separate road accidents in J&K

Rescuers managed to save the lives of two BSF personnel but Singh was swept away by a strong current and later he was found in a critical condition and sent to a hospital where he was declared brought dead by doctors, the officials said.

In another accident, BSF jawan Amit Kumar Shukla (30) died when a cab turned turtle inside Chenani-Nashri tunnel in Udhampur

district. Shukla, who was posted in J-K, was on way to his home in Jharkhand on leave, officials said.

One killed, 17 injured as 2 buses overturn in UP's Muzaffarnagar

The incident took place near Bhagenla checkpoint on the Delhi-Dehradun national highway under Kotwali police station area, they said. The deceased has been identified as Ramgopal (35), the driver of one of the buses, Circle Officer (CO) Rupali Rao said.

BJP reviews strategy, plans future programs in J&K: G. Kishan Reddy

G. Kishan Reddy, BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, BJP's J-K election co-incharge Ashish Sood, and Union Minister Jitendra Singh are among those who will attend the meeting.

Ahead of the meeting, G. Reddy told reporters in Jammu, "We are conducting a review after the Lok Sabha elections. We formed the government for the third time. We will discuss the upcoming programs of the BJP in Jammu and Kashmir."

"The National President, J.P. Nadda, will come and prepare a roadmap for the upcoming 3-4 months... We will also take feedback from the party workers," Reddy added.

The BJP leader claimed that there was a positive environment in Jammu and Kashmir following the abrogation of Article 370.

"After the abrogation of Article 370, there is a positive environment and peace here. Because of this, we are sure that support for the BJP will increase in the coming time," Reddy said.

Tarun Chugh said, "State Working Committee meetings are happening all over the country. BJP National President J.P. Nadda is going to attend the meeting here. It is because of the party workers that the BJP has formed the government for the third time."

On the Assembly elections likely to be held in Jammu and Kashmir by the end of September as per the timeline fixed by the Supreme Court, Chugh said, "It is the Election Commission's job to announce the elections. The BJP has always guarded democracy. The BJP is a worker-based party; we discuss and move forward together."

J-K is likely to see its first Assembly election in September this year, according to the timeline fixed by the Supreme Court after the erstwhile state's special status was scrapped in 2019. The last Assembly election in the erstwhile state was held in 2014.

The BJP-led government scrapped Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir in August 2019 and bifurcated the state into two union territories. There have been demands from political parties for early assembly elec-

tions in Jammu and Kashmir and the restoration of statehood. Earlier, the Supreme Court had asked the Election Commission of India and the Centre to conduct polls by September.

Amarnath Yatra: J-K Police issue special traffic advisory for yatra convoy, non-convoy movement

"If, for any reason, there is a delay in crossing, the vehicles will be placed in the above locations and released only the next day. I urge people to follow the cut-off hours. The main purpose of designing cutoff timings is to ensure the safety and security of yatis," he further added.

Meanwhile, a traffic police checkpoint is in operation on NH 44 to ensure the safety of Amarnath Yatis and regulate traffic flow.

Earlier this morning, another batch of Amarnath pilgrims left from the Panthachok Srinagar base camp for the holy yatra.

A devotee of Baba Amarnath expressed enthusiasm before the pilgrimage and said, "We will complete this Amarnath Yatra through Pahalgam. We are so happy that we can't express it. The facilities are good, and since the time we came here, it feels like we are in a very secure and safe environment. We haven't faced any difficulty, be it food or stay, everything is so well arranged."

In view of the yatra, the Udhampur Health Department in Jammu and Kashmir has deployed five mobile medical teams (ambulances) along the route from Tikri to Chenani Nashri Tunnel on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, Udhampur.

"This initiative aims to provide immediate medical assistance to pilgrims in case of emergencies during their journey. These ambulances will be stationed at strategic points and equipped with medical staff and supplies to handle a range of medical situations," said Dr Anil Manhas, Chief Medical Officer, Udhampur, on Saturday.

In the event of a serious medical condition, the ambulances will transport patients to designated referral centres. These include the Associated Hospital Government Medical College Udhampur, the Primary Health Centre Tikri, the Community Health Centre Chenani, and the Primary Health Centre Majalta.

Additionally, Dr Manhas informed that 20 beds have been reserved at the Associated Hospital Medical College Udhampur, while 10 beds each have been allocated at the Primary Health Centre Tikri, Community Health Centre Chenani, and Primary Health Centre Majalta to accommodate pilgrims requiring hospitalisation.

This timely deployment by the Udhampur Health Department underscores their commitment to the safety and well-being of all pilgrims undertaking the Amarnath Yatra.

Earlier on Friday, the Baltal in Ganderbal district, which falls on the route of the Amarnath Yatra, witnessed rains on the seventh day of the annual pilgrimage to the holy shrine cave located in the Kashmir Himalayas.

Conducted by the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, the Amarnath Yatra has two routes:

one through Pahalgam and the other via Baltal.

Baltal serves as the camping ground for pilgrims in the Ganderbal district of Jammu and Kashmir.

As per the Srinagar Meteorological Department, Pahalgam recorded a maximum temperature of 20.3 degrees Celsius on July 5. This year, the yatra started on June 29 and will end on August 19, lasting 52 days. The devotees of Lord Shiva undertake the arduous annual pilgrimage to the holy cave shrine located in the Kashmir Himalayas in July-August.

Ahead of Muharram, Basharat Bukhari seeks availability of adequate facilities during holy processions

He requested that besides providing an uninterrupted supply of electricity and drinking water, the quality medical facilities during the procession must be ensured.

He further urged DC that Pandals and solar lights may be installed in and around Imam Bharas to save mourners from the scorching heat during the day and facilitate their easy movement during night hours by installing solar lights.

The Former Minister requested the Deputy Commissioner to take stock of the arrangements personally.

Basharat Bukhari also offered help and assistance to the district administration in whatever way possible, for providing facilities during Muharram processions.

Jagannath Rath Yatra 2024: Heavy Rainfall May Lash Odisha Districts, IMD Issues Alerts For 2 Days

Nabarangpur, Gajapati, Ganjam, and Kandhamal districts on Monday, July 8, and in Jharsuguda, Sundargarh, Mayurbhanj, and Keonjhar districts on Tuesday, July 9.

On President Droupadi Murmu to attend the Puri Rath Yatra, Odisha DGP Arun Kumar Sarangi said, "We are briefing the officers who are deployed for security at Puri for Rath Yatra. All the senior officers are present. We have separate security arrangements for the visit of the President..."

Odisha Police also informed that they will be using groundbreaking AI-powered technology for the upcoming Rath Yatra, marking a historic first in its efforts towards effective traffic and crowd management.

Over 12 000 drunk drivers fined between Jan 1 and Jun 30

The circle area-wise analysis of number of violations, police said, will allow targeted enforcement efforts to improve road safety and compliance of laws.

They said its enforcement measures to prevent drunk driving include increased checking and breathalyser tests.

SMEs on IPO spree in April, May as corporates mobilise nearly Rs 85,000 crore from equity offerings

NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): In just the first two months of financial year 2024-25 (FY25), Indian corporates have mobilised Rs 84,866 crore through equity issuances, including initial public offerings (IPO), follow-on public issues and preferential allotment. In the twelve months of FY24, corporates had raised Rs 67,956 crore from the IPO market and are expected to mobilise over Rs 1 lakh crore through primary issuances in the current fiscal.

Leading the equity issuance surge during the first two months were IPOs from the small and mid-cap (SME) segment, with 44 of these companies getting listed in the first two months of the current fiscal (FY25). This comes amid the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) Chairperson Madhabi

Puri Buch raising concerns over manipulation in the listing of SMEs a few months back.

While 44 companies got listed on SME platforms of the BSE and the NSE in April and May, there were a total of 52 listings (main board IPOs plus SME IPOs) during the two month period. In fiscal 2023-24, the total number of SME companies that were listed was 196.

A total of 21 SMEs got listed in April, raising Rs 527 crore, while there were 23 SME IPOs which mobilised Rs 673 crore in May, according to the data from Sebi data.

In March this year, the Sebi Chairperson had said that there were signs of price manipulation in SME IPOs and trading of such shares in the secondary market. "The reality is that SMEs are relatively small entities, the market is small,

the free float is small, it is relatively easy to manipulate both at the IPO level and the trading level," Buch had said.

Some of the SMEs that raised capital through IPO route in April and May 2024 included ABS Marine Services (Rs 96.29 crore), Trust Fintech Ltd (Rs 63.45 crore), Creative Graphics Solutions India (Rs 54.4 crore), Quest Laboratories (Rs 43.16 crore) and Indian Emulsifiers (Rs 42.39 crore). All SME IPOs witnessed higher participation from retail investors and also were listed at a premium.

In order to check volatility in the listing of SMEs, NSE, on Thursday, introduced an overall capping of 90 per cent on the opening price discovered during a special pre-open session for IPOs on its SME platform. This means the listing day price of any SME cannot

go above 90 per cent of the issue price.

On an overall basis, Indian corporates mobilised Rs 84,866 crore through equity issuances, including initial public offering (IPO), both mainboard and SME platform, follow-on public offering and preferential allotment in the first two months of fiscal 2024-24, the SEBI data showed.

India Inc raised Rs 14,661 crore through eight main board IPOs in April and May, the data showed. Some of the main board IPOs included Aadhaar Housing Finance (Rs 3000 crore), Go Digit General Insurance Rs 2,614 crore and Awfis Space Solutions Ltd (Rs 599 crore).

Indian corporates raised Rs 67,956 crore from the IPO market in FY24 and they are expected to mobilise over Rs 1 lakh crore through

primary issuances in the current fiscal. The rise in the number of companies raising money through IPOs can be attributed to the strong macro-economic growth of the country, stable government and interest rates, and ease in inflation.

According to Sebi data, corporates did not raise money through the follow-on public offer route in May this year. However, in April, Rs 18,000 crore was raised through a single FPO of Vodafone Idea, which was the largest issue in the country. Funds amounting to Rs 3,798 crore were raised through 20 rights issues in April and May.

Funds raised through preferential allotment during the two months stood at Rs 32,695 crore. The amount raised through QIP (Qualified Institutional Placement) stood at Rs 14,512 crore in the period.

102nd International Day of Cooperatives celebrated with pledge to strengthening Cooperatives at grass root

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: On the occasion of 102nd International Day of cooperatives which is celebrated worldwide on 1st Saturday of July special program of cooperatives and FPO awareness was kept at Samba (JKUT), Jammu, Rajouri and Talwar (Punjab) by the Unati Agri Allied and Marketing Multi-state Cooperative Society Limited (UAMMCL) and Jammu & Kashmir Dairy Cooperative Federation (JKDCF). The main program was held at Gandhinagar (Gujarat) under the leadership of Amit Shah (the Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation) organized by NCUI (National Cooperative Union of India)

Vikrant Dogra (Chairman, UAMMCL & JKDCF) said that the Ministry of Cooperation,

under the leadership of Amit Shah has launched 54 new initiatives in just a short span of 3 years, since its inspection, which will set the tone of development of rural and agriculture economy on the principles of cooperation.

He further lauded the efforts of Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani Secretary Ministry of cooperation and their team for igniting the entire cooperative moment and help the United Nations to declare 2025 as "International year of Cooperatives".

He further said that it is for the first time the international cooperatives day is celebrated in JKUT especially after the revival of the cooperative movement in JKUT in the last three years.

Vikrant Dogra further said that for the first time in JKUT one multi state cooperative has

been formed which will provide much needed backward and forward linkage to the FPOs and SHGs at grass root level and link the cooperative FPOs with neighboring states under mentorship of Jyotisarwaroop. The apex dairy cooperative federation which will complete its first year has integrated the dairy sector in JKUT after the abrogation of Article 370.

He further said the Unati has got affiliation with NCOL, NECL, NCCF Bharatiya Bhej Sehkariya samiti and other national federations to bring "Bharat Brand" to JKUT and neighboring states. He thanked Dileep Singhani (Chairman, NCUI) for his support and Babila Rakwal (secretary, Cooperatives JKUT) for providing all timely help to the cooperatives (FPOs)

Shiv Sena Kashmir unit organizes joining programme

Top News Report

GANDERBAL, July 6: Further strengthening its base in the state, a joining program at Rangil District Ganderbal where 100 members of different Political Parties joined Shiv Sena (Shinde Group) in presence of Naseer Ahmad Lone Vice President Kashmir Division & Riyaz Ahmad Dar District Youth President Ganderbal.

Ashwani Gupta State President, Sanjay Bhat State Secretary (Organisation) /Prabhari, State Youth President Ajay Dhar also joined through Video Conferencing.

Ashwani Gupta welcomed the new member in the party fold to work with respect to the teachings of BalaSahib and Eknath Shinde.

He further asked them to reach to public and bring the genuine problem in the notice knowledge of administration, so

that relief to be provided Sanjay Bhat welcomed the new members in the party fold and emphasized upon them to work for the eradication of drug menace in the society particularly amongst the youth and take forward the ideals of Shri BalaSahab to every nook and corner of the state.

While addressing the function State Youth President Ajay Dhar said that Shiv Sena is rapidly expanding its base in JKUT and party has a strong & decisive presence all parts of the state. He appealed the youth to make people aware about the importance of taking part in electoral process.

Naseer Ahmad Lone Vice President Kashmir Division said Shiv Sena will fight for the rights of public & asked all members to work for the betterment of the society.

While praising Chief Minister Eknath Shinde Riyaz Ahmad Dar District

Youth President Ganderbal said that it is the vision of our leadership that Bharat is becoming powerful in every field.

Newly Joined member Shabir Beigh thanked the Party Leadership for giving me chance to serve the people.

The others who also attended included Naseer Ahmad Lone, Riyaz Ahmad, Shabir Ahmad Beigh, Hilal Ahmad, Muneer Ahmed, Jan Mohd Beigh, Mukhta Ahmad, Naseer Ahmad Bhat, Fayiz Ahmed Mir, Tariq Ahmad, Rasool Bhat, Javeed Ahmad, Mudsir Ahmad, Ali Mohd, Karsheed, Ghulam Ahmad, Shabir, Adil, Mustaq, Shuil, Zahid, Ayash, Bashir Ahmad, Mohd Makbool, Showket, Farooq Ahmed, Ghulam Hassan, Sajeed, Mir Gulzar, Mohd Ashraf, Gh Qadir, Gh Mohd Dar, Ali Mohd Najar, Nasir Ahmad and more.

IRCS J&K-UT distributes certificates to institutional members from various companies

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: The Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), J&K-UT organized a formal certificates distribution ceremony for its Institutional Members from different companies and institutions at Red Cross Bhawan, Kachi Chawni, Jammu. This initiative was started by Rohit Khajuria, General Secretary, IRCS J&K-UT under the leadership of Manoj Sinha, Hon'ble Lt. Governor (President, IRCS), J&K which acknowledges the invaluable support and contributions made by these organizations towards the humanitarian efforts of the IRCS.

Different representatives from various companies were present on the occasion. Rohit Khajuria, expressed his gratitude towards the

corporate partners, stating, "The collaboration between the Indian Red Cross Society and our institutional members is a testament to the power of collective effort in addressing humanitarian challenges. We are deeply appreciative of the support provided by these companies, which enables us to reach more people in need and make a significant impact in our communities."

The Indian Red Cross Society remains dedicated to its mission of providing relief in times of disasters, promoting health and care in the community, and upholding the dignity of individuals through its various programs and services. The support from institutional members is crucial in ensuring the sustainability and expansion of these efforts.

Five days course on "Advance Technology in Forensic Science" concludes in SKPA Udhampur

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, July 6: Five days course on "Advance Technology in Forensic Science" commenced in S.K Police Academy on 2nd of July, 2024 culminated today. In the course 10 officers of J&K Police participated.

The Course was designed with the aim to equip the participants with the knowledge on cutting-edge tools and techniques used in forensic science to elevate the investigation skills of investigating officers. During the course, expert instructors and practitioners delivered deliberations on the topics such as Handling and preservation

of scene of Crime, Forensic clues of Blood, Semen, Saliva, Forensic examination of arms & ammunition, Collection, preservation & forwarding of physical evidence to the Forensic Science Laboratory, Lifting & packing of fingerprints, Importance of post mortem examination, forensic clues in explosive cases. Additionally, a visit to Forensic Science Laboratory Jammu was arranged to familiarize participants with the latest Forensic Technologies, Recent trends in advancement in NDPS Cases, Forensic Toxicology, Forensic documents examination, Emerging trends and future directions in the field and Securing

the Scene of Crime in Explosive cases.

At the valediction function organized at the Academy, Ramnish Gupta, SSP, Dy. Director (Admn) SKPA was the chief guest. Gupta laid emphasis on the importance of participants keeping themselves updated with modern techniques in Forensic Science and understanding the content to be asked by and investigating officers from FSL when forwarding physical evidences. He also stressed the importance securing the crime scene.

The course was coordinated by Mehmood Ahmed, Insp. assisted by HC Randip Singh, member faculty.

J&K Advocate Murder Case | Former HC Bar Association President Sent To 14-Day Judicial Custody

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: A NIA court here on Saturday sent former President of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association's Srinagar wing Mian Abdul Qayoom to 14-day judicial custody for his alleged involvement in the murder conspiracy of a fellow advocate in 2020.

Advocate Babar Qadri, a human rights expert who frequently appeared on television debates, was fatally shot by terrorists at his residence in the Hawal area of Srinagar in September 2020. He had narrowly survived an assassination attempt in 2018.

Qayoom, arrested by the State Investigation Agency (SIA) in Srinagar on June 25, was produced before the court of special judge Jatinder Singh Jamwal on the expiry of his second remand. The court has sent him to judicial custody till July 20, officials said.

Courts designated to hear cases of anti-terror agency NIA also takes up cases of the SIA, a wing of the Jammu and Kashmir Police that enforces counter-terrorism laws in the Union Territory.

Police had claimed that a Lashkar-e-Taiba commander, Saqib Manzoor,



was involved in Qadri's killing. Manzoor and another militant commander were killed in a gunfight with police in Srinagar in 2022.

Qayoom, 76, a prominent figure in Kashmir associated with the All Party Hurriyat Conference, was arrested by the SIA after it took over the case in July last year.

He was brought to Jammu by the SIA immediately after his arrest on June 25 and was produced before the presiding officer of the fast track court the next day. It sent him to five-day police remand which was subsequently extended by six days by the special court.

In January, the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court transferred the case to a Jammu court from Srinagar, saying, "for a fair and impartial trial of a criminal case, it is imperative

that the witnesses are in a position to depose in an atmosphere, which is free and not hostile".

The high court order came on an application moved by the SIA, saying no lawyer from Srinagar was willing to render legal assistance due to the involvement of some "influential" lawyers based in the city.

The Srinagar Police first filed a charge-sheet in the case against six accused in the special UAPA court in Srinagar in 2021.

In August 2022, police, as part of its probe, conducted searches at Qayoom's residences and those of two other lawyers in Srinagar, seizing digital devices, bank statements and documents.

Last September, the SIA announced a reward of Rs 10 lakh for any information leading to solving Qadri's killing.

Army carries out Mobile Medical Patrol at Kalal

Top News Report

RAJOURI, July 6: Indian Army carried out an outreach medical drive to provide medical assistance to the village community living in remote villages of Kheri, Gundi and Andari of Kalal sector to provide healthcare to their doorsteps.

Through these mobile camps and patrols, Indian Army has addressed the healthcare needs with utmost care and compassion.

The locals of these vil-

lages face healthcare issues, exacerbated by factors such as poverty, illiteracy and geographic isolation.

To obviate these issues, Indian Army medical representatives with their 'Area Domination Parties' provide medical facilities to the villagers.

The Awam expressed their gratitude and requested for similar campaigns in the future. 54 villagers and their families were benefitted by the mobile medical patrol.

Army holds lecture on Physical Fitness at Tota Gali



Top News Report

POONCH, July 6: As part of the 'Fit India' initiative of the Government, a lecture on importance of physical fitness was conducted at Tota Gali, Poonch District.

The lecture highlighted the significance of physi-

cal fitness and exhorted the audience to make exercise a daily ritual.

The lecture brought out the importance of physical fitness as it results in strong bones, seamless cardio vascular functions and strong muscles for better health and reduced risk of lifestyle diseases like blood pressure, diabetes etc. Regular physical activity including playing games also helps in reducing stress, instills sportsman spirit and a 'Never Give In' attitude towards life.

Court grants 15 days judicial remand to former Kashmir Bar President

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: Special Judge NIA Jatinder Singh Jamwal on Saturday granted 15 days judicial remand of Former Bar President Kashmir MA Qayoom upto 20th of July 2024. Former Bar President Kashmir MA Qayoom was arrested by the SIA on June 25, 2024 or his alleged involvement in the murder conspiracy of fellow advocate Babar Qadri in 2020.

Today Accused, namely Mian Abdul Qayoom S/o Late Mian Abdul Rahim R/o Barzulla, Srinagar, has been produced before this Court today, 6h of July 2024 at 1410 hours, by Sh. Farooq Qaiser, SSP (FIU) CID Hqs, J&K/ CIO with the prayer for remanding him to the judicial custody for a period of 15 days inter alia on the grounds that investigation of the case is still in progress.

The accused informed the Court that being himself a practicing Lawyer, having more than 40 years of experience at the Bar, he has not engaged any Counsel for him and also refused the services of the Legal Aid defence Counsel and himself opposed the present application, for extension of Police remand.

The accused did not oppose the prayer of the

Investigation Agency for remanding him to judicial custody. However, he insisted that his place of lodgment should be at Central Jail: Kot Bhalwal Jammu for the reason that better medical-care facilities are available in the said jail. The Chief Investigation Officer, on the other hand, assured the Court that adequate medical-care shall be ensured to the accused and further submitted that the District Jail: Jammu is equally well-equipped and all the hospitals, including the Super Specialty Hospital, at Jammu are nearer to the said District Jail. He further submitted that the accused has no right to insist for lodgment in a particular jail, of his choice and convenience.

Court after perusing the latest entries in the Case-diary and considering the submissions made by Special PP Anuj Gupta, it is noticed that the accused person is involved in a case registered vide Case FIR No. 62/2020 of Police-Station: Lai Bazar/SIA Kashmir Offices U/Ss. 120-B/302 of IPC; Sec. 7/27 of Indian Arms Act & Sections 13/16/18-18-B/20/38/39 of UA (P) Act, the investigation whereof is in progress. He is, therefore, remanded to judicial custody till 20th of

July 2024 with the direction to Superintendent, District Jail: Jammu to produce him before the competent Court of Law on that day.

Court also directed that the accused person shall be subjected to medical-examination under rule and adequate medical-care, as per requirement, shall be made available to him.

Army holds interaction with ESM, Veer Naris at Mendhar

Top News Report

POONCH, July 6: Living up to the traditions of maintaining contact with Veterans, an interaction was organized at Mendhar, Poonch by Indian Army.

During the interaction issues of employment opportunities through NSDC accredited courses, problems faced by veterans and need for women empowerment were discussed.

The Veterans hailed efforts made by Army and assured their participation towards overall development of area and in bringing peace and harmony in the society.

Didn't like chopping and changing, tried to help captain deliver his vision: Rahul Dravid

Dravid's coaching stint came to end with India winning T20 World Cup in Barbados last week, defeating South Africa

MUMBAI, Jul 6 (Agencies): As Rahul Dravid bids farewell to Team India, the legend said that during his tenure as head coach, he abhorred chopping and changing the side too much and always tried to be a foil for skipper Rohit Sharma so that he could devise his own winning strategies.

Dravid's coaching stint came to an end with India winning the T20 World Cup in Barbados last week, defeating South Africa and bringing home the trophy for the second time after 2007.

"I'm someone who actually likes continuity and don't like to chop and change too many things because I believe that creates a lot of instability and doesn't create very good environment," said Dravid in a video posted by BCCI on Saturday.

"I feel that I am a part of the team whose responsibility is to create the right professional, safe, secure environment that doesn't really have a fear of failure as such but is challenging enough to push people. That has always been my endeavour."

Dravid said that the period when the players were coming out of the Covid-19 pandemic was a tough one for him as he had just taken over as coach and "never envisaged" that he would have to work with half a dozen captains.

"One of the things that we really had to manage, especially in the early part of my coaching tenure here with India. We were at the back-end of the Covid restrictions.



"We really had to manage their workloads through all the three different formats. There were a few injuries and it led to me working with something like 5-6 captains in the first 8-10 months of me being here.

"It was definitely something that I hadn't envisaged, or not something that I thought about, but it just sort of organically happened."

Under Dravid's tutelage, India thrashed England in the five-match Test series at home and the team also reached the 2023 ODI World Cup final.

While Covid put a lot of restrictions on players and they virtually lived out of a 'bubble case' at all times, the pandemic also had its up side as a lot of youngsters got a chance to be a part of the India team environment.

Dravid's relationship with Indian stalwarts like Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli dates back to the time when he was at the fag end of his cricketering career while the two were find-

ing their feet in international cricket.

"I've really enjoyed working with Rohit, someone I knew as a young boy. Just to see him grow as a person and grow as a leader in Indian cricket, what someone like him has been able to contribute to the team over the last 10-12 years, both as a player and now as a leader, has been a real tribute to him and the effort that he's put in.

"I've really enjoyed getting to him know as a person as well and enjoyed seeing his commitment and his care for the team; to just try and get the environment right where everyone feels safe and secure and enjoys themselves. It's something that I'll miss.

"Even with someone like Virat. In the initial days, just a couple of series with him as a captain, just a couple of matches. Getting to know him as well and to see how he goes about his business, the professionalism that he continues to display...

his desired to improve, to get better. It's been fascinating for me to watch."

Dravid said he always believed in the process because of which, at times, he was misunderstood as not being result-oriented.

"For me that's (results), of course it's important. I keep saying and people think, 'Oh, I think result are not important'. Of course, results are important.

"I'm in the business to produce results. But it's always like, as a coach, to think about what is it that I can control to help the results and at the end of the day our responsibility should be to try and help the captain deliver his vision and his philosophy of how he wants the team to play."

"Of course, to win cricket games is a given. You try to win as much as you can. You start with that. But I always look back on what is it that leads to the winning? How do you win more games and what is the process required to win more games?"

"For me, the vision was to try and get that process right. Ticking all of those boxes. 'Are we challenging the players enough? Are we practicing well enough? Are we prepared tactically, technically? Are we supporting the players as best as we possibly can, Are we creating the right environment?"

"These are the things I think that are important to tick before you get to the winning. The winning, hopefully, if you do a lot of these things, most of the time the winning will take care of itself."

Ravi Shastri hits back at Michael Vaughan's 'India-centric T20 World Cup' criticism



NEW DELHI, Jul 6 (Agencies): Former India coach Ravi Shastri has fired back at ex-England captain Michael Vaughan over his comments suggesting that the T20 World Cup scheduling favored India. Vaughan had implied that the organizers had shown partiality towards India during the recently concluded 2024 T20 World Cup, citing the semifinal performance of Afghanistan against South Africa as an example.

Vaughan's criticism stemmed from Afghanistan's disappointing T20 World Cup semifinal show, where they were bowled out for just 56 runs against South Africa. This match followed a historic performance by Afghanistan, where they reached their first-ever semifinal in an ICC tournament.

Vaughan took to social media to express his discontent, noting that Afghanistan faced a flight delay while traveling to Trinidad, which left them with limited time to practice and acclimate to the new conditions.

"So Afghanistan qualified for the WC semi, winning in St Vincent on Monday night... 4 hr flight delay on Tues to Trinidad so no time to practice or get accustomed to a new venue... utter lack of respect to players, I am afraid," Vaughan tweeted. "Surely this semi should have been the Guyana one... but because the whole event is geared towards India it's so unfair on others... #T20WorldCup."

In response, Shastri dismissed Vaughan's claims, emphasizing the strength and achieve-

ments of the Indian team. The former India coach urged Vaughan to concentrate on England's performance instead of making baseless accusations about the tournament's scheduling.

"Michael can say what he wants. Nobody in India cares. Let him sort out the England team first. He should give advice on what happened to the England team in the semifinal. India are used to lifting Cups. I know England have won twice, but India have won four times. I don't think Michael's lifted a Cup ever. So think twice. He is a colleague of mine, but that's my answer to him," Ravi Shastri said while speaking to Times Now.

Shastri also brushed aside the controversy surrounding Suryakumar Yadav's catch in the last over of the T20 World Cup final against South Africa. Addressing Vaughan's remarks, Shastri said, "Sour grapes. And go and check the record books after five years. The name India will be engraved on it." With this strong rebuttal, Shastri has clearly shown his disdain for Vaughan's comments, standing firm in defence of the Indian team and the tournament's organizers.

Shubman Gill opens up, wants to bat at top in T20Is

HARARE, Jul 6 (Agencies): Shubman Gill understands how tough it is to replicate the imposing feats of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, but the young batting star wants to ease himself into the role of a T20I opener following retirement of the two modern day greats from the format.

Gill, who was one of the travelling reserves during the just-concluded T20 World Cup, is leading a second-string Indian team in the five-match T20I series against Zimbabwe beginning here from today.

"I think Rohit Bhai was an opener and Virat Bhai also opened in this World Cup... I have also opened in T20Is. So, I think I will want to open in T20Is," he said on the



eve of their first match here.

Gill said he wanted to pursue his own goals without taking too much pressure while thinking of matching the two greats — Kohli and Rohit.

Asked how he will deal with the burden of expectations, Gill said: "Pressure and expectations...they I think

always remain. But what Virat Bhai and Rohit Bhai have achieved, if I look to achieve that or reach that, it will be very difficult for me. Every player has his own goal, where he wants to reach. That is the pressure. If you want to reach where other people have reached, then you have more pressure," he said.

Rajeev Shukla responds to Aditya Thackrey's 'Hosting World Cup final in Mumbai' remark

MUMBAI, Jul 6 (Agencies): BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) vice president Rajeev Shukla has responded to Shiv Sena Leader Aditya Thackrey's remark that BCCI should never take the World Cup final away from Mumbai. Notably, the Indian Cricket Team was given a rousing reception in Mumbai upon their arrival from Barbados following the T20 World Cup 2024 triumph.

A special roadshow was organized by the BCCI for the World Champions where people turned up in huge numbers to see their stars up close.

The entire squad was also felicitated at the Wankhede Stadium in front of a packed crowd who cheered at the top of their voices for the Men in Blue.

Seeing the fervour for cricket in the people of Mumbai, Thackrey took to his X account and wrote, "Yesterday's celebration in Mumbai is also a strong message to the BCCI... Never take away a World Cup



final from Mumbai!

BCCI Vice President Rajeev Shukla has also reacted to the statement saying that as per the cricket board's policy, the final cannot always be given to a particular city.

"It is BCCI's policy that where the final should take place. It cannot always be given to a particular city.

There has been a final match -- 1987 World Cup -- in Kolkata also, and Kolkata is considered as Mecca. So it can't be decided that it should always happen in a particular city," Shukla told

agency.

"There are semi-finals and finals which have taken place in Mumbai. Similarly, the Ahmedabad ground has got a capacity of 1,30,000, and we go by capacity also," he continued. Kolkata (Eden Gardens) has got a big capacity, around 80,000 spectators (approx. 66,000) can be accommodated. Similarly, other cities also," he added.

Notably, team India won the ODI World Cup 2011 at the Wankhede Stadium.

However, in the last year's edition of the tournament held in

India, the hosting rights of the final were awarded to the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad which boasts a capacity of around 1,30,000. Unfortunately, India lost the final against Australia leading to a breakdown of cricket fans all over India.

Further speaking ahead, Shukla revealed that he was delighted to see such a response from Mumbai for the victory parade and said that the city is always their priority.

"This is purely a decision keeping in mind the entire country and all the venues. You cannot confine to one venue. We were really delighted to see Mumbai and their response. Mumbai is always our priority. It's not that (it is not). But it has to be decided by the entire BCCI, where to host finals, where to have semi-finals... Every match is important. Mumbai is always on our priority list. But saying that all the finals should take place in one city... It never happens in any country," Shukla concluded.

Pakistan Batters Struggle Against Net Bowlers, Internet Rips Them Apart

ISLAMABAD, Jul 6 (Agencies): Pakistan cricket team batting stalwarts Mohammad Rizwan and Iftikhar Ahmed are in the news again for the wrong reasons. After the nation's group stage exit from the 2024 T20 World Cup, many former players, experts and fans have called for a major reshuffling in the team, and for many senior players to be chopped off. Whilst no major changes are likely to be made yet, a video has resurfaced across X, showing Rizwan and Iftikhar struggling against a Pakistani net bowler in a practice ses-

sion. In the video that has rapidly gone viral, Rizwan and Iftikhar are being beaten by pace and bounce multiple times. The bowler, however, is not Shaheen Shah Afridi or Naseem Shah, but local bowler Nouman Khan Khaira.

Fans gave no mercy to Rizwan or Iftikhar.

"These local boys should be taken into the Pakistani team and those playing for the side should be rested," said one user on X.

"They even struggled against part time software engineers of USA," joked another user on Instagram.



Rizwan struggled for form during the 2024 T20 World Cup. Despite finishing as Pakistan's second-highest run-scorer, he batted at a disappointing strike rate of just 90. Most notably,

Rizwan failed to guide Pakistan to a victory against India despite being well set during the run chase.

Iftikhar, on the other hand, made just 23 runs in two games, and was

dropped from the playing XI.

Pakistan exited the 2024 T20 World Cup in the group stage, after back-to-back losses to co-hosts USA and then arch-rivals India in their opening two games. The results led to many criticising Pakistan captain Babar Azam and the rest of the unit, with Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Mohsin Naqvi promising a "major surgery".

However, recent reports have suggested that Naqvi is unlikely to make large-scale changes in order to avoid conflict with the senior players.

South Africa draw first blood vs India



CHENNAI, Jul 6 (Agencies): Having lost the Test and ODI series, South Africa bounced back to defeat India by 12 runs in the first women's T20I of their three-match series to

secure their first win of the multi-format tour here.

Opener Tazmin Brits (81 off 56 balls) and Marizanne Kapp (57 off 33) struck belligerent fifties as South Africa

posted an imposing 189/4 after India opted to bowl.

In reply, Smriti Mandhana (46 off 30) and Shafali Verma (18 off 14) gave India a brisk start before South Africa triggered the collapse. Jemimah Rodrigues raised hopes lower down the order with a 53 not out, but South Africa held nerves to restrict them to 177/4.

Brief scores: South Africa: 189/4 in 20 overs (Brits 81, Kapp 57; Vastrakar 2/23, Radha 2/40); India: 177/4 in 20 overs (Rodrigues 53, Mandhana 47).

Students of Government Polytechnic Jammu fabricated LPG-Petrol Hybrid Bike

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: The students of Government Polytechnic Birkam Chowk Jammu undergoing training at Center for Invention, Innovation, Incubation & Training (CIIT) Jammu has developed an innovative bike "LPG-Petrol Hybrid Bike" as a part of their project in the final semester which is new and future technology.

Er Arun Bangotra, Principal of the college, congratulated the students and the staff members involved in the innovative project.

The students upgraded and modified the old Bajaj Platina 100 cc bike to run on both Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and petrol and installed electronic Controls Arduino-managed servos for LPG flow and airflow for enhanced efficiency and reduced emissions. This innovation not

only improves fuel efficiency but also reduces emissions, offering an eco-friendly alternative to traditional petrol-only bikes. The hybrid bike is designed to maximize fuel efficiency, with LPG providing an estimated 110 km/l compared to 80 km/l on petrol.

This improvement is due to LPG's leaner stoichiometric ratio, which allows for more complete combustion. Previously, the bike had a petrol

range of approximately 700 km and with the addition of LPG, the combined range of LPG and petrol now exceeds 1100 km, significantly enhancing the bike's usability for longer trips without frequent refueling. The innovative Bike is prepared by the students of final year of Automobile Engineering namely Abhi Sharma, Akhil Sharma, Parvez, Sachin Kumar, Rishabh Verma, Nitin Sharma and Suparth

Sharma. They took two months to complete the project and the design of the bike is totally different from other conventional bikes. They were guided by the HOD, Raj Shekhar, Anubhav Maheshwari, SME CIIT (Tata Technologies), and faculty members of the Automobile Engineering Department Yogesh Raina, Kamal Kumar, Manmohan Singh, Raman Kumar and Ashu Saini.

SKUAST-J, IASRI New Delhi sign MoU

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: The Division of Statistics and Computer Science is hosting a week-long training program on "Digital Literacy: Empowering Agricultural Students" from July 3-9, 2024, at SKUAST Jammu, in celebration of National Statistics Day (NSD-2024).

On the occasion, Prof. B. N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor SKUAST-Jammu and Prof. Rajender Prasad, Director ICAR-IASRI signed MoU between SKUAST Jammu and ICAR-IASRI to enhance academic and research collaboration, particularly for the benefit of students and researchers.

Prof. B. N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor was Chief Guest on the occasion and during his address he emphasized the importance of using proper statistical procedures for scientific research.

He highlighted the increasing volume of data collected in daily life and the necessity of statistical software for data processing, stressing the need for digital literacy to strengthen the agricultural system.

He said that the digital literacy among students is not merely a skill but a gateway to transform

the opportunities in the agricultural sector.

Prof. Rajender Prasad, Director, ICAR-IASRI, New Delhi was Special Guest on the occasion. He underscored the need for precise statistical tools to address future challenges in policy and planning at regional and national levels.

Dr. Prasad also discussed the vital role of digital tools in agriculture and delivered a special lecture.

Prof. Rajender Peshin, Director Education, SKUAST-Jammu also addressed the participants, quoting Karl Pearson: "Statistics is the grammar of Science."

Earlier, Prof. S.E.H. Rizvi, Dean FBSJ welcomed the dignitaries. Prof. Manish Kr. Sharma, Head and Course Director, presented the importance of the training program. The training program saw a significant registration, with 30 undergraduate students and 30 research scholars selected to participate.

Nineteen resource persons from various esteemed institutions, including IASRI, CCSHAU Hisar, IIT Kanpur, IIT Jammu, BITS Pilani, IIT Roorkee, University of Delhi, Central University Jammu,

SKUAST Kashmir, and VIT-AP, will share their expertise on topics such as Chat GPT, R Software, Latex, Cyber Security, QTL mapping, SPSS, website design, AI and ML methods, blended learning, and many more.

The event was attended by prominent faculty members and resource persons, including Prof. Anil Sharma, Dean Faculty of Agriculture & Registrar, SKUAST-Jammu; Prof. Sushil Sharma, Dean FoAE, Dr O P Sheron, Prof & Head, CCS HAU Hisar, Dr Girish Kr Jha, Prof & Head, DAB in IASRI, Dr Ram Niwas, CCSHAU, Dr. Moni Gupta, Prof & Head of Biochemistry, Dr. Sanjay Guleria, Dr. Brajeshwar, Prof & Head of Microbiology, Dr. B.K. Sinha, Dr. Narinder Panotra, and other scientists from the Faculty of Basic Sciences.

The organizing team, including Dr. Anil Bhat, Dr. Sunali Mahajan (Organizing Secretary), Nishant Jasrotia, and non-teaching staff, supported the event. Dr. Subash Kashyap, Associate Professor & Co-organizing Secretary, conducted the proceedings, and Prof. Bupesh Kumar, the Organizing Secretary, delivered the formal vote of thanks.

Movement Kalki appreciates JMC efforts, calls for further improvements



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: The members of Movement Kalki, in a press conference at Hari Market here on Saturday, praised and thanked the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) for fixing the water coolers following their

protest. They also expressed gratitude to the media personnel and all the agencies involved.

Movement Kalki members emphasized that just as JMC has undertaken this task, all malfunctioning water coolers across the city should also be

repaired promptly. They urged that water coolers installed under the Smart City project, which come with a fee, should be fixed to ensure that no traveler or resident faces any inconvenience in Jammu city.

They further pointed out that although the water coolers and freezers have been repaired, the cleanliness work is still pending. They requested that cleaning be completed as soon as possible.

On this occasion, core committee member of Movement Kalki Sunny Kant Chib, board member Pritam Sharma, Manjeev Dubey, and local residents were present.

JKBS sends memo to PM seeking wherein 'Padamshri' for Lal Chand Yamla, K.C Bhagat



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha (JKBS) on Saturday sent a memorandum to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking wherein 'Padma Shri' awards for Doyen of Punjabi Music Industry: Lal Chand Yamla who performed all over the world, and the great writer: K.C. Bhagat who, through his

thirty three books, contributed a lot towards enriching English, Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi literature.

JKBS' General Secretary R L Kaith and the executive members said, it will bring great joy to the hearts of millions of people living in India and abroad, if the 'Padma Shri Awards' as urged are conferred upon both posthumously.

UT Administration should give age relaxation to JKSSB SI candidates: Anirudh Sawhney

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: State General Secretary, J&K Pradesh Youth Congress Anirudh Sawhney in a statement on Saturday called for an increase in the age limit for candidates appearing in the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) Sub-Inspector (SI) exam in 2024.

He said that the current age limit of 28 as per the last notification of the exam released in 2021 is totally unfair given the recent history of examination scams, cancellations and delays.

He further criticized the Board and J&K UT Government for their complete failure to conduct investigation on prior scam, hold the guilty responsible and also failing to conduct the exam for 4 years.

"The age limit should be increased to 32 to ensure that all candidates affected by these issues have an equal opportunity to participate", he added. Speaking on the issue, Anirudh Sawhney elaborated that the 2021 SI exam had been cancelled because of a scam in the conduct of the examination. Since then, no subsequent exams have been conducted for four years due to ongoing mis-

management and corruption.

"It is unacceptable that aspiring candidates have been kept in limbo for such an extended period due to the failures of the administration. These young individuals deserve a fair chance to compete for these positions," Sawhney stated.

The Youth Congress leader stressed that the continuous delays and scandals have left many hardworking candidates in a precarious situation. With each passing year, these candidates are aging out of the eligibility criteria. Increasing the age limit to 32 would ensure that those who have diligently prepared and waited are not unjustly disqualified, he said.

Sawhney argued that this age relaxation is a necessary step to rectify the wrongs done to these candidates by the JKSSB's mismanagement.

Sawhney also pointed out that the youth in Jammu and Kashmir have limited opportunities already and existing opportunities should not be snatched away too. J&K youth already faces significant challenges in terms of employment opportunities due to administrative inefficien-

cies, neglect by the ruling BJP govt at the Centre and complete incompetence of the administration, he emphasized.

The demand for age relaxation, particularly for general category candidates, to 32 years, and possibly with even greater relaxation for other categories is genuine and logical. "The last Sub-Inspector post was advertised on October 21, 2021, and the process was only completed on January 8, 2024.

Over the last three to four years, the JKSSB has been unable to complete the exam process due to scams and unnecessary delays. Hence, it is not the fault of the students. The hardworking students have suffered immensely during this period, he said.

Adding to his statement, Sawhney said that J&K has plunged into a dire situation of unemployment which is being heightened because of ongoing corruption and lack of action from the right authorities. There are pending issues from all sections of youth in J&K, be it medical students, or govt. exam aspirants. We urge the administration to take the needs of the youth seriously, said Sawhney.

ADGP Jammu Zone honours Indian Deaf Cricketer Umar Ashraf

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 6: In a ceremony held at the Zonal Police Headquarters Jammu (ZPHQ), Anand Jain, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu Zone, felicitated Umar Ashraf, an Indian Deaf cricketer from Jammu and Kashmir.

The event was graced by the presence of Ranjeet Kalra, Member of the J&K Government UT Sports Council, who joined Anand Jain in honouring the special cricketer.

Umar Ashraf represented India as a member of the deaf cricket team in a bilateral series played in England from June 18th to 27th, 2024.

The series witnessed a stellar performance by the Indian team, which emerged victorious by winning five out of the seven matches.

Anand Jain, while commending Umar Ashraf for

his extraordinary talent and unwavering commitment, expressed his happiness over Umar's participation in the series.

"Umar has made all of us proud. It is inspiring to see an outstanding cricketer from Jammu and Kashmir representing India and bringing laurels to our country. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavours," Jain remarked.

On the occasion, Anand Jain also praised Ranjeet Kalra for his exceptional contribution towards the promotion of sports, especially for specially-abled players. In recognition of Umar Ashraf's achievements, Anand Jain presented a memento on behalf of the J&K Police to the cricketer.

It is pertinent to mention that the Indian deaf cricket team was earlier felicitated by the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Virender Kumar, upon their return from England.

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Indian Army Pays Tribute To Kargil Heroes

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, July 6: The Delta 5 Motorcycle Expedition has been organised by the Indian Army to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Kargil victory and to pay tribute to the valour and sacrifice of the Indian Soldiers. Three teams of eight motorcyclists each commenced the journey from Dinjan in the North East, Dwarka in the West, and Dhanuskodi in the South on 12 Jun 2024. The teams converged at Delhi where

they were joined by an additional team. From Delhi, the united team proceeded on two different routes towards Gun Hill in Dras. First team passing through the Zojila pass and the second team passing through the Rohtang pass.

The first team arrived at Udhampur on July 3 2024. During their stay in Udhampur from July 3 to July 6, the team felicitated Veer Naaris and Veterans of Udhampur station. The team also interacted with the NCC Cadets of the station and students of Army Public School Udhampur.

On July 6, 2024, the Motorcycle Expedition was flagged off from Udhampur by Lt Gen Vijay B Nair, SM, Chief of Staff, Headquarters Northern Command, marking the continuation of their journey towards Gun Hill in Dras. During the occasion, a separate Northern Command Motorcycle rally comprising of nine riders from the Dhruva Command was also flagged off by the Chief of Staff. This rally will travel to Dras via the old Mughal Route and join the Delta 5 Indian Army Motorcycle Expedition at Sinagar for onward move to Dras.

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