

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, JULY 09, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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## BRIEFLY

### Four family members killed in Handwara road accident

SRINAGAR, Jul 9 (Agencies): In a tragic incident, four members of a family were killed in a road accident in the Handwara sub-district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said. The accident took place late last night when a vehicle in which they were travelling skidded off the road and fell into a deep gorge. Police on Tuesday said that the four, including two teenage girls, had gone to collect drinking water from a stream at Rajwara late Monday night in a vehicle, the Tata Magic, which skidded off the road and fell deep into a gorge, resulting in critical injuries to the occupants.

### Govt appoints Prof Mohammad Mobin as New VC of CUS

SRINAGAR, Jul 9 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir government Monday appointed Prof Mohammad Mobin as Vice Chancellor of the Cluster University of Srinagar (CUS) for a period of three years. In this regard, an order was issued by the Lieutenant Governor (LG) of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha who is also a chancellor of CUS. "In exercise of powers vested in me under section 12(1) of the Srinagar and Jammu Cluster Universities Act, 2016, I, Manoj Sinha, Chancellor, Cluster University of Srinagar, hereby appoint Prof. Mohammad Mobin, Department of Applied Chemistry, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh (U.P.) as Vice Chancellor of the Cluster University of Srinagar for a period of three years with effect from the date on which he takes over the charge, on the terms and conditions to be notified separately," it reads.

### MeT predicts rains, thundershowers in J&K parts till July 15

SRINAGAR, Jul 9 (Agencies): Meteorological Department on Tuesday predicted brief spell of rains and thundershowers in parts of Jammu and Kashmir till July 15. An official said that from July 9 to 10 there is a possibility of brief spell of rain & thundershower at scattered places of

## Army airlifts bodies of soldiers martyred in Kathua attack; Post-mortem conducted

JAMMU, Jul 9 (Agencies): The post-mortem of five army soldiers who lost their lives in the July 8 Kathua terror attack has been done at the Sub District Hospital Billawar in Jammu and Kashmir. Earlier the Indian Army airlifted the bodies of soldiers who were killed in a terrorist attack on their convoy in the Machedi area of Kathua district. Billawar Additional Deputy Commissioner, Vinay Khosla told reporters that eight injured soldiers were brought to the Billawar Hospital. "An unfortunate incident took place yesterday in which 5 soldiers died. Strict action will be taken against the terrorists responsible for this. 8 injured soldiers were



brought to Billawar Hospital. Out of which, the Army shifted six jawans to Pathankot Hospital after being provided with the best possible treatment here." "Post mortem of the deceased soldiers have been done..." Khosla said, adding that "the

security forces are on high alert". Replying to a query on the pain that such attacks create among the people, he said, "...Our field functionaries are doing rounds and are striving to build confidence-building measures among the

people. We will attempt to ensure that such attacks do not happen in the future". Five Army soldiers were killed in an ambush by terrorists in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir on July 8. Meanwhile, security has been tightened

along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway following the attack. Following the attack, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), and Jammu and Kashmir police personnel have been deployed along the National Highway (NH44) in Udhampur. This measure was taken as the 11th batch of Amarnath Yatra pilgrims passed through Udhampur on Tuesday morning. Multi-layered security arrangements have been put in place by the security forces to ensure the safety of the pilgrims. Since June 9, there have been terror strikes at four places in Reasi,

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## Kathua attack condemnable, deserves firm counter-measures: President Murmu



NEW DELHI, Jul 9 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday expressed her sympathies with the families of brave hearts who laid their lives in the line of duty in Kathua last night. She said that the attack from terrorist is a cowardly one and deserves condemnation and firm counter-measures. Taking to micro-blog-

ging site X the President Murmu said: "The attack on a convoy of Army personnel in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir by terrorists is a cowardly act that deserves condemnation and firm counter-measures. My sympathies are with the families of the brave-hearts who laid down their lives in this ongoing war against terror in its all forms. I pray for the speedy recovery of those injured." Notably five soldiers, including a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO), were killed and five others were injured when a group of terrorists ambushed two army vehicles on patrolling

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## India will defeat evil forces: Defence Secy on Kathua terror attack



NEW DELHI, Jul 9 (Agencies): The killing of five Army personnel in a terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district will not go unavenged and India will defeat the evil forces behind it, Defence Secretary Girdhar Aramane said on Tuesday.

Five Army personnel were martyred and as many injured on Monday when a group of heavily-armed terrorists ambushed a patrolling party in Badnota area in Kathua. A massive search operation has already been launched to hunt down terrorists responsible for the attack. Defence Secretary Aramane too expressed his "profound grief on the loss of five Bravehearts" in the attack and extended deepest condolences to the bereaved families.

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## Over 2 lakh perform Amaranth Yatra in 10 days



JAMMU, Jul 9 (Agencies): More than two lakh devotees had 'darshan' inside the holy Amarnath cave shrine during the last 10 days as another batch of 5,433 Yatris left for the Valley on Tuesday, officials said.

Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board officials said that more than two lakh Yatris have performed the ongoing Yatra during the last 10 days since it started on June 29. "Another batch of 5,433 Yatris left Bhag-

wati Nagar Yatri Niwas in the morning today in two escorted convoys for the Valley." "The first escorted convoy carrying 1,971 Yatris in 89 vehicles left at 3:13 a.m. on Tuesday for north Kashmir's Baltal base camp. "A second escorted convoy carrying 3,462 Yatris in 124 vehicles left at 4:03 a.m. on Tuesday for south Kashmir's Nunwan (Pahalgam) base camp," officials added. The Meteorological Department has forecast partially cloudy

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## Two rusted shells found, destroyed by security forces in Jammu



JAMMU, Jul 9 (Agencies): Security forces on Tuesday destroyed two rusted shells near Ban Toll Plaza in Nagrota area of Jammu district. Official sources told GNS that during routine search police and secu-

rity forces found two rusted shells. Subsequently, a Bomb Disposal Squad (BDS) was summoned to the spot, who latter defused the shells without any damage, they said.

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## Army troops fire at Pakistani Drone along LoC in Poonch

MENDHAR/JAMMU, Jul 9 (Agencies): Army troops fired a few rounds to shoot down a Pakistani drone along the Line of Control in the Krishna Ghati sector of Poonch district in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Tuesday. The drone, however, returned to Pakistan after briefly hovering over the Indian territory late Monday night, they said. Indian troops, guarding the LoC, picked up the movement of a Pakistani drone at a height of over 1,000 metres at around 9.15 pm and fired five rounds within the next 10 minutes to bring it down but it managed to return, they said. After over half an hour, a Pakistani drone was again spotted entering

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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

## TENTH DAY, KRIYA AND UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. SUDERSHAN SHARMA** W/o Late SH. RIKHI KESH SHARMA (Ex. Deputy Registrar University of Jammu). R/o of House no 93-A Shastri Nagar Jammu, Ward no 22, Behind J&K Bank Shastri Nagar.

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on 10-07-2024 (Wednesday) at 10:30 AM at our residence.

**KRIYA** will be performed on 11-07-2024 (Thursday) at 12:30 PM at our residence.

**UTHALA** will be performed on 12-07-2024 on Friday from 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM at RAM MANDIR SHASTRI NAGAR near Girls High Secondary School Shastri Nagar.

**GRIEF STRICKEN,**  
Son and Daughter in law -  
Rajesh Sharma (Principal Education Dept.) and Smt. Jayoti Sasan (Education Dept.)  
Ravi Sharma (D.A.O Ramban Agriculture Dept.) and Smt. Meena Sharma (Education Dept.)  
Rakesh Sharma (Senior Pharmacist Health Dept.) and Smt. Neelem Sharma  
Daughter and Son in law -  
Smt. Rajni Sharma and Rajesh Sharma  
Grand Sons - Akhil Sharma, Nikhil Sharma, Anirudh Sharma, Sashiv Sharma.  
Grand Daughters- Aashima Sharma, Divyasha Sharma, Rimjha Sharma.  
Mob- 9419287740, 9419111310, 7006315844



Smt. SUDERSHAN SHARMA

## 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 Jamwal (Gaurika)  
Sanchit, Saahil, Saksham, Saarthak & Saarvi - Grand Children  
Contact Nos: 6005167807, 6005787407, 9469571203



SH. OMKAR NATH TURKI

## CONDOLENCE

J&K Bank Retired Employees Welfare Association Jammu, expresses heartfelt condolence on the sad demise of **Smt Sushma Sharma Retd AGM** retired officer of the Bank and our honorable member. We pray Almighty to bestow eternal peace to the departed noble soul and provide courage to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

Sd/- (Mohinder Singh) President  
9469210759

Sd/- (R K Bhan) General Secretary



Smt Sushma Sharma Retd AGM

## 10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Arjan Nath Raina** originally resident of S.K. Colony Anantnag A/p H.No. 122/A Lane No. 2 Roop Nagar Enclave Jammu on 06-07-2024.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu on 15-07-2024 (Monday) at 8.30 am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Shanta Koul- Wife  
Smt. Vijay Hangloo- Sister  
Sh. Mohan Lal Raina (Mattan)- Brother  
Smt. Sheela Ji & Sh. Makhan Lal Dasi- Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law  
Smt. Usha Kiran & Sh. Sundri Lal Koul- Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law  
Sh. Manoj Krishan Raina- Son  
Smt. Anjali Kakroo & Sh. Sunil Ji Kakroo- Daughter & Son-in-Law  
Smt. Geeta Raina & Sh. Deep Ji Raina- Daughter & Son-in-Law  
Sushant Kakroo, Yashika Raina, Dhama Raina- Grand Children  
9555027347, 9797580290, 9797555400



Sh. Arjan Nath Raina

## TENTH DAY/UTHALA

Our hearts are heavy and words cannot fully convey the sorrow we feel over the loss of our beloved **Smt. Ram Pyari Sharma**, W/o Sh. Gian Chand Sharma, who peacefully transitioned from this world to her Eternal Home on 30th June 2024. Her love and warmth will forever be cherished in our hearts.

The **Tenth Day** will be held on 5th July 2024 (Tuesday) 11:00 A.M. at our residence Lane No. 146 Talab Tillo Jammu (Opposite V. K. Lane).

The **Uthala** will be held on 10th July 2024 (Wednesday) from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM at Sehyog Milan Banquet Hall, Udherywala, Jammu.

**IN MOURNING:**  
Daughter-in-law & Son: Mrs. Bindu Sharma & Mr. Sanjeev Sharma  
Daughter & Son-in-law: Mrs. Arti Sharma & Mr. Vikram Dogra  
Bhabi & Brother  
Smt. Sadesh Sharma W/o Late Sh. Orna Chetan Sharma  
Sisters-in-law & Brothers-in-law  
Late Smt. Kanis Sharma W/o Late Brig. Des Raj Sharma  
Smt. Umil Sharma W/o Late Sh. Khem Raj Sharma  
Late Smt. Sarojini Sharma W/o Sh. Som Nath Sharma  
Smt. Saroj Sharma W/o Late Sh. Hari Krishan Sharma  
Smt. Shoba Sharma W/o Dr. Krishan Dutt Sharma  
Grand children: Parika, Kapil, Nippan, Rea, Vallabh, Himani, & Sanchit



Smt. Ram Pyari Sharma

Cont: 9419188489,  
9419131914, 9419168963,  
9096600818, 7006161506

## BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform you that **Sdn. Naresh Kour (Rozy)** beloved wife of Sd. Parambir Singh R/o Mohalla Kohinar, Poonch met an untimely demise in a car accident on 3-07-2024. Her family is devastated by the sudden loss.

**ANTIM ARDAS** will be performed as per the given schedule.

**ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB-** 10/07/2024, 9 AM (At our residence, Mohalla Kohinar, Poonch)

**BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB -** 12/07/2024, 9 AM

**KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDASS-** 12/07/2024, 10-12:30 pm (At Peepal vala Gurdwara, Mohalla Khorinar Poonch) followed by **Guru ka Langar.**

**GRIEF STRICKEN-**  
Parambir Singh (Master) - Husband  
Gurtejvir Singh (Son) and Gurasis Kour (Daughter)  
Sdn. Gurbachan Kour (W/o Lt. S. Harmam Singh (Mother in law)  
Sdn. Jagdish Kour (W/o Lt. S. Balwant Singh (Mother)  
Contact: 9622136177, 8899978812



Sdn. Naresh Kour (Rozy)

## ADH-BARKHI

Six months have passed since you left us for your eternal journey. You were and will always be at the very core of our hearts and an eminent part of our lives.

We miss you immensely.

**ADH-BARKHI** of our beloved **Shri Ramesh Kumar Sharma** will be performed at our residence Pakhiya Road, Mishriwala, Jammu at 11:00 AM on 10 July 2024.

**DEEPLY MISSED AND REMEMBERED BY:**  
Smt. Anu Bala - Wife  
Ragini Sharma - Daughter  
Rudhraksh Sharma - Son  
Smt. Sita Devi- Mother



Late Sh Ramesh Kumar (1967-2024)

**AND ENTIRE SUDAN FAMILY**  
PH NO: 8492927882, 9797587736

## OBITUARY FROM MAALUNE SIDE

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Anjali Saproo Misri** D/o Smt. Shanta Saproo & Late TN Saproo of Gulab Bagh, Naseem Bagh W/o Shri Roop Krishan Misri who left for heavenly abode on 7/7/2024.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Shanta Saproo (Samast Parivar)  
at present: Bhaskar Vihar Trilokpur Saproo's House  
Phone No.: 9797706682, 9316655306, 9779702267, 9103472114



Smt. Anjali Saproo Misri

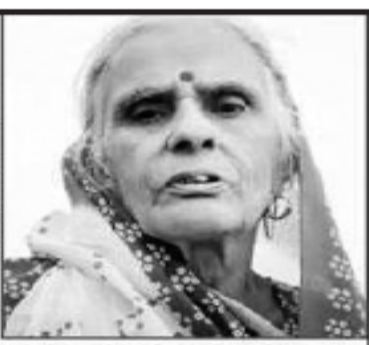
## TENTH DAY KRIYA

IT IS WITH PROFOUND GRIEF WE INFORM THE PASSING AWAY OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER, **SMT. LAKSHMI SHORI (SHANTA JI)**, W/O LATE SH. MAKHAN LAL, ORIGINALLY FROM MOTIYAR, RAINAWARI, SRINAGAR. SHE PEACEFULLY LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE SURROUNDED BY HER LOVING FAMILY.

**HER 10TH DAY KRIYA PUJA** WILL BE PERFORMED AT 7:00 AM ON 11 JULY 2024 AT GHAT SAMAYPUR, BADLI BRIDGE (NEW TEMPLE), BAWANA ROAD, SECTOR 18, ROHINI, NEW DELHI. FOLLOWING **KRIYA PUJA**, A PRAYER MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 11:00 AM AT LPT - 331, P&T COLONY, SAROJINI NAGAR, NEW DELHI.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
SONS & DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW  
SH. BRIJ BEHARI & SMT. NEMI RAINA  
SH. PRADEEP RAINA & SMT. GIRJA RAINA  
DR. RAVI RAINA & SMT. ARUNA RAINA

**DAUGHTER**  
SMT. SUNITA KHAROO & **SAMAST PARVAR**  
MOB: 8851749409, 9883432432

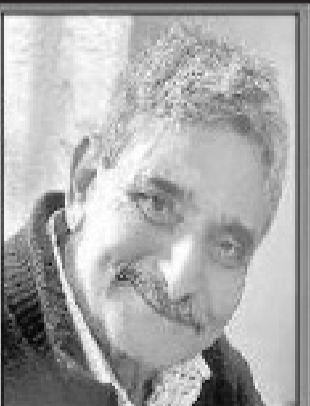


SMT. LAKSHMI SHORI (SHANTA JI)

## CONDOLENCE

With heavy heart, we condole the sad and untimely demise of **Sh. Ashok Bhan** S/o Late Padamshree Pushkar Bhan originally R/o Babapora, Habbakadal, Srinagar and at present R/o Zoonadab Niwas, 24/1, SS lane Durga Nagar Jammu. May god give eternal peace to departed soul.

**Deeply Remembered By**  
Mr Munuji Dassi & Mrs Kamni Dassi  
Mr Sumit Raina & Deepti Dassi  
Dassi's, Safaya's & Bhat's



Sh. Ashok Bhan (Doordarshan)

## CONDOLENCE

With profound grief & pain, J&K Grameen Bank Family condoles the sad demise of **Mr. Bhagwan Singh Saini (Senior Manager)** lastly posted as Branch Head Kaluchak. We express our sincere condolences and pray to the almighty for the peace of the departed soul and provide courage to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

**Management**  
On behalf of J&K Grameen Bank Family



Mr. Bhagwan Singh Saini (Senior Manager)

## 10TH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SMT ANJALI MISRI** W/O ROOP KRISHEN MISRI ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF ZAINDAR MOHALLA, HABBA KADAL, SRINAGAR A/P 728 VINAYAK NAGAR, SECTOR 3, MUTHI, JAMMU ON 7-7-2024.

**10TH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION JAMMU ON 16-7-2024 AT 8.30 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**MISRI PARIVAR, SAPROO PARIVAR, KOUL PARIVAR**  
PH. NO. 9419164938, 7006808340



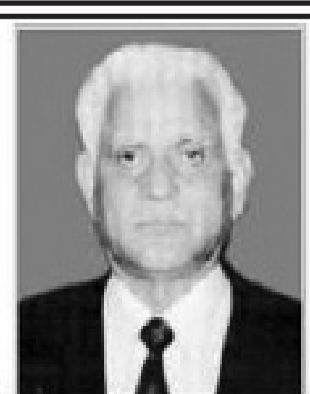
SMT ANJALI MISRI

## 2nd Death Anniversary

You will forever remain alive in our hearts and memories And however, we are learning to live without you.

We still miss you so much.

**Deeply Missed By:**  
Sharda Misra (Wife)  
Daughter in law and Sons  
Monika and Ashok Misra - Advocates  
Alha and Ajay Misra (Embassy Enterprise, Channi Himmat)  
Daughter and Son in law  
Neeraj and Dr. RP Khajuria (IFS)  
Grand children:  
Laghimia, Achintya, Advitya, Sahaj, Sayuri



H.N. MISRA (Retd Dist & Sessions Judge) (19-07-1938 to 9-7-2022)

## 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, Janpur 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, Janpur.

**Kriya** will be performed on Wednesday, 10th of July 2024 at 4:00 PM onwards at Shiv Mandir, Janpur.

**GRIEF STRICKEN :-**  
Smt. Nirmal Gondi - (Wife)  
Ayush Gondi - (Son)  
Daughter & Son-in-Law  
Mehak Gondi & Niketan Gupta  
**GONDI FAMILY**  
Ph. No - 6006584776, 9419194740, 9858570555, 7298017298



LT. SH. RAJ KUMAR GONDI

## Tenth Day/Kriya

We are heartbroken by your departure, you played your role beautifully now its time to rest in your new heavenly abode.

**OM SHANTI**  
Smt. Sushma Gupta W/o Sh. Satpal Gupta  
**10th Day** will be held on July 9, 2024, 11 AM, Geeta Mandir behind Karan Hotel, Bakshi Nagar Jammu.

**Kriya** will be held on July 12, 2024, 12:30 PM House No. 28, Nitoo Lane, Talab Tillo Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Dr. Rishi Gupta & Dr. Procheta Chakravarti (SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW)  
Dr. Anika Gupta & Dr. Abhishek Dhwani (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)  
Devars & Devaranis  
Mr. Rakesh Krishan Gupta & Mrs. Sushma Gupta  
Mr. Bhanu Dutt Gupta & Mrs. Sunita Gupta  
Mr. Subash Chander Gupta & Mrs. Shalini Gupta (BAGWATI MEDICINE TRADERS JAMMU)  
Mr. Gurnani Lal Gupta & Mrs. Bhanwara Gupta  
**GRANDCHILDREN:**  
Aarav Dhanwan  
9419157887 8860437660 9419197876



Smt. Sushma Gupta

## OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhat**, originally resident of Siwar (Lolab), Kashmir. Presently at Lane-2 EXM, Sarawati Vihar, Bohri, Jammu who left for his heavenly abode on 04-07-2024.

May his soul rest in peace.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on Saturday 13-07-2024 at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education Jammu at 8:00 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Kanta Bhat - Wife  
Smt. Sunita & Amit Kumar Bhat - Son & Daughter-in-law  
Smt. Preetu & Sandeep Koul - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Smt. Sudesh & M.L. Pandit - Brother & Bhabi  
Smt. Veena Ji Peshion W/o Lt. B.L. Peshion - Sister & Brother-in-law  
Smt. Binia Bhat & Sh. G.L. Bhat  
Smt. Anju Dhar & Sh. Sunil Dhar  
Sarwli, Elina & Demira  
Mob: 9149986988/ 7006862109



SH. ASHOK KUMAR BHAT

## TENTH DAY

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** OF OUR BELOVED **SH. ASHOK BHAN** (S/O LATE PADAMSHREE PUSHKAR BHAN, R/O BABAPORA, HABBA KADAL, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR) AT PRESENT R/O ZOONADAB NIWAS, H.NO. 24, SS, LANE, DURGA NAGAR SECTOR-1, JAMMU WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10 JULY 24 AT MUTHI GHAT. ASSEMBLY OF RELATIVES AND FRIENDS WILL BE HELD AT 08:30 AM AT MUTHI GHAT.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
MRS. RITA BHAN-WIFE  
**BROTHER-IN-LAW & SISTER**  
MR. SURINDER RAZDAN & MRS. RITA RAZDAN  
**SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW**  
LT. COL. DESHPK BHAN & SAKSHI BHAN  
**BROTHERS-IN-LAW & SISTERS-IN-LAW**  
MR. ASHOK RAINA & MRS. MANORAMA RAINA  
MR. VINOD GANJOO & MRS. RAJNARA GANJOO  
TWISHA BHAN & KRISHV BHAN-GRAND CHILDREN  
**NEARS AND DEARS**  
MR. RAHUL RAINA & SHWETA RAINA  
MR. ROHAN RAZDAN, SUPRIYA RAZDAN  
PRESHMA & BABY SIVA  
BHAN'S, RAZDAN'S, GANJOO'S, RAINA'S & DASSI'S  
MOB. NO. 8149796992, 9810725400, 9822143077, 9419130831



Ashok Bhan (Doordarshan)

## CONDOLENCE

Rotary Club Jammu Tawi mourn the sad demise of **Smt. Vimla Modi** Mother of RTN Atul Modi. We pray to Almighty God to bestow eternal peace to the departed pious soul and courage to family members to bear this unbelievable loss.

**PRESIDENT**  
**AND MEMBERS OF**  
**ROTARY CLUB JAMMU TAWI.**



Smt. Vimla Modi

## 10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Father **Sh. Dwarka Nath Thusoo** originally resident of Karhama Kupwara Kashmir A/p 1207/13 Jagti Township Nagrola Jammu on 06-07-2024.

**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of School Education Jammu on 15th of July 2024 at 8.30 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Sons & Daughters in Law  
Sh. Pran Nath Thusoo & Smt. Meenakshi Thusoo  
Sh. Sameer Thusoo & Smt. Anita Thusoo  
Grand Children  
Mr. Mohi Thusoo  
Miss Tejvani Thusoo  
Daughter & Son in Law  
Smt. Sunita Bhat & Sh. Rattan Lal Bhat.  
Brothers & Sisters in law  
Lt. Sh. Omkar Nath Thusoo & Smt. Pooji Ji  
Sh. Rattan Lal Thusoo & Smt. Ratni Thusoo

Sisters & Brother in Laws  
Smt. Gauri & Late Sh. Sham Lal Pandita  
Smt. Nancy Bhat & Lt. Sh. Jawahar Lal Bhat  
Smt. Dhruv Ji Dher & Sh. Brij Nath Dher  
CONTACT NO : 9822304576, 9469099604  
Email id: pnthusoo01964@gmail.com



SH. DWARIKA NATH THUSOO

## 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

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# Pakistan orchestrating attacks in J&K amidst internal turmoil: Khatana

*'Supreme sacrifice of our heroes will not go unavenged'*

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: In a strongly worded statement, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) Er Gulam Ali Khatana has vehemently condemned the yesterday's ambush on an Army convoy in the Machedi area of Kathua district, which resulted in the martyrdom of five Army personnel.

The MP attributed the attack to Pakistan's desperate attempts to divert attention from its internal crises.

Speaking to the media on Tuesday, Khatana asserted, "The bankrupt Pakistan is orchestrating attacks in Jammu and Kashmir to divert the attention of its starving citizens. However, our security grid is more capable of neutralizing any elements that infringe our boundaries with the intention of destabilizing peace and hindering progress in our region."

Expressing profound grief over the loss of life, Khatana stated, "I extend my deepest condolences to the bereaved families



of the five brave soldiers who lost their lives in the terrorist attack in Machedi, Kathua. Their selfless service to the nation will always be remembered, and their sacrifice will not go unavenged. India will defeat the evil forces behind this attack."

The MP expressed unwavering confidence in India's leadership and security forces. "We have strong and capable leadership to protect our country from external forces that are desperate and jealous of India's progress," he stated emphatically.

Khatana further added that terrorism in India is

on its last legs, highlighting the effectiveness of the government's stringent anti-terror policies.

Reflecting on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's approach to national security since assuming office in 2014, Khatana revealed, "From day one, when he took over the reins of the nation, Prime Minister Modi has instructed the security forces to deal with terrorists and their sympathizers with an iron hand."

The Rajya Sabha member emphasized the autonomy given to security forces in combating anti-national elements. "Our security forces have

been given a free hand to deal with those who facilitate terrorists on our soil," he explained. Khatana praised the relentless efforts of the armed forces, stating, "Our security forces are scripting new history with each passing day by eliminating terrorist in Jammu and Kashmir. Very soon, India will be a terrorism-free country."

Khatana pointed out that such incidents indicate growing desperation among terrorist outfits and their handlers across the border, as India continues to make significant strides in economic development and global

influence. He added that the government's tough stance on terrorism, coupled with enhanced intelligence gathering and coordinated efforts between various security agencies, has resulted in a marked decrease in terrorist activities across the country, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir.

"As the nation mourns the loss of five brave soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty, there is a renewed sense of determination among the security forces to root out terrorism completely," he added.

In a sharp rebuke to opposition leaders, Khatana criticized remarks made by Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi regarding the attack. He emphasized that the country has strong and quick decision-making leadership, stating, "Our security forces are capable, and the supreme sacrifice of our heroes will not go unavenged."

# JKHCBAJ condemns terrorist attacks, issues strong message to Pakistan

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: The Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association Jammu (JKHCBAJ) held a protest on Tuesday at the District Court Complex, condemning the recent spurt in terrorist attacks in UT of J&K in general and Jammu Division in particular.

The protest was lodged by a large number of Bar members who stood united in expressing their solidarity with the families of the brave heart soldiers who attained martyrdom laying down their lives in service of nation.

The lawyers raised slogans denouncing the proxy war by Pakistan. The premises reverberated with the 'Bharat mata ki Jai' Slogans.

In his address, Vikram Sharma, Senior Advocate, the President of JKHCBAJ, and issued a strong message to Pakistan, stating that "Pakistan should stop playing this hide and seek. He said that Pakistan has no guts, for a face to face

war with India and our brave Indian army can take over the entire Pakistan in no time.

He further emphasized that Pakistan must cease its state-sponsored terrorism, which it has pursued to hide its status of a 'Failed Nation'. "We request the Government of India to extend our borders not just to reclaim our Jammu and Kashmir territories but to extend the borders all the way to Afghanistan, to obliterate Pakistan from the map of the globe," he added.

The President and members also paid rich tributes to the brave soldiers who laid down their lives in the line of their duty. "We salute our martyrs and their unparalleled bravery. The entire nation stands with their families in this time of grief and loss" said the President.

General Secretary Parvesh Singh Salaria added, "We strongly condemn these cowardly attacks on our soldiers. Pakistan's support for terrorists cannot be ignored, and the international com-

munity must hold them accountable. We urge the government to ensure our soldiers' safety and call on the people of Jammu and Kashmir to remain united."

Utkarsh Pathania, Treasurer JKHCBA called upon the civil society to remain united to flog the nefarious Pakistan design of unleashing proxy war upon India. He said "Every single martyrdom shall infuse a resolve in every single Indian to defeat Pakistan."

The JKHCBAJ reiterated its commitment to supporting the government in its efforts to combat terrorism and ensure the safety and security of all citizens. The Association called for a united stand against terrorism and urged the international community to hold Pakistan accountable for its actions.

The office bearer of YLA led by Rohit Sharma and Gagandeep Singh Lucky also participated and addressed the Media after paying rich tributes to the martyrs.

# Movement Kalki holds protest against terrorism, calls for eradicating terrorism from root

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: In protest against the terrorist attack in Kathua district, Movement Kalki organized a strong demonstration at Jammu Bus Stand on Tuesday.

During the protest, an effigy of Pakistan was also burnt. Speakers emphasized the need to identify the "traitors" within, including cattle smugglers, drug traffickers, border land mafias, and illegal weapons smugglers.

These individuals act as guides for terrorists, aiding their paths and spilling the blood of our people. The conspiracy behind their actions must also be uncovered, and the sacrifice of our soldiers must not go in vain.

Movement Kalki members also called on the people to take up the responsibility of eradicating terrorism from the root.

Speakers also demand-



ed that the government take strict action to teach Pakistan a lesson.

This protest was held in response to the terrorist incident in the Machedi area of Billawar, Kathua district, which resulted in the martyrdom of five soldiers yesterday.

The protest was led by Kalki board member San-

jeev Dubey. Core committee members Rajput Arjun Singh, Kushal Sharma, Vikram Mahajan, RavinderKhajuria, Raj Kumar, AshutoshRajkumar, and several others were present at the event.

Protesters stressed the need for strict measures against terrorism and the identification of all ele-

ments who assist these terrorists. They stated that avenging the martyrdom of our soldiers and ensuring the security of the country should be our priority.

Protesters demanded strict measures from the government to combat terrorism and teach Pakistan a lesson.

# Kathua attack alarming, administration should be more vigilant: Omar Abdullah

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jul 9 (Agencies): The killing of five army soldiers in a militant attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district is alarming, National Conference leader Omar Abdullah said on Tuesday while accusing the union territory's administration of being lax towards the security situation.

The attack took place on Monday when a group of heavily-armed terrorists ambushed a patrolling party in Badnota area in Kathua. A massive search operation is underway to nab the terrorists behind the ambush in which five people were also injured.

"It is very unfortunate. I think no criticism of this attack is strong enough. To lose five brave army soldiers in the line of duty



in one attack is something we should all be alarmed by," Abdullah said.

The NC vice president and former chief minister of the erstwhile state of J-K said the administration needs to be more vigilant.

"We have been saying time and again that militancy is a problem in J-K and you can't wish it away. This government had convinced itself that somehow August 5, 2019 is the solution to all the problems, including vio-

lence and terror, but clearly that's not the case," he said referring to the day Article 370 was abrogated and the state downgraded into the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

"I think the administration in J-K needs to be more vigilant, I think they are showing rather lax tendency with regard to the security situation and hopefully attacks like this won't happen again," Abdullah added.

Will the recent spurt in terror attacks, especially in Jammu region, have an impact on the conduct of assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir?

"Assembly elections are a matter of Supreme Court order and I do not believe that the security situation is so bad that elections cannot take

place. We have had elections in 1996, we have had elections to parliament in 1998, 1999 when I believe the situation was much worse.

"So, unless the government is ready to accept that the situation here today is worse than it was in 1996, I think elections must go ahead," Abdullah replied.

Referring to security being withdrawn from some politicians, he said it was fine if done so on the basis of proper analysis and a proper security assessment.

"But we have seen that both providing security and withdrawing security in J-K is largely a political thing. It is done on political considerations. So that I think needs to be avoided," Abdullah added.

# Pakistan's paranoia regarding India is unfounded: Ashok Bhan

Top News Report

NEW DELHI/JAMMU, July 9: Speaking at an important civil society meeting organised by Asian Peace Forum which was attended by members of strategic community, former diplomats and members of legal fraternity in Delhi on Tuesday, Chairman Kashmir (Policy & Strategy) Group Ashok Bhan said, "Recent spurt of terrorists attacks on civilians, the army and other Security forces in Jammu region and south Kashmir is part of and continuity of big design by Pakistan and its agencies of using terrorists groups as part of its political, security and foreign policy."

"Kashmiris having rejected Pakistan's terror policies and embraced democracy as the only legitimate instrument to settle economic-political societal issues. The peace, development and thriving democracy in Kashmir has frustrated



the terrorists and their masters. People's huge participation in recent Parliamentary elections have boldly opted for peace and democracy. In current ground situation the Pakistan is describes "Pakistan as villain of the peace in South Asia," Bhan said.

Bhan added, "Pakistan using terrorist groups as part of its security and foreign policy shows its obsession with India which it perceives as an existential threat. The ideology of Pakistan is built on twin pillars of Religion and antagonism towards India. Pakistan

never realised that as a nation state, it should create its own history and move forward but lived with historical appropriation and distortions of the past."

"Pakistan is better advised to acknowledge its Indian heritage as well as the Muslim-ness of a majority of its population. Instead successive Pakistani leaderships and the intelligentsia preferred to build the idea of Pakistan on pillars of Islam and antagonism towards India," Bhan said and added, "The relations with Pakistan have been defined by the Partition in 1947, the Kashmir conundrum and the military conflicts fought between the two South Asian neighbours. The relations have always been plagued by conflicts, hostilities, suspicion and currently with proxy war, despite the fact that the people to people share a common linguistic, cultural, geographical and

economic linkages."

Bhan said, "India always offered Olive branch to sort out amicably some of the pressing issues and imbroglios. Indian Prime ministers from Pt Jawahar Lal Nehru to Narendra Modi offered for discussing the bilateral issues. But instead Pakistan continues her political belligerence, terrorism activities on Indian soil and raking up Kashmir in international foras."

"In today's world when India is leading the globe narrative towards the peace and development. India propounds the doctrine of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" Pakistan has to change and in the interests of its people has to shun terrorism as a state policy and participate with India as a good neighbour to be part of peace, development and philosophy that tries to foster an understanding that the whole of humanity is one family at least in South Asia," Bhan said.

**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL IRRIGATION CONST. DIVISION**  
**KRISHNA NAGAR, JAMMU. Email: xcmicd@jmu@gmail.com**

**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
e-NIT NO. MICD/J/22 of 2024-25 Dated:06/07/2024 Due on: 26/07/2024

Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Construction Division Krishna Nagar, Jammu, on behalf of Lt. Governor of J&K UT, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from registered firms/reputed workshop owners doing similar nature of works having valid PAN No. and GST No. for below mentioned work. The bidding process shall be completed online in two covers viz. Cover 'A' - Tender fee and Bid Security Declaration Form, fulfillment of prequalification criteria, technical specifications and acceptance to terms and conditions of the tender. Cover 'B' - Financial Bid in the prescribed BOQ.

S. No.	Name of Work	EMD	Performance Security	Cost of tender document	Period of completion	Validity of Rates
1.	Design, fabrication, installation, testing and commissioning of one no. auto starter cum LT protection control panel 50A and replacement of worn-out/damaged electrical cables, electrification of pump/operator rooms along with other allied works at LIS Seen Thakran	Rs 9000/-	3% of the contract value of L1	Rs.200.00	20 Days	120 days

**Key points of the tender**

- Bidding documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://www.jktenders.gov.in> from 06/07/2024 (05.00PM onwards).
- The Bid shall be deposited on the web site <http://www.jktenders.gov.in> from 06/07/2024 (05.00PM onwards) to 26/07/2024 (Upto 12.00PM).
- The cover "A" containing Tender fee, Bid Security Declaration Form & prequalification/ technical bids shall be opened online on 26/07/2024 (02.00PM) in the Office of the Executive Engineer Mechanical Irrigation Construction Division, Jammu. In case of holiday or if the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of Cover 'A' the same shall be opened on the next working day or any other convenient day.
- Cover B containing the financial bids in the prescribed BOQ shall be opened after evaluation of the opened technical bids.
- Bids must be accompanied with EMD that should be pledged in favour of Executive Engineer Mechanical Irrigation construction Division Jammu in the form of CDR/FDR and shall have to be valid for 120 days along with scanned copy of the cost of tender document as mentioned in the e Nit (Notice Inviting Tender). The cost of downloaded tender document shall be in the form of treasury challan favouring Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Construction Division, Jammu by crediting the requisite charge to MH: 0702 (Revenue). The firm claiming any discount/rebate shall attach the relevant supporting document/certificate to the effect. Moreover the original documents i.e.(EMD, tender fee and other documents) should be submitted by hand, post or courier to this office before the due date of opening of cover A.e: 26/07/2024 (02.00PM). Failing which the tender of the firm will not be opened.
- The complete bidding process will be ONLINE.
- Lowest bidder will submit the performance security in the shape of Bank Guarantee/CDR/FDR of any scheduled bank equal to 3% of the contract value in addition to the EMD amount along with Tender fee and other relevant documents after opening of financial bid online within 3 days. No separate intimation about opening of financial bids will be sent by this office. In case the original documents are not submitted by the lowest bidders after opening of financial bid, the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further tendering process in the division.
- The original documents submitted by the bidders should be the same as uploaded online (scanned copies).
- The bids shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period, makes any modification in the terms and conditions of the bid the earnest money shall stand forfeited.
- All other terms and conditions can be downloaded from the website <http://www.jktenders.gov.in>.
- The bidder is advised to visit the site. The bidder should be well versed with the site conditions, distance, head load and other related difficulties to be faced during execution of work.

No: MICD/J/497-99  
Dated:06/07/2024

**DIP/J-2546/24**

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Jal Shakti Mech. Irr. Construction Division  
Jammu.

## EDITORIAL

Mental  
Counseling

In today's fast-paced and often stressful world, the need for mental counseling has become increasingly recognized as crucial to overall well-being. Mental health issues affect millions globally, and counseling plays a pivotal role in addressing and managing these challenges. This essay explores the significance of mental counseling, its benefits, and why it is an essential component of comprehensive healthcare. Mental counseling, often referred to simply as counseling or therapy, involves a professional relationship between a trained counselor or therapist and an individual seeking assistance with emotional, psychological, or behavioral issues. The aim of counseling is multifaceted: to provide support, facilitate personal growth, and enable individuals to effectively cope with life's challenges. Counseling sessions typically involve confidential discussions where individuals can express their thoughts, emotions, and concerns in a safe and non-judgmental environment. Counselors employ various therapeutic techniques and approaches tailored to the needs of each client, helping them explore feelings, gain insight into their behaviors, and develop strategies for positive change. Mental counseling promotes mental well-being by addressing issues such as stress, anxiety, depression, trauma, grief, relationship problems, and more. It equips individuals with coping mechanisms and resilience-building strategies that enhance their ability to manage and navigate life's difficulties. Early intervention through counseling can prevent the escalation of mental health issues. By addressing concerns promptly, counselors help individuals avoid more severe psychological distress or crises, thereby improving overall outcomes and quality of life. Counseling improves interpersonal relationships by fostering better communication, conflict resolution skills, and empathy. Individuals learn to understand their own emotions and those of others, leading to healthier interactions with family members, friends, and colleagues. Counseling facilitates self-exploration and self-awareness, enabling individuals to gain clarity about their values, beliefs, strengths, and areas for personal growth. This introspective process often leads to increased self-esteem and a stronger sense of identity. Mental counseling helps combat the stigma associated with mental health issues by promoting open dialogue and understanding. It encourages individuals to seek help without fear of judgment, thereby fostering a supportive and inclusive community.

Mental Counseling focuses on changing negative thought patterns and behaviors to promote healthier ways of thinking and acting, explores unconscious thoughts and past experiences to understand current behaviors and emotional patterns, emphasizes self-exploration, personal growth, and maximizing potential through empathy and unconditional positive regard, addresses relationship dynamics and communication issues within families to improve functioning and mutual understanding, helps individuals process and heal from traumatic experiences, such as abuse, accidents, or loss. Despite its benefits, mental counseling faces challenges such as accessibility, affordability, and cultural stigma. Many individuals may not have access to qualified counselors due to geographical constraints or financial limitations. Moreover, cultural beliefs and misconceptions about mental health may deter individuals from seeking help, reinforcing the importance of education and advocacy in promoting mental well-being. Mental counseling plays a vital role in promoting and maintaining mental health by providing support, fostering personal growth, and enhancing resilience. Through confidential and empathetic interactions, counselors help individuals navigate life's challenges, improve relationships, and achieve greater self-awareness.

As awareness and acceptance of mental health issues continue to grow, the integration of mental counseling into healthcare systems becomes increasingly important. By addressing barriers to access and stigma, society can ensure that everyone has the opportunity to benefit from the transformative impact of mental counseling.

## Will Labour govt create a new India strategic deal?

By: Sunanda K Datta  
Ray

Fresh from chastising Rahul Gandhi for allegedly attacking Hindus, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was no doubt elated when Britain's new Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, lost little time in declaring that "there is absolutely no place for Hindu-phobia in Britain". More to the point, Sir Keir, a successful but somewhat distant lawyer who dealt a crushing defeat to the Conservative Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, promised to "build a new strategic partnership with India".

Mr Sunak's defeat must have brought the sharpest sense of personal loss to his India-based mother-in-law, Sudha Murthy, a member of the Rajya Sabha. Ms Murthy took pride in boasting that she had made her husband, Infosys founder N.R. Narayana Murthy, while her daughter Akshata "had managed to make her husband Prime Minister of the UK". Others may feel that the comment that having lost an empire, Britain still hasn't found a role, remains as true today as when the American politician, Dean Acheson, made it in 1962.

As for the rest of Britain, the Reform UK party's Nigel Farage wasn't far out when he said that there was no enthusiasm for the new Prime Minister whose Labour Party swept the polls, capturing two-thirds of the seats in the House of Commons with just over one-third of the popular vote. Having succeeded in entering Parliament in his eighth attempt, 60-year-old Mr Farage vows to take over Labour.

Some members may well succumb to his blandishments since the last vestige of the ideological commitment that distinguishes one party from

another had vanished when Tony Blair ended Labour's hallowed commitment to mass nationalisation to create the vote-winning New Labour.

Opponents of the move had grumbled then — and probably still believe now — that there is nothing in the party's creed to prevent overlapping with groups such as the Liberal Democrats, Mr Farage's Reform UK, which has only four MPs, or even Mr Sunak's Conservatives. The last have been in power during 14 years of "economic, social and political vandalism", to cite the Labour-supporting ethnic Indian life peer, Ayesha, Baroness Hazarika.

Governance in Britain has suffered during this time under no fewer than five Prime Ministers. The Conservative Party is a group of some 180,000 people who tend to be better off and older than the rest, and who are suspected (perhaps unfairly) of expecting government financial strategies and high officers of state to demonstrate a special duty to the group's own collective welfare.

Mr Sunak's privileged background of expensive boarding schools and Oxford, and his wealth, which is said to exceed that of King Charles III, with a country house costing more than £2 million among extensive gardens and a lake, only reinforced that plutocratic image. He succeeded Prime Minister Liz Truss whose 2022 mini-budget was such a disaster that she as well as her finance minister, chancellor of the exchequer Kwasi Kwarteng, had to quit.

There were reports that her predecessor, Boris Johnson, Prime Minister from 2019 to 2022, did nothing to help Mr Sunak strengthen his position while he faced crisis after crisis in office.

Investment fell during those

months, not enough new jobs were created, the once prized National Health Service prompted innumerable complaints of delay and negligence, and rising inflation and low economic growth were compounded by Brexit, which took Britain out of the European Union. Widely hailed at the time as the answer to all problems, Brexit appears to have created more challenges than it solved, especially by dividing Britain between North and South as well as between the rich and poor.

Mr Sunak did draw up some commendable plans for economic revival but many of them did not bear fruit.

However, as Britain's youngest (at 42) Prime Minister since 1812 when Robert Jenkinson, second Earl of Liverpool, was sworn in, and as the first man of colour (also a Hindu — he took his oath of office on the Bhagavad Gita), he earned a place in history. Not that he showed any particular regard for India, the land of his ancestors. Perhaps he couldn't afford to. Apart from colleagues like Suella Braverman, a Goa-origin whiter-than-white hardliner, there were Brits to make snide remarks to indicate in subtle ways that not quite being English, he was not qualified to govern England.

Race remains a touchy subject. Even Sir Keir Starmer faced a significant backlash after recently naming Bangladesh as a country from where people coming in should be sent back.

He might have been making amends when he singled out the ethnic Pakistani mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, as the first person to hug after becoming Prime Minister-elect. Paying homage at North London's Shree Swaminarayan Mandir in Kingsbury, and lavishing tributes on Hindu culture,

even promising "to govern in the spirit of seva", may have been part of the act.

India has had a chequered relationship with Britain's Labour Party. It was of course the party of India's independence, and Prime Minister Clement Attlee sometimes irritated Indian listeners by saying that he "gave" India independence. But Indians in responsible positions took the view that Labour had fallen prey to Islamic fundamentalists, and deeply resented its stand on Jammu and Kashmir and the Gujarat religious riots. Labour politicians were accused of staging violent demonstrations outside India's high commission in London, forcing the high commissioner to seek police protection.

Now that India is moving closer to the West, especially the United States, it is in India's interest to see that its relationships with Europe, Japan, the European Union and Britain also show improvement. Sir Keir has promised CHANGE in block capitals, and the bilateral relationship is one area that should not be ignored. Neither trade, estimated at £25 billion, nor India's ranking as the second largest investor in Britain with 107 new projects creating 8,664 new jobs there, can fully convey the deep and permanent social, cultural and emotional ties between the two countries. China is the big challenge for India and yet China's trade surplus with India continues to grow.

There is no reason why India and Britain cannot be equally flexible with each other and revive stalled talks on a free trade agreement. The new British Prime Minister's mention of a new strategic partnership with India could be the beginning of a return to the closer cooperation of the historic past.

## Biden vs Trump: Can Joe convince America he'll be fit 4 more years?

By: Aakar Patel

America's President Joe Biden, who is 81, says he will not drop out of the election in November and intends to be President again. The problem is that he is now being urged by people in his own party to quit, on the understanding that he is too old and too impaired to do the job competently. Age by itself is not so important as much as acuity. Mr Biden would get by if he were physically held back by his advanced years, but here the issue is his mental state.

American Presidents, more than leaders in parliamentary democracies, have for a long time been asked questions regarding age because of the immense power they wield. Ronald Reagan was 73 when he was campaigning for his second term, and thought to be too old. Mr Biden was dull during his debate but Ronald Reagan on live television took the age issue head on.

When a political correspondent named Henry Trehwitt noted that, "you already are the oldest President in history", Reagan responded with a famous line: "I want you to know that also I will not make age an issue of this campaign. I am not going to exploit, for political purposes, my opponent's youth and inexperience."

Mr Biden is already older than Reagan was at the end of his second term and by far the oldest man to

hold the office, let alone the oldest to run for a second term. The US Constitution prescribes a minimum age (35) for people to be President, but there is no upper limit. However, in recent times before Mr Biden and Mr Trump, Presidents have tended to be young, with Barack Obama sworn in at 47, George W. Bush at 54 and Bill Clinton 46. Mr Biden is ancient in comparison and leads a Cabinet that is not particularly young either. Its top members are Kamala Harris (59), secretary of state Anthony Blinken (62), treasury secretary Janet Yellen (77) and defence secretary Lloyd Austin (70). The last named has had health troubles of his own, being hospitalised a few months ago without letting people know.

Britain's Cabinet, appointed after Rishi Sunak's defeat to Keir Starmer, is significantly younger in comparison. Deputy PM Angela Rayner is 44, chancellor Rachel Reeves is 45, home secretary Yvette Cooper 55 and foreign secretary David Lammy 51. The next two ministers in order of importance are 41 and 40. Mr Starmer is himself 61 and a generation younger than Mr Biden.

In India, the Prime Minister turns 75 next year, though he says he will remain in office. His Cabinet is unchanged for those holding the top portfolios. The youngest in it is Amit Shah, who is 59. Then we have Rajnath Singh (72), Nirmala Sitharaman (64), S. Jaishankar (69) and Nitin Gadkari (67).

Leaders in parliamentary democracies, which have an executive that is linked to Parliament, unlike the presidential form of government, are notionally less powerful and have certain internal checks. The fear in America is that Mr Biden might make some catastrophic mistake or, at best, be less than able to carry out important functions.

Another reason that the Biden candidacy is thought to be important is his opponent. Many Americans fear that given the events after Mr Trump's defeat in 2020, their country's democracy came under threat. Their Capitol building was stormed by Trump supporters who wanted the vice-president to declare Mr Trump the victor amid calls for him to be hung. They want to ensure Mr Trump is defeated and for that the Democrats must have the best possible candidate facing him. Mr Biden has long insisted this must be him but his performance in the first debate means many are sceptical. It is for the moment up to Mr Biden to determine whether or not he will go ahead and as President, his party will surely respect that if nothing else changes. Unfortunately for him, the election is still months away with plenty of time for him to make further gaffes or moments of weakness from him.

It is hard to see how, if he once again flounders as he did on live TV, his supporters will continue to stand by him. The question is what happens if he should drop out. Since the

primaries are already over the hard part appears to be behind the Democrats. They have already elected a set of state representatives who will act as an electoral panel and a rough nomination battle will not happen. These representatives, who were for Mr Biden, must now pick someone else. This could be vice-president Kamala Harris, widely seen as a top contender, but is not popular. Other names including California governor Gavin Newsom and other state leaders, none of whom is a national name, and if nominated will have to quickly build a reputation to go up against Mr Trump.

For us outsiders, it will be fascinating to see how the Democrats go about it, just as it will be interesting to see what happens if Mr Trump wins or indeed again loses.

Lastly, the age of leaders is one reason and the main one that the Nehru versus Patel debate is a non-starter. The reason of course is that Nehru was the younger man by 14 years. Sardar Patel passed away in 1950, the year the Constitution came into effect. All of his major life's work, including the integration of the states, had come years before that. Nehru carried on and most of his life's most important work came after 1950.

Mr Biden has to convince his party, and then the American public in November, that he is not only fit for office today, but will remain so for four years.

## ABDPSS Amarnath Yatra Bhandara enters 10th Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti (ABDPSS), Jammu and Kashmir has continuously been arranging Bhandara for Baba Amarnathji Yatris since 30th June, 2024 at Railway Station, Jammu with enthusiasm and fervour.

The Samiti has the mission of Public Service accomplishments which forms the core of the organization. The Langar run by the Samiti run continuously and provide pure healthy meals day and night to pilgrims and devotees come from across the country for the Darshan of Baba Amarnath.



Today on 10th day of Bhandara Swami Mukteshwanaand inaugurated today's Bhandara in the presence of Sunil Sharma, National Co-ordinator of the Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti.

Narinder Dass ji Maharaj lauded the efforts of the volunteers of Samiti for arranging meals for the Yatris coming from different states of India and abroad. The National Co-ordi-

nator of the Samiti Sunil Sharma informed that today on 6th day of Bhandara Large number of yatris came from different states of India take meals and appreciated the efforts of the samiti for arranging meals day and night for such a long time for yatris with sweets on the directions and teachings of Bhrahmgyani Guruji.

The pilgrims shall be served hygienic, delicious, energetic and digestive "Sattvic" bhojan for all days; besides there shall be special and exclusive arrangement for pilgrims observing "fast" on Ekadashi and other important festival dates, such

arrangement is available nowhere in Jammu Transit Camps.

Raman Sharma informed that For this purpose, the Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti under the guidance of Sunil Sharma actively assisted by vishal Sharma, Amrit bhivani, Ajay Kumar and Raman Kumar have constituted a team of highly dedicated Members to serve the yatris day and night in the best possible manner.

Among others who attended today's Bhandara namely, Vishal Sharma, Swatantar Bakshi, Vikram Sharma, Raja Mankotia, Anil Kumar and Tara-chand.

## Team Jammu condemns yesterday's terrorist's attack

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Team Jammu on Tuesday strongly condemned yesterday's terrorist's attack during which five Army soldiers got martyred while an equal number were injured in Machedi area of Kathua district.

An emergent meeting of volunteers of Team Jammu was held under the chairmanship of Zorawar Singh Jamwal during which volunteers strongly condemned Pakistan sponsored terrorist's attack and urged all the countries of World to declare Pakistan a rogue

state and put bar on it till all training camps of terrorists in Pakistan are destroyed.

While addressing the volunteers, Chairman Team Jammu, Zorawar Singh Jamwal said, "Nation salutes the martyrs who have laid down their precious lives in the line of duty. Our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families." While coming down heavily on neighbouring rogue country, Team Jammu chief Zorawar Singh Jamwal further said that Pakistan has always unleashed terrorism on our soil and is now making desperate efforts by infiltrating

highly trained terrorists but Pakistan will not succeed. Terrorism is on last legs in J&K. Our determined security forces are responding valiantly and are defeating Pakistan's nefarious designs on different fronts."

He questioned the criminal silence of sympathizers of Pakistan in J&K who time again are the votaries of dialogue with Pakistan.

Volunteers of Team Jammu also passed a resolution urging the world to declare Pakistan a rogue state and force Pakistan to destroy all terrorists training camps mushrooming in its land.

## Samsung India reveals first shortlist of 100 teams of 'Solve for Tomorrow'

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Samsung India has announced a shortlist of 100 teams for its flagship CSR initiative - 'Solve for Tomorrow', designed to foster an innovation ecosystem in the country. This shortlist includes 50 teams each from the 'School' and 'Youth' track who will now compete further in the national education and innovation competition.

This year, the shortlists have been done regionally, which has helped the competition reach out to the next generation of Indian innovators residing in the remotest towns of the country, such as Khurda in Odisha Kachar and Kamrup Rural, in Assam and Amreli in Gujarat.

The top 50 ideas submitted in the Youth Track covering the 'environment and sustainability' theme are not only unconventional but also extremely future-focused.

Issues like deforestation, plastic waste management, marine pollution, carbon emissions, unsustainable packaging, and poor water management came across as the areas most critical to the youth.

The 'School' track, on the other hand, submitted their ideas under the 'community and inclusion' theme. Their ideas focus on out of the box solutions for critical issues such as mental illness

among school students, lack of an inclusive environment for the LGBTQ community, poor access to digital literacy among economically weaker sections of the society, and the existing gap between academic learning and technical skilling to become job-ready.

A total of 232 participants representing the 100 teams will now gear up for the next phase of the 'Solve For Tomorrow' competition, where they will be equipped with presentation and effective communication skills through expert training and mentoring. This will help them prepare for the regional rounds commencing mid-July.

"Samsung believes that our youth possesses immense power and potential to drive positive social change. Our flagship CSR programme 'Solve for Tomorrow', has, for the first time this year, created a category for school students to cater to their unique skills and ideas. The improvement in the quality of ideas is a testament to the creativity and innovative mindsets they possess. For the first time this year, we also decided to go deeper into the five regions - North, South, West, East and North-East - to ensure we have a more broad-based participation from some of remotest regions of the country. We have received some really well-articulated ideas, and it is

incredibly inspiring to see such presentations and clarity of thought coming from the young lot", said SP Chun, Corporate Vice President, Samsung Southwest Asia.

Samsung Solve for Tomorrow has grown purposefully this year by supporting themes such as the environment, community and inclusion. The separate tracks - youth and school - have given equal opportunities and a level-playing field to all the competing teams. It is incredible to see such thought-provoking ideas coming from young minds across the nation. Together with Samsung, our endeavour is to encourage a problem-solving mindset in the next generation that will act as a catalyst in improving the start-up ecosystem in the country," said Prof. Preeti Ranjan Panda, MD, FITT, IIT-Delhi.

The next stage will witness two teams from five regions - north, east, west, south, and north-east - being selected in each track, forming a national pool of 20 teams. The Top 20 teams will undergo an intensive series of training along with rigorous mentorship programmes by Samsung and industry experts to enhance their technical and soft skills. These teams will also attend an 'Innovation Walk' at the Samsung Regional Headquarters in Gurugram and Samsung R&D Centres across India.

## JKBS grieves unfortunate demise of Diler Lakhotra

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: To mourn the sad, sudden and untimely demise of Diler Lakhotra, who was 38 and hailed from Village Chatha Gujran, the Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha members held a condolence meet here on Tuesday.

JKBS's Senior Vice President Birender Kaith,

who was very close to the deceased said, that Diler Lakhotra was most polite, humble, respectful and a compassionate person.

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

## KDP Wing of DPAP condemns Kathua terrorist attack

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: The Kashmiri Displaced People Wing of the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) has strongly condemned the recent terrorist attack on the army at Kathua.

In a joint statement issued by various leaders of the KDP Wing, including President Sanjay Dhar, Chairman Piary Lal Pandita, General Secretary Raj Kumar Ticku, and others, they expressed deep sorrow over the tragic incident.

The attack resulted in the martyrdom of a JCO and four soldiers, with six others injured.

The leaders have called upon the government to enhance its intelligence network to prevent such guerrilla attacks that not only endanger our security grid but also inflict significant losses on the nation as a whole.

They urged local border civil societies, village defense committees, and the public to remain vigilant against suspicious activities by anti-national elements.

They emphasized the importance of promptly informing the security forces about any potential threats to prevent similar inhuman attacks on civilians, security personnel, and the army.

Furthermore, the leaders offered prayers for the peace of the martyred soldiers and extended heartfelt sympathy to their families, urging them to find courage during this difficult time. They also expressed hopes for the swift recovery of the injured army personnel.

This statement reflects the strong condemnation of the attack and a call for enhanced security measures to safeguard against such incidents in the future.

## Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme organized by GDC Ramban

Top News Report

RAMBAN, July 9: IIC of Government Degree College (GDC), Ramban, in collaboration with Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), organized an Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP) on Tuesday to educate students about the JK Government's Start-up Schemes 2024.

The EAP aimed to create awareness among students about the various opportunities and benefits provided by the government to support entrepreneurship and innovation. Moham-

mad Numan, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI Ramban, and Sajad A Lone, Assistant Faculty, JKEDI Ramban, were the resource persons who enlightened the students about various startup schemes launched by the government, incubation centers, and different types of funding available to them for starting their businesses.

The programme was organized under the overall supervision of Prof. Archana Kaul, Principal of the college, who appreciated the initiative and committed to organizing many more such events in the future.

The Entrepreneurship

Awareness Programme aimed to inspire and empower students to consider entrepreneurship as a career option and to provide them with the necessary knowledge and resources to succeed.

The workshop was attended by faculty members of the college, including Prof. Satish Kumar, Prof. Raj Kumar Gupta, Prof. Sanjay Kumar Cartel, Dr. Romesh Chander, Prof. Rabinder Kumar, Prof. Ram Parkash, Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad Mir, Prof. Arjun Gupta, and Dr. Anuj Gupta.

The whole event was coordinated by Prof. Arjun Gupta, Commerce.

## Secy PDD meets banks to discuss role of banks in PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

Top News Report

LEH, July 9: The Administrative Secretary of the Power Development Department, UT Ladakh, Vikram Singh Malik, chaired a meeting regarding the role of Banks (Public Sector/Private) in financing and promoting the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, in the Union Territory of Ladakh, at the Civil Secretariat, Leh.

During the meeting, a thorough discussion was held regarding the role of the financial institutions,

including central and private banks functioning in UT of Ladakh, for their role in financing PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.

The administrative secretary has directed all the banks to sensitize the consumers about the scheme and for availing the option of availing loan facilities at an attractive interest rate.

Recently, the UT administration of Ladakh has announced its top up subsidy scheme on the central subsidy under the PM Surya Ghar-Muft

Bijli Yojna which aims to provide to reduce electricity costs by installing rooftop solar panels, and harnessing solar energy.

The Ladakh Power Development Department has been directed to work in collaboration with the banks to ensure awareness among consumers so that they utilise its benefits.

The meeting was attended by Chief Engineer PDD, Executive Engineer PDD and senior officials of all the major banks.

## Dr Pawan Kotwal reviews preparedness of Sindhu Central University

Top News Report

LEH, June 9: The Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor of UT Ladakh, Dr Pawan Kotwal chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat Leh on Tuesday, to review the preparedness for construction of the main campus and operationalizing of the temporary campus of the Sindhu Central University.

Prof Sachin Gunthe from IIT Madras gave an overview of the status of construction of the Sindhu Central University (SCU) at Khatse and the establishment of the transit campus of the SCU and briefed about the ongoing admission process.

The permanent campus of the University is being constructed in Gothang at village Khatse, Leh, Ladakh covering approx. 110 Acres while the temporary campus is coming up

Stressing basic amenities, Advisor Ladakh, Dr Pawan Kotwal said that the Departments of PHE

and PDD should ensure that water and electricity supply is provided at the main campus site within timelines.

Commissioner/Secretary, Higher Education Department, Padma Angmo briefed the Advisor about the temporary campus which is being established in the premises of Govt Degree College, Khatse.

Administrative Secretary, Public Works Department, Michael D'Souza apprised regarding the status of construction of approach road to the site and stated that the fair-weather road is expected to be completed in the next two months. Administrative Secretary, PDD, Vikram Malik, apprised that the DPR for the project to supply electricity at the temporary campus has been shared with the SCU officials and work shall start once administrative approval is received.

Advisor said that the architectural design of the Central University should be in keeping

with the geographical and cultural context of the region.

He flagged the challenges related to water access and high wind conditions at the campus site and asked the concerned Departments to factor these aspects and asked IITs to look for innovative solutions to these challenges.

The meeting was attended by the Commissioner Secretary of the Higher Education Department, UT Ladakh; the Administrative Secretary of the PDD, UT Ladakh; the Administrative Secretary of the PWD & PHE / I&FC UT Ladakh; DC/CEO LAHDC of Leh; Chief Engineer of PWD/R&B Ladakh; Under Secretary of the Higher Education Department, UT Ladakh; Internal Committee from IIT Madras; Assistant Director of Planning, UT Ladakh; and other officials, while the Additional Secretary of the Higher Education Department, UT Ladakh joined the meeting virtually.

## DGP Swain reviews ongoing Anti-Terror operation in Kathua

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 9 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir DGP R R Swain on Tuesday flew here in the Kathua district to review the ongoing operation to track down and neutralise the terrorists behind the deadly ambush on an Army patrolling party that left five soldiers dead and an equal number injured on Monday, officials said.

Accompanied by ADGP (Law and Order) Vijay Kumar and ADGP Jammu zone Anand Jain, Swain held a meeting with the police and Army officers on the ground, the officials said.

The Monday's terror attack on the Army patrolling party was the first such incident on the rugged Machedi-Kindli-Malhar mountainous road near the Badnota village in Lohai Malhar, approximately 150 km from the Kathua district's headquarters.

Five Army personnel lost their lives and an equal number were



injured when heavily armed terrorists hurled a grenade and opened indiscriminate firing on two Army vehicles at around 3.30 pm. The terrorists fled into the nearby forest after the attack.

The search for the terrorists, which started on Monday itself and was suspended late in the evening owing to heavy rains, resumed on Tuesday morning with joint search parties of the Army, police and CRPF, officials said.

They said the Army's elite para-commandos and sniffer dogs joined the search operation while drones and helicopters were also pressed into service for surveillance.

## Rattan Lal condemns Govt's inability to control rising terrorism in Jammu Region

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of J&K National Conference, Jammu, has strongly condemned the recent terrorist attack on an army convoy in Machedi village, Kathua district, which resulted in the martyrdom of five soldiers and injuries to five others.

Expressing profound sorrow over the tragic incident, he voiced deep concern about the escalating terrorism in the Jammu region.

In a statement issued here today, the senior NC leader criticized the BJP government for its failure to effectively control the deteriorating security situation, pointing to multiple recent terrorist incidents across the Jammu region in the past few weeks.

He emphasized the urgency of addressing these incidents and ensuring public safety

amidst growing fear and insecurity among the population.

"In recent weeks, nearly four major terrorist attacks have been reported in the Jammu region, including ambushes on pilgrims' buses in Reasi, terrorist strikes in Hiranagar village, Gandoh area of Doda district and Basantgarh area in Udhampur District, and the yesterday's attack in Machedi village, Kathua," he stated.

"We cannot afford to lose the lives of our brave soldiers due to the government's inability to curb terrorism," he added.

Rattan Lal argued that recent terror attacks refute the government's claims of ending terrorism in J&K, asserting that the surge in incidents is alarming. He criticized the administration for rhetoric without concrete action, urging a reassessment of security

strategies. He underscored the need for stronger coordination among security agencies and better support for personnel on the ground.

Drawing a comparison with the NC's previous administration headed by the former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, the senior NC leader noted that terrorism was at its lowest, contrasting it with the current administration's handling, which he blamed for escalating violence and insecurity in the region.

He called for immediate measures to fortify intelligence networks and ensure public safety as essential priorities for the government.

The Provincial President stressed the necessity of a pragmatic approach to tackle terrorism, emphasizing the government's responsibility to prioritize citizen safety and take decisive action against violence.

## Shah of hearts

**Taha Shah Badussha is not the national man-crush for nothing. His career may have sky-rocketed after Heeramandi — his Instagram followers have risen to a whopping 2.6 million — but his humility is intact, and so is the twinkle in his eyes**

With his affable charm, heart-warming humility and steely grit to win, Heeramandi break-out star Taha 'Tajdar' Badussha makes you believe that nice guys do win! Whether it's handing out his visiting cards to Hollywood biggies at the Cannes Film Festival, unabashedly facing multiple rejections in Bollywood, personally replying to DMs on his Instagram account or his eyes welling up while his fans compliment him, Taha Shah Badussha is every bit of a man the internet is currently crushing on!

Impeccably styled, animated and basking in his newly found success, the self-made actor comes across as a breath of fresh air into the nepo-kids-dominant-film industry. With no revered film dynasty, PR machinery or influential big-wigs backing him, his charm is not calculated. There's been no handholding, no dream debut launch for this industry outsider. No one put in any strategy for making him the star that he is becoming today. And yet, the Abu Dhabi-born actor waltzed straight into our hearts with his stellar performance in Netflix's hit period drama Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar.

As big as it gets, Shah was definitely not trying hard to go viral when he essayed the tragic role of Nawab Tajdar Baloch in Heeramandi. All he wanted was a chance to break into Bollywood, to show he can act. However, destiny had other plans and Taha's career trajectory took a 360-degree turn as soon as Heeramandi started streaming.

During the first few days after the release of the series, Taha's followers on Instagram rose to a whopping 2.6 million, from



a few thousands! His Nawabi-style inspired sartorial choices catapulted him into a style icon, especially among his female fans, who've been flooding social media with praises and admiration. With Heeramandi becoming Netflix's second most-watched non-English show in the world for two weeks straight, and being renewed for a second season, Taha's popularity continues to soar.

Touted as the 'national man-crush', Taha has been receiving non-stop adulation from fans and film fraternity alike. "I'm getting heartfelt messages, with fans expressing how much they loved my work. Mothers are calling and blessing me. People are approaching me, sharing how my death scene made them cry. These interactions mean much more to me than any social media metrics," says the emotional actor.

Growing up in the UAE capital, Taha attended the American University of Sharjah where he studied entrepreneurship. Soon after graduating — and with encouragement from his mother — he joined the New York Film Academy in Abu Dhabi to

pursue his passion for film and performing.

Tears of joy

Today, Taha is being hailed as a talent to watch out for in Bollywood. However, his 14-year-old journey to reach here has been far from easy. "For the first time, I'm shedding tears of joy. Previously, my tears stemmed from rejection, being replaced, or overlooked in the industry. When my films Luv Ka The End and Gippi bombed at the box-office, people wrote me off. Nobody was willing to give me acting jobs, or even auditions. Even where I got selected, somebody influential walked in and took that role," reveals Taha, who was willing to become an Uber driver as nothing seemed to be working out!

The actor might have hit an all-time low, but the hustler in him decided to hang on. "I got to know about Heeramandi audition, and decided to go and put myself out there." However, it took 15 months of chasing the casting director to get him an audition, "Shruti ma'm finally got tired of me and asked me to audition for a three-day blink-and-miss role. I got selected but

director Sanjay Leela Bhansali sir offered me a slightly bigger role of Balraj, the revolutionary. However, at the last minute, sir changed his mind, and gave me the role of his lead — Tajdar."

Mommy's boy

A self-confessed mommy's boy, Taha is conscious to bring up his mother and her incredible role in making it all work. "I wanted to join the New York Film Academy branch in Abu Dhabi, but was unsure due to financial constraints. But my mother dragged me by the ear, drove two hours and dropped me off at the dorm in just my pyjamas and a t-shirt, and said, 'I'll come back tomorrow with your food and clothes. You're going here!'" he recalls, adding, "My mother has supported me unconditionally, all these years, emotionally and financially. I would sign her name in the skies, if I could," smiles Taha, meticulously arranging his thoughts into words so no thread is left unaddressed.

A veritable fitness enthusiast, Taha spends most of his free time performing deadlifts at the gym or training in martial arts, "Sometimes my mom cries at the effort and amount of training I put in. I train five hours a day. I am in pain most of the day. I am either training physically or going for classes in acting, singing or dancing," says Taha, who wants to be known as 'the most hardworking dude around'.

Moving ahead, Taha's bigger vision is to keep working on projects that he's passionate about, "Now, I get to choose my projects, I get to decide how my career goes with my own choices and decisions, rather than just taking up anything that comes my way."

## 'Bayaan': Huma Qureshi announces new film



Huma Qureshi has announced her next film titled 'Bayaan'. She will lead the upcoming investigative police procedural drama. The film will be backed by award-winning producer, Shiladitya Bora. Developed at Film Independent in Los Angeles, 'Bayaan' will be directed by writer-director Bikas Mishra, best known for his acclaimed feature film, 'Chauranga'.

Huma Qureshi announced the same on Instagram with a note: "A film I am very excited about #Bayaan, developed at Film Independent, Los Angeles goes on floors. It's a rare combination: a fantastic script, a talented

crew, and their complete dedication to their work. The energy is infectious. Written and Directed by Bikas Mishra, Produced by Shiladitya Bora (Platoon One Films), Madhu Sharma (Summit Studios), Kunal Kumar, and Anshuman Singh (sic)." She continued, "The film is supported by the International Film Festival Rotterdam's Hubert Bals Fund and was developed at LA Residency, a part of the Global Media Makers (GMM) program of Film Independent, Los Angeles. During the course of the residency, Bikas was mentored by Craig Mazin (HBO's Chernobyl) and received advice on the script from writer

Jeff Stockwell and story editor Ruth Atkinson (sic)."

Set against the picturesque landscape of Rajasthan, the drama unfolds the story of a father-daughter duo. Roohi, a female detective, is dispatched to a small town in Rajasthan to tackle the first case of her career as a lead investigator. Despite her determination, she faces a formidable adversary with deep-rooted influence in the system. Roohi must strive to uphold her father's legendary legacy in law enforcement, as described in the film's logline.

The film also stars Chandrachud Singh and Sachin Khedekar, and is set to begin production in Rajasthan this month. 'Bayaan' is jointly produced by Shiladitya Bora (Platoon One Films), Madhu Sharma (Summit Studios), Kunal Kumar, and Anshuman Singh.

The film is supported by the Hubert Bals Fund of the International Film Festival Rotterdam and was developed during the LA Residency, a segment of the Global Media Makers (GMM) program at Film Independent, Los Angeles. Throughout the residency, Bikas Mishra received mentorship from Craig Mazin (creator of HBO's 'Chernobyl') and 'The Last of Us') and script advice from writer Jeff Stockwell and story editor Ruth Atkinson.

## Salman Khan adds glitz to Anant Ambani, Radhika Merchant's haldi ceremony at Antilia

Bollywood superstar Salman Khan joined a glittering array of guests at the 'Haldi ceremony' of Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant held at Ambani's residence, Antilia, in Mumbai.

The ceremony on Monday, marked the upcoming nuptials of Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani's youngest son with businessman Viren Merchant's daughter. Yesterday's lavish affair was attended by close family members and Bollywood personalities.

Salman Khan, dressed in a radiant yellow kurta and black pyjamas, arrived in style to extend his blessings to the soon-to-be-wedded couple.

His presence added to the star-studded list of attendees, which included Ranveer Singh, Ananya Panday and Sara Ali Khan among others.

Anil Ambani and Tina Ambani, the delighted uncle and aunt of Anant Ambani, were seen in high spirits throughout the festivities.

The couple left the venue late at night, adorned in turmeric paste and marigold petals, posing happily for the paparazzi.

A day ago, Anant and Radhika took part in a Grah Shanti Puja ceremony.

Singer Nikita Waghela took to Instagram to share glimpses from the event, including the serene moments of the Grah Shanti and



Mandap Muhurat Puja.

Radhika looked stunning in a cream and golden saree decorated with exquisite jewellery, while Anant sported a red kurta paired with a golden jacket.

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 with the auspicious Shubh Vivah, or wedding function. Guests are encouraged to embrace the spirit of the occasion by dressing in traditional Indian attire.

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

On July 5, the Ambani family also hosted a Sangeet ceremony which saw participation by a constellation of celebrities.

Global pop sensation Justin Bieber also performed at the Sangeet ceremony.

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.

## Manisha Koirala says 90s photographer scolded her for not wearing bikini

Manisha Koirala recently shared the difficulties and hardships female actors faced in Bollywood during the 90s. The actor, who is known for being candid about the Hindi film industry, recounted an encounter with a male photographer. In an interview with Filmfare, Manisha disclosed how the senior photographer told her off for refusing to wear a bikini for a photoshoot.

Manisha on her 90s experience as a female actor

Manisha, while sharing her experience told, "Very early on in my career I was asked to go and take photographs, and there was this very famous photographer. I went with my mom, and initially, that photographer said things like, 'You are the next superstar and this and that.' Cut to him bringing



a two-piece bikini to me and asking me to wear it. I told him, 'Sir, I wear this when I go to the beach or for a swim, but if this is the way I have to get into the movies, I don't want it, and I am

not wearing that.'" She further said, "I told him either you shoot me fully clothed otherwise I am... ' I remember he gave me a big dialogue. He said, 'Jo mitti pighalne se sharmati ho

uske murti kaise banaye (The clay that refuses to melt, how do I make a statue from it)'. I have not forgotten that. That's how the mentality was of some of the people, not everybody. The same person did photograph me when I was a big celebrity and said, "Oh, I knew you were going to be a big star. Not to be mean to the person, but their conscience level was that. Their exposure was that, so they behaved like that."

Manisha Koirala's acting career

Manisha started her acting career with a Nepali romantic-drama called Pheri Bhetaula. She then made her Bollywood debut in Subhash Ghai's Saudagar (1991) and went on to star in popular Indian films such as Dhanwan (1993), 1942: A Love Story (1994), Bombay (1995), Agni Sakshi

(1996), Gupt: The Hidden Truth (1997), Dil Se... (1998), and Company (2002). After some time away from the industry, Manisha returned with the anthology film Lust Stories (2018) and also played Nargis Dutt in Sanju (2018). Her most recent movie release was Shehzada (2023), and she received acclaim for her OTT debut in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar (2024), where she portrayed the character Mallikajaan in a story set in pre-partition India. The epic work also features Sonakshi Sinha, Aditi Rao Hydari, Richa Chadha, Sharmin Segal, Shekhar Suman, Adhyayan Suman, Fardeen Khan and others.

Heeramandi has been renewed for the second season. The first installment is available for streaming on Netflix.

## Superstars Rajinikanth and Kamal Haasan pose together

Megastars Rajinikanth and Kamal Haasan, who are busy gearing up for their respective films Vettaian and Indian 2 posed together for a picture, which sent fans into a frenzy.

Amidst the buzz surrounding the two much-anticipated films of 2024, the photo of the two actors Rajinikanth and Kamal Haasan was shared by celebrity photographer Arun Prasath. In the picture, Rajini-

kanth seems to be in his Vettaian look while Kamal sports his Indian 2 character Senapathy's look.

The duo were all smiles as they posed for the camera.

Sharing the picture, Prasath captioned his Instagram post, "Sharing the picture, Arun Prasath captioned his Instagram post, "What more could I ask for? Truly blessed to have been in the same studio



where 'Ulaganayagan' @ikamalhaasan sir & 'Superstar' @rajinikanth sir were shooting for their respective films! Thank you Universe @shanmughamshankar sir & @lycaproductions for this once in a lifetime opportunity. Grateful to you #Indian2#Vettaian #LycaProductions." Vettaian, which is Rajinikanth's 170th film, is scheduled for a worldwide release in October this year.

## India to open consulates in Russia's Kazan, Yekaterinburg: PM Modi

At present India has an embassy in Moscow and consulates in St Petersburg and Vladivostok

NEW DELHI/MOSCOW, Jul 9 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while addressing the Indian community in Moscow on Tuesday said "a decision has been taken to open two new Indian consulates in Kazan and Ekaterinburg".

At present India has an embassy in Moscow and consulates in St Petersburg and Vladivostok.

The new consulates, Modi said would give further boost to people-to-people ties. He lauded the efforts of the community to nurture and nourish Indian cultural traditions in the country and share its vibrancy with the Russian people.

In his address, Modi thanked the Indian diaspora for the warm welcome and lauded its contribution in enhancing the India-Russia relationship.

Modi said he was greeting



them on behalf of 1.4 billion Indians, and noted that his interaction with the community was special, as it was his first address to the Indian diaspora in his third term as Prime Minister.

Modi spoke about the visible transformation that has hap-

pened in India in the last ten years.

In his third term, Modi said "it was the objective of the government to become the third largest economy in the world."

The PM spoke about India's economic growth which accounted for significant per-

centage of global growth; its digital and fintech success; its green development achievements; and its impactful socio-economic programs empowering common people.

He underlined that India's transformative success has happened because of the dedication, commitment and contribution of 1.4 billion Indians, each one of whom today dreams of making India a developed country.

India, he said, through its committed efforts, from tackling climate change to meeting sustainable development goals, was making significant contribution to global prosperity – as a Vishwabandhu, a friend to the world.

He further noted that India's call for peace, dialogue and diplomacy to resolve global issues had high resonance.

## Assembly polls will be fight against betrayal and for Maharashtra's self-respect: Uddhav Thackeray



MUMBAI, Jul 9 (Agencies): Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on Tuesday said the upcoming assembly polls will be a fight against betrayal and for Maharashtra's self-respect.

He was addressing party workers on the occasion of Vasant More, a Pune-based political leader who was

earlier with the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS), formally joining the Shiv Sena (UBT).

More unsuccessfully contested the Lok Sabha election from the Pune seat as a candidate of the Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA). BJP's Murlidhar Mohol defeated Congress candidate Ravindra

Dhangekar from this seat.

Thackeray said Pune city should now be the centre of power change in the state.

The Lok Sabha poll was a battle to save the Constitution, the former chief minister said, adding, "The assembly elections will be against betrayal and helplessness. It will be for Maharashtra's fight for self-respect."

He was referring to the rebellion in the undivided Shiv Sena two years ago by party MLAs led by Eknath Shinde, who later became the chief minister.

Maharashtra assembly elections are scheduled to be held in October this year.

## Rahul Gandhi prays at Hanuman temple while heading to Raebareli

RAEBARELI, Jul 9 (Agencies): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday prayed at a Hanuman temple in Churwa on the way to his parliamentary constituency of Raebareli, the party said.

Gandhi, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, will meet party workers and local residents of his constituency during his daylong visit, an office-bearer of the Congress said.

After landing at the Chaudhary Charan Singh Airport in Lucknow, Gandhi left for Rae Bareli by road. Raebareli is about 80 km from the state capital.

On the way to Raebareli, he stopped at Churwa temple near



Bachchrawan and paid obeisance to Lord Hanuman.

"Rahul Gandhi worshipped at the Churwa Hanuman temple and prayed to Lord Hanuman for the happiness, peace and prosperity of the country," the Congress party said on X.

Gandhi reached the Bhumau guest house, where he would be meeting party workers, delegations and locals, a local party leader said.

He will also meet family members of Kirti Chakra awardee Captain Anshuman Singh, he said.

In the recently concluded Lok Sabha elections, Gandhi won from Rae Bareli Lok Sabha seat by a margin of more than 3.90 lakh votes. After winning the election, he held a meeting with the workers along with party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra.

## Hathras stampede: Supreme Court to take up on Friday PIL seeking court-monitored probe, action against those responsible for lapses

NEW DELHI, Jul 9 (Agencies): The Supreme Court will take up on Friday a PIL seeking a court-monitored probe into the death of 121 people following a stampede at a religious congregation in Hathras district of Uttar Pradesh and action against those responsible for lapses.

"I have ordered listing of the plea yesterday itself," Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud told petitioner Vishal Tiwari on Tuesday after he mentioned his petition for urgent hearing.

"It's listed for hearing on Friday, July 12," Tiwari later told agency. Petitioner Tiwari, an advocate, has demand-

ed appointment of a five-member expert committee under the supervision of a retired Supreme Court judge to probe the stampede and suggest guidelines to avoid such incidents at public gatherings in future.

Tiwari sought a direction to the State of Uttar Pradesh to submit a status report and initiate legal action against those who acted negligently. He has also sought a direction to states to submit the status of medical facilities available from the block/tehsil to the district level to deal with incidents of stampede. "Such incident prima

facie depicts the serious condition of responsibility lapse, negligence and unfaithful duty of care towards the public by the government authorities," Tiwari submitted.

Over 2.5 lakh devotees had gathered on Tuesday in Hathras district's Phulrai village for the 'satsang' conducted by Baba Narayan Hari -- also known as Saakar Vishwahari Bhole Baba.

A stampede at the congregation killed 121 people and left 28 injured, most of them women, as devotees got suffocated in the worst such tragedy in recent years.

The Uttar Pradesh Police have registered

an FIR against the organisers, accusing them of hiding evidence and flouting conditions with 2.5 lakh people gathering for the event in which only 80,000 were allowed.

The FIR alleged that the organisers hid the actual number of devotees coming to the 'satsang' while seeking permission and did not cooperate in traffic management and hid evidence after the stampede, which broke out after people gathered there stopped to collect mud from the way the baba's vehicle was passing.

The petition urged the

top court to direct states to issue guidelines to prevent stampedes for the safety of the public attending such religious or other events in large numbers and submit reports on medical facilities available at various levels to deal with such stampedes or other incidents.

"There are several questions which are brewing up from this horrific incident of stampede thereby questioning the duty and lapse of state government and municipal corporations," the petitioner said, adding the authorities failed to control the crowd at the event.

## Delhi Police bust kidney racket being run from Bangladesh, arrest 7

NEW DELHI, Jul 9 (Agencies): The crime branch of the Delhi Police has arrested seven people in connection with a kidney racket which was being operated from Bangladesh.

According to the details, those arrested also include a 50-year-old woman doctor, who has so far operated on nearly 16 patients at a hospital in Uttar Pradesh's Noida.

The racket was being run from Bangladesh to Rajasthan.

The crime branch of the Delhi Police assisted the Rajasthan Police after the racket came to light.

Commenting on the arrests, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Crime, Amit Goel, said the arrested doctor, identified as Vijaya Kumari, was employed at a hospital in Delhi's Sarita Vihar. However, she facilitated nearly



16 transplants at a hospital in Noida.

Investigations had earlier suggested the doctor was on payroll at Delhi's Apollo Hospitals.

However, later, in a press statement, the hospital clarified Dr Kumari was not associated with them.

"The Delhi Police's Crime

Branch department had taken custody of a doctor who had been engaged on a fee-for-service basis and not on the hospital's payroll. This action is subsequent to an investigation pertaining to procedures carried out at another hospital and prima-facie not related to any action or acts at Indraprastha

Apollo Hospitals (IAH). Given this action by the police, IAH had placed the doctor under suspension," the hospital statement read.

According to the Delhi Police, the entire racket was operated in Bangladesh.

Patients in the country were allegedly being sent to India for treatment once they agreed to pay lakhs of money to the donor.

Police also said that some patients were brought to India under the pretext of job offers, and their kidneys were removed.

On some occasions, patients were also forced to donate their kidneys by creating fake documents in the name of their relatives.

The hospital had suspended the arrested woman doctor soon after the racket had come to light.

## Three die as car catches fire after being hit by truck in Haryana



KURUKSHETRA, Jul 9 (Agencies): Three people died and one was seriously injured when their car caught fire after being hit by a truck near Pehowa in Haryana, police said on

Tuesday. The accident occurred on Monday night.

Station House Officer, Pehowa, Satish Kumar said four people, aged between 20 and 22, were going to Chand-

garh to appear for an exam when their car was hit by a truck from behind on the Pehowa-Kurukshetra road and caught fire.

Three of the occupants of the car died before the locals reached the spot for help and only one, who was identified as Ashish, survived.

The deceased hailed from Pilani in Rajasthan and Rohtak in Haryana, the SHO said.

Ashish is undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Kurukshetra.

An investigation into the accident is underway and efforts are being made to contact the families of the victims, he said.

## Maharashtra Woman Kills Child, Self After Husband Refuses To Take Her Out

PALGHAR, Jul 9 (Agencies): A 23-year-old tribal woman allegedly killed her 4-year-old daughter and then died by suicide following a fight with her husband in Maharashtra's Palghar district, police said on Tuesday.

The incident took place on Monday at Sisne village in Dahanu area.

The woman's husband, a fisherman, used to be frequently away from the family, an official from Kasa police station said.

He returned home on Sunday and went out with his friends.

His wife was annoyed as he had not taken her with him and this led to a quarrel between them, the official said.

On Monday, the woman allegedly strangled her daughter to death and later hanged herself from the ceiling of her house, he said.

After being alerted by neighbours, police rushed to the spot and initiated a probe into the incident.

The bodies were sent for a post-mortem, the police added.

## Mihir Shah, Mumbai BMW hit-and-run accused, arrested after 3 days

MUMBAI, Jul 9 (Agencies): Mihir Shah, the main accused in the Worli hit-and-run case, was arrested on Tuesday. He was absconding since July 7 after he allegedly rammed his BMW into a scooter, killing a woman.

Mihir, 24, is the son of Rajesh Shah, a Shiv Sena leader from the Eknath Shinde camp. Rajesh Shah was arrested by the Worli police but was released



on bail on Monday.

On the morning of July 7, a BMW hit a couple on a scooter on Annie Besant Road in Worli. A woman, Kavari Nakhwa,

died in the incident while her husband Pradip suffered injuries.

The BMW was being driven allegedly by Mihir Shah, with his driver

Rajrishi Bidawat sitting on the passenger seat next to him. The car was later found abandoned in Kala Nagar in Bandra East.

Mihir Shah was charged under Sections 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), 281 (rash and negligent driving endangering human life), 125-B (endangering life and personal safety), 238, 324(4) (committing mischief amounting to

cause loss and damage) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sahita. He has also been charged under Sections 184, 134A, 134B, 187 of the Motor Vehicles Act.

According to the police, Rajesh Shah called his son Mihir after the incident and allegedly told his son to switch places with the driver. The police said it was Rajesh Shah's plan to pin the blame on the driver to save his son.

## Kyiv mourns as rescuers make last-ditch efforts at children's hospital hit by Russian missile

Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy says rescue operations have stretched into a second day at a major Kyiv children's hospital struck by a Russian missile

KYIV, Jul 9 (Agencies): Rescue operations stretched into a second day at a major Kyiv children's hospital struck by a Russian missile, Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Tuesday, adding that 38 people were killed and almost 200 injured in an intense daytime barrage that smashed into cities across the country.

Zelenskyy said on the social platform X that 64 people were hospitalized in the capital as well as 28 in Kryvyi Rih and six in Dnipro — both in central Ukraine.

It was Russia's heaviest bombardment of Kyiv in almost four months and one of the deadliest of the war, hitting seven of the city's 10 districts.

The strike on the Okhmatdyt children's hospital, which interrupted open-heart surgery and



forced young cancer patients to take their treatments outdoors, drew an international outcry.

Kyiv city administrators declared Tuesday an official day of mourning.

Entertainment events were prohibited and flags lowered in the capital.

Russia denied responsibility for the hospital strike, insisting

it doesn't attack civilian targets in Ukraine despite abundant evidence to the contrary, including Associated Press reporting.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov on Tuesday repeated that position, pointing to a Russian Defense Ministry statement that blamed a Ukrainian air defense missile for partially

destroying the hospital.

The Russian onslaught Monday came on the eve of a NATO summit in Washington where alliance countries are expected to pledge new military and economic support for Ukraine.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, meanwhile, was hosting India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Moscow.

New Delhi's importance as a key trading partner has grown since the Kremlin sent troops into Ukraine in February 2022.

Zelenskyy was deeply critical of Modi's visit, saying on X late Monday: "It is a huge disappointment and a devastating blow to peace efforts to see the leader of the world's largest democracy hug the world's most bloody criminal in Moscow on such a day."

## Indonesia landslide: Death toll rises to 23



JAKARTA, Jul 9 (Agencies): The death toll from a landslide near an illegal gold mine on Indonesia's central island of Sulawesi had risen to 23 people, while 35 others are still missing, an official said Tuesday.

Unlicensed mines are common across the mineral-rich Southeast Asian archipelago, where abandoned sites attract locals who hunt for leftover gold ore without proper safety equipment.

The landslide hit a remote village in the

Bone Bolango district of Gorontalo province late Saturday following intense rains.

"As of this afternoon, 23 people died, 66 people survived and 35 people are being searched" for, Gorontalo search and rescue agency official Ida Bagus Nyoman Ngurah Asrama told agency.

The previous death toll was 11, as of Monday afternoon.

A search and rescue official previously said that some victims were miners while others were people who oper-

ated stalls near the mine.

More than 270 people, including police officers and soldiers, have been deployed as part of the rescue operation over the last two days, Ida said.

Vehicles remain unable to reach the disaster area as several bridges collapsed, with rescuers having to travel by foot, according to Ida.

Indonesia is prone to landslides during the rainy season between November and April, but July is usually dry season and heavy rains are rare.

In May, at least 15 people died after landslides and flooding in South Sulawesi province swept away dozens of houses and damaged roads. A landslide in the same province a month before killed 20 people.

## A suspected attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels targets a ship in the Gulf of Aden

DUBAI, Jul 9 (Agencies): A suspected attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels targeted a ship in the Gulf of Aden on Tuesday, the latest assault by the group on the crucial maritime trade route.

The captain of the ship reported an explosion in close proximity to the vessel off the coast of Nishtun, Yemen, close to the country's border with Oman, the British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations center said. The ship, whose name and flag were not released, and all crew are safe, the UKMTO said in a warning to mariners.

The explosion took

place in the farthest reaches of the waterway earlier targeted by the rebels, the center said.

It did not elaborate on what caused the explosion, though the Houthis have been known to use drones and missiles as well as bomb-carrying drone boats.

The Houthis did not immediately comment. However, it can take hours or even days before they acknowledge carrying out an attack. The last reported Houthi attack in the region took place June 28.

The rebels have targeted more than 60 vessels by firing missiles and drones in

their campaign that has killed a total of four sailors. They seized one vessel and sank two since November. U.S.-led airstrikes have targeted the Houthis since January, with a series of strikes on May 30 killing at least 16 people and wounding 42 others, the rebels say.

The Houthis maintain that their attacks target ships linked to Israel, the United States or Britain as part of rebel support for the militant group Hamas in its war against Israel in the Gaza Strip. However, many of the ships attacked have little or no connection to the Israel-Hamas war — including some bound for Iran.

## UN chief meets Pakistan's premier to discuss the situation of Afghan refugees following clampdown

ISLAMABAD, Jul 9 (Agencies): The head of the U.N. refugee agency met the Pakistani prime minister Tuesday to discuss the situation of Afghan refugees living in uncertainty since Islamabad began a persistent anti-migrant crackdown last year.

Pakistan has long hosted an estimated 1.7 million Afghans, most of whom fled during the 1979-1989 Soviet occupation. More than half a million others escaped Afghanistan after the Taliban takeover in 2021, with thousands waiting in Pakistan for resettlement in the United States and elsewhere. Since the widely criticized clampdown started in November, an estimated 600,000 Afghans have returned



home.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, who arrived in Pakistan on Sunday, spent two days meeting Afghan refugees. He posted on social media platform X: "I spent time with Afghan refugees whose resourcefulness is testimony to their strength — and to Pakistan's long hospitality." Grandi added that his visit aimed to "discuss how we can best support both amidst grow-

ing challenges."

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shabaz Sharif told the UN refugee agency head that Afghan refugees were treated with "exemplary respect and dignity" despite facing multiple challenges, according to a statement released by his office Tuesday. Sharif also urged the international community to "recognize the burden being shouldered by Pakistan while hosting such a large refugee population and demon-

strate collective responsibility." The prime minister also asked for help from UNHCR to repatriate the refugees in "a safe and dignified" manner. Also on Tuesday, Grandi met with Asif Durrani, the country's special representative for Afghanistan. Durrani wrote on X that the two sides "expressed readiness to find a durable solution to the Afghan refugee problem, including their repatriation".

Pakistan had previously said the crackdown targeted those without valid documents regardless of nationality.

U.N. agencies have decried the forced expulsion of Afghans from Pakistan, saying it could lead to severe human rights violations

— including the separation of families and deportation of minors. Although Pakistan had been routinely deporting Afghans who came here without valid documents in recent years, the ongoing crackdown is unprecedented in scale. Since the crackdown, the neighboring Taliban-led government said it set up a commission to deal with repatriated nationals and has criticized Islamabad's actions.

Pakistan has also faced a surge in militant attacks on security forces and civilians alike, mostly blamed on Pakistani Taliban — a separate militant group but a close ally of the Afghan Taliban — straining the ties between the two countries.

## 6 "Ninja Turtle Gang" Members Arrested In Malaysia, Tortoises Seized

KUALA LUMPUR, Jul 9 (Agencies): Malaysian authorities have arrested six members of an international crime ring known as the "Ninja Turtle Gang" and seized about 200 smuggled tortoises and turtles, a wildlife official said Tuesday.

Abdul Kadir Abu Hashim, director-general of Malaysia's wildlife and national parks department, said four Cambodians and two Malaysians were arrested during a July 2 raid on a house in Kuala Lumpur by police and wildlife officials.

He told agency some 200 turtles and tortoises worth an esti-

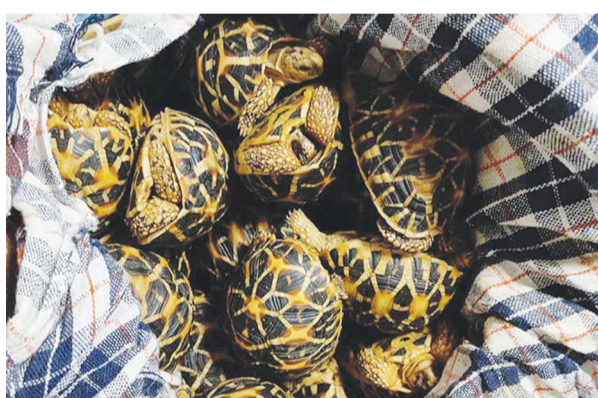
mated 246,394 ringgit (\$52,300) were rescued during the raid, the second seizure in Malaysia in less than a week.

Many people across Asia believe that turtles and tortoises bring good luck and prosperity.

Abdul Kadir said the six arrested belong to the Ninja Turtle Gang, an international crime ring involved in smuggling the reptiles.

Police and wildlife officials rescued 400 tortoises during an initial raid on June 29 that were meant for sale in Southeast Asia and were worth \$805,084 on the black market.

Animals rescued in the



latest raid included the critically endangered Chinese striped-necked turtle, which is also known as the golden thread turtle, Abdul Kadir said.

Other species included the endangered black pond turtle, sulcata tortoise,

leopard tortoise and the red-footed tortoise found throughout South America and the Caribbean islands of Trinidad and Barbados.

"Initial investigations revealed that the reptiles were smuggled from abroad to meet the lucrative pet market,"

Abdul Kadir said.

Also discovered were three snakes, four soft-shell turtles, a skink and five frogs.

The rescued animals were being kept in a Malaysian wildlife department quarantine centre.

The reptiles are illegally brought into Malaysia by road or in suitcases by smugglers aboard commercial flights, Abdul Kadir said last week.

Traffic, a wildlife NGO, has said that Southeast Asian countries "function as source, consumer and as entrepôts for wildlife originating from within the region as well as the rest of the world".

## China hits back at NATO's 'smears and attacks' ahead of summit

BEIJING, Jul 9 (Agencies): China lashed out at NATO's "smears and attacks" on Tuesday after the defence alliance's chief accused it of supporting Russia's war in Ukraine on the eve of a summit in Washington.

US President Joe Biden is hosting leaders of the 32-nation transatlantic alliance for three days from Tuesday, as well as the leaders of Australia, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg told a news conference ahead of the 75th anniversary summit that their inclusion "demonstrates that our security is not regional, our security is global".

"And that's clearly demonstrated in the war in Ukraine where Iran, North Korea, and China are supporting and enabling Russia's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine," Stoltenberg said on Monday, according to a NATO transcript. China's foreign ministry took aim at the defence group, which was founded in 1949 to provide collective security against the Soviet Union.

"NATO's so-called security is at the expense of other countries' security and its actions have brought extremely high security risks to the world and the region," foreign ministry spokesman Lin Jian told a regular news conference in Beijing. "China is firmly opposed to NATO's smears and attacks on China, to its willingness to shift the blame onto others, as well as NATO's use of China as an excuse to move eastward into the Asia-Pacific and stir up regional tensions," he said.

NATO's leaders are gathering in Washington in the shadow of setbacks in Ukraine and electoral headwinds on both sides of the Atlantic.

Biden is fighting for his political life after a disastrous debate against his Republican presidential rival, NATO sceptic Donald Trump.

The star of the summit is set to be Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who is looking for firm signs of support even though NATO will not be extending his country an invitation to join the bloc.

## UK utility giant Thames Water will seek fresh funding to keep business afloat

LONDON, Jul 9 (Agencies): Thames Water, Britain's largest water company, said Tuesday it's hunting for fresh funding to keep the business afloat, even as the heavily indebted company warned it would run out of money by the end of May.

The company, which is burdened by some 15 billion pounds (\$19 bil-

lion) in debt, has been locked in a dispute with regulator Ofwat regarding how high bills can be increased by 2030 to pay for critical repairs to infrastructure.

Its financial update Tuesday comes only days before Ofwat offers a draft verdict on its five-year spending plans.

Thames Water provides water and sewage

services to some 16 million customers in London and the Thames Valley region.

It has spent the past year fighting to avoid being taken over by the government.

"Thames Water is keeping afloat, but its emergency life buoy is deflating as efforts to raise funds from share-

holders proves elusive," said Susannah Streetier, head of money and markets at Hargreaves Lansdown.

"It can still tap funding of around 1.8 billion pounds, until spring next year, but it's a reservoir that's been shrinking.

At the same time, its debt pile is an even bigger millstone and

risks pulling the business under," Streetier said.

The release of Ofwat's report will kick off six months of negotiations ahead of its final decision in December.

Thames Water Chief Executive Chris Weston said "informal soundings" show there is interest in the market.

## UN rights chief says investigating mass grave on Libya-Tunisia border



GENEVA, Jul 9 (Agencies): The U.N. human rights chief said on Tuesday that his office was following up on reports of a mass grave discovered in the desert

along the Libya-Tunisia border, giving a speech where he denounced a series of disturbing developments in Libya.

"I urge the authorities to respond swiftly to our inquiries, and to investigate these crimes fully," Volker Turk told the U.N. Human Rights Council in Geneva, denouncing "widespread" violations against migrants and refugees. "The loved ones of those who died have every right to know the truth."

In March, at least 65 migrants' bodies were discovered in a mass grave in southwest Libya, the International Organization for Migration said.



## Kathua terror attack: Farooq Abdullah urges Pakistan to 'stop terrorism'

Top News Report

POONCH, Jul 9 (Agencies): Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah urged Pakistan to stop terrorism, asserting it will not bring about any change on the ground.

"Terrorism will not help anyone. If our neighbour (Pakistan) thinks they will bring a change by sending these terrorists across the (border), then it will never



happen," Farooq told ANI. The National Conference Chief added: "Today five army jawans laid down their lives and five others are seriously

injured at the hospital (undergoing treatment). How will the (situation) border change?"

His response came in the wake of the Kathua terror attack. Five Army soldiers were killed and as many as were injured in an ambush by terrorists in Katha district of Jammu and Kashmir on July 9.

Coming down heavily on Pakistan, Farooq said, "... The country is already in a mess. The fighting will

only bring about devastation for both countries. Please, stop this terrorism. It is condemned everywhere in the world".

He also highlighted that today, terrorism is not condoned by any country in the world.

"Today, no country in the world is not ready to accept terrorism. Everyone is (speaking) against terrorism. What are they (Pakistan) going to get by indulging in terrorism?

The families of those who lost their lives will be mourning today," the NC chief said.

Replying to a query on the possibility of resumption of dialogue between the two countries, he said, "There will be dialogue only when the terrorism stops. We are also in favour of talks. Both things (Talks and Terrorism) can not go side by side... Pakistan should take steps (to stop terrorism)".

## JCB among 8 vehicles seized for illegal mining in Kulgam



Top News Report

KULGAM, July 9: The authorities in Kulgam district have intensified their efforts against those involved in the illegal extraction of minerals in South Kashmir's Kulgam district and seized several vehicles, in this regard on Tuesday.

An official said that

the Geology and Mining Department with the assistance of police has been carrying out raids in various locations of the district including Chowgam and Devsar during the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday to curb illegal extraction of minor minerals.

"8 vehicles including one JCB machine, 6 tractors, and one

seive tractor have been seized", District Mineral Officer (DMO) Kulgam, Murtaza Bashir said.

He said the vehicles seized during the raids have been handed over to police.

He further said that no leniency will be provided to those trying to loot natural resources and causing irreparable damage to the ecology.

## Police Officer's Murder Case: Charge sheet filed against 3 arrested criminals in J&K

JAMMU, Jul 9 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Police has filed a charge sheet against three hardcore criminals for their alleged involvement in the killing of a police officer in Kathua district three months ago, an official said on Tuesday.

Sub-Inspector Deepak Sharma lost his life in an encounter with criminals at the Government Medical College complex in Kathua district on April 2.

While the main accused Vasudev alias Shannu was also killed in the brief gunfight, several of his associates, including some residents of Punjab, managed their escape by taking advantage of dark-

ness.

After strenuous and hectic efforts, a special investigation team succeeded in arresting three criminals — Himanshu Bassi, Teja and Jasvir Singh — from Punjab, while a search for three absconding accused is on.

The official said Punjab Police, with the leads provided by the crime branch Jammu, tracked and arrested another accused from Jalandhar, Rohit Kumar alias Makhan, a resident of R S Pura in Jammu who was evading arrest in half a dozen cases.

His custody will be taken shortly by the crime branch from Punjab

Police for further questioning, he said.

The official said the preliminary charge sheet was filed in the court of Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM), Kathua against Bassi, Teja and Singh after the completion of the investigation which proved offences against them.

All the three accused are presently in judicial lockup, officials said.

He said the initial investigation of the case was conducted by Kathua Police Station for about one month and thereafter the case was transferred to Special Crime Wing, Crime Branch Jammu which constituted a SIT to probe the case and bring the culprits to book.

## 'Join Indian Army' Lecture held at Gundna



Top News Report

REASI, July 9: Youth has the power to help a nation develop and move towards prosperity, and can bring social reform within the society.

To provide career counselling, Indian Army organized a lecture for the young aspirants of Gundna, Reasi about the opportunities and requirements for 'Joining The Armed Forces'. It also served as an informative session where children learnt of the various entry schemes available, such as 'National Defence Academy (NDA), Combined Defence Services (CDS), or Direct Recruitment Rallies.

The lecture covered essential topics including Eligibility Criteria, Educational Qualifica-

tions, Age Limits, and Physical Standards necessary to 'Join The Indian Army'.

The lecture also provided insights into the selection process which typically included physical fitness tests, medical examinations, and written tests procedures.

These young seekers were briefed on the importance of preparation and dedication required to successfully navigate the recruitment process.

The lecture emphasized the values and ethos of the Indian Army, instilling a sense of pride and commitment among the attendees.

The lecture drew an enthusiastic participation of 45 boys high lighting the army's commitment to bringing better future aspects and career in the region.

## NCC continues in its efforts to combat climate



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: A productive meeting was held between Col MK Sharma, Commanding Officer 2 J&K (Independent) Company NCC, Bhaderwah and Dr Javed Iqbal, the newly appointed Principal of Government Degree College (GDC) Doda.

The discussion focused on various aspects related to engagement of youth in combating climate change as well as Social Service and Community Development activities. Key points discussed were tree plantation wherein Dr Iqbal expressed his enthusiasm for the upcoming tree plantation drive under Van Mahotsav 2024 and potential benefits of promoting environmental sustainability.

As part of SSCD Activi-

ties, measures to mitigate Drug Abuse were discussed to employ strategies to raise awareness and prevent drug abuse among students.

To make the youth aspire for inspirational services and be the agent of change, grooming of students for Group A services and Defense Services was discussed. Dr Iqbal showed keen interest in providing necessary support in selection of talented youth as well as providing infrastructure for their grooming.

Towards better training, the importance of quality Infrastructure was discussed and possibility of construction of Obstacle Course within the college premises was explored to enhance student's physical fitness and risk taking propensity; a necessary element for assuming the

role of a leader.

An action plan was drawn to put the above initiatives to fruition. Involvement of Forest department, NGOs and in-house talent was identified as important stakeholders in organising plantation drives, conduct of seminars and workshops as well as Mentorship sessions to achieve the end result set during this discussion.

It's heartening to note that the NCC curriculum is making a huge positive difference in engaging the youth in activities contributing towards the national efforts of realising the dream of "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) through meaningful contribution in Environment and Sustainable development and increasing the position of the nation in other human indices.

## DSS condemns brutal attack on Army vehicle in Machedi

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS) vehemently condemned the brutal attack carried out by enemy agents on an army vehicle in the Machedi area of Billawar, Kathua, resulting in the tragic loss of five brave soldiers and causing injuries to several others.

This heinous act of violence is a stark reminder of the constant threat our security forces face in the line of duty. "We appeal to the government to take immediate and stringent measures to strengthen the intelligence network at the grassroots level by involving local commu-

nities. Enhanced intelligence and community cooperation are crucial in preventing such tragic incidents in the future," DSS leaders said.

They paid homage to the martyrs who made the ultimate sacrifice for the nation.

They prayed to Almighty to rest their souls in eternal peace and to provide strength and solace to their families in bearing this irreparable loss.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the injured soldiers, and we wish them a swift and full recovery. The courage and sacrifice of our soldiers will never be forgotten," they said.

## Army holds interaction with ESM, Veer Naris, War Widows at Sial Sui

Top News Report

RAJOURI, July 9: Indian Army organised an interactive session with Veer Naris, War Widows and ESM families at Govt Primary School Sial Sui with an intention to know about their wellbeing and assist them in conveying the latest policies and resolution of the issues faced by them in aspects pertaining to pensions or other documentation procedures.

Veer Nari embody the indomitable spirit of our nation. During the visit, the team addressed various issues related to pensions, medical facilities,



and welfare schemes.

They also provided information on new initiatives and schemes launched by the government and the Army for the benefit of veterans

and their families. Special attention was given to the Veer Naris with efforts made to ensure they have access to necessary resources and support networks.

## FROM PAGE 1

### Army airlifts bodies of soldiers martyred in Kathua attack; Post-mortem conducted

Kathua and Doda in which nine pilgrims and a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) jawan were killed.

A civilian and at least seven security personnel were also injured. Earlier, Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired a review meeting on the security scenario in Jammu and Kashmir and directed all security agencies to "work in a mission mode and ensure quick response in a coordinated manner."

### Kathua attack condemnable, deserves firm counter-measures: President Murmu

...duty near Badnota village in Kathua district on Monday afternoon. The attack occurred within a month after two terrorists were killed in Hiranagar encounter which also claimed the life of a CRPF soldier.

### India will defeat evil forces: Defence Secy on Kathua terror attack

"Their selfless service to the nation will always be remembered and their sacrifice will not go unavenged and India will defeat the evil forces behind the attack," he said.

Aramane's remarks were shared on 'X' by a spokesperson of the Defence Ministry.

### Over 2 lakh perform Amaranth Yatra in 10 days

weather on both Yatra routes, with the possibility of light rain during the day.

Yatris take either the 48-km-long traditional Pahalgam cave shrine route or the shorter 14-km-long Baltal cave shrine route to perform the Yatra.

Those using the Pahalgam route take four days to reach the cave shrine, while those taking the Baltal route reach back to the base camp the same day after having 'darshan' inside the cave shrine.

The cave shrine, situated 3,888 metres above sea level, houses an ice stalagmite structure that wanes and waxes with the phases of the moon.

Devotees believe that the ice stalagmite structure symbolises the mythical powers of Lord Shiva.

Extensive security arrangements have been made this year all along the nearly 300-km-long Jammu-Srinagar highway, at the twin Yatra routes, the two base camps, and the cave shrine to ensure a smooth and incident-free Yatra.

More than 124 'langars' (community kitchens) have been set up along both the routes and also at transit camps and the cave shrines.

More than 7,000 'sevadars' (volunteers) are serving the Yatris during this year's Yatra.

To manage the rush of the Yatris, the Railways have decided to add additional trains starting July 3.

Helicopter services are also available for the Yatris on both routes.

### Two rusted shells found, destroyed by security forces in Jammu

Meanwhile, a case has been registered in this regard and investigation has been taken up.

### Army troops fire at Pakistani Drone along LoC in Poonch

Indian territory and two more rounds were fired at it following which it returned to the other side, they said.

Army troops launched a search operation in the forward villages with the first light of the day to ensure that there was no dropping of weapons or narcotics by the drones, they said.

The Jammu and Kashmir Police has announced a cash reward of Rs 3 lakh to anyone giving information about drones flown from across the border to drop weapons and narcotics, leading to the recovery of the material.

### MeT predicts rains, thundershowers in J&K parts till July 15

Jammu division and isolated places of Kashmir division.

From July 11 to 13 there is a possibility of light to moderate spell of rain & thundershower at scattered to fairly widespread places with heavy rains at isolated places of Jammu division on July 12, the official said.

He added from July 14 to 15 likely there will be a brief spell of rain and thundershower at isolated places.

## Rail Link Project via Reasi to spur economic development: Khatana

**Directs hassle-free Government services to public at doorsteps**

Top News Report

REASI, July 9: In a significant move to address grassroots concerns, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) Er Gulam Ali Khatana concluded his two-day public outreach programme in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday.

The MP held a series of public darbars across various locations, including Talwara, Dharmari, Reasi, Arnas, and Bhomag, listening intently to the grievances of local residents. During his outreach programme, the MP was accompanied by former Minister Ajay Nanda, District Vice President Pawan Dev Singh, Vice Presidents Mohd Ikhlahk and Anil Sharma, ST Morcha District President Mohd Rafi, Minority Morcha, and other leaders.

The public darbars saw enthusiastic participation from locals who raised a multitude of issues affecting their daily lives. Primary concerns voiced by the constituents included inadequate



road infrastructure, erratic electricity supply, and water scarcity. These basic amenities, crucial for the development and well-being of the region, dominated the discussions throughout the day.

Responding to the concerns raised, Er Khatana took immediate action by directing the Reasi district administration to streamline their services. He emphasized the need for hassle-free delivery of government services, insisting that these should be made available to citizens at their doorstep. This directive aligns with the central government's vision of efficient and accessible governance.

Recognizing the gravity of some issues that require intervention at the highest level of the Union Territory administration, the MP sought special attention from Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha. Er Khatana assured the public that he would personally bring these matters to the Lt. Governor's notice, underlining his commitment to resolving the region's pressing problems.

In his address to the gathered citizens, Er Khatana reiterated the Union Government's dedication to inclusive development. "Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the government is committed

to serving the last citizen of this country without any discrimination," he stated. The MP's words echoed the central government's 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' (Together with all, Development for all) philosophy.

Highlighting India's progress under PM Modi's leadership, Er Khatana said, "India has achieved new heights in all sectors. This unending pace of development will continue to create more and more infrastructure." He pointed to various national achievements as testament to the country's growth trajectory.

The MP also shed light on a transformative project for the region - the rail link connecting Kashmir to the rest of the country via Reasi district. Describing it as a game changer, Er Khatana emphasized its potential to revolutionize the district's economy and create new employment avenues for local residents.

This extensive public

outreach programme by Er Gulam Ali Khatana underscores the government's efforts to bridge the gap between administration and citizens, especially in regions like Jammu and Kashmir that have historically faced developmental challenges. By conducting on-ground interactions and promising swift action, the MP has set a precedent for responsive governance.

As the two-day programme concluded, there was a palpable sense of optimism among the residents of Reasi district. The direct interaction with a senior parliamentarian and the assurance of their concerns being addressed at the highest levels of government have instilled hope for accelerated development in the region. The success of this outreach initiative may well serve as a model for similar programmes across Jammu and Kashmir, potentially ushering in a new era of participatory democracy and development in the Union Territory.

## Kavinder Gupta, Priya Sethi listen public grievances

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Kavinder Gupta, former Dy. CM and Priya Sethi, former Minister accompanied by Ankush Gupta, Incharge RMSA were listening to the public grievances at BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Kavinder Gupta, while listening to the grievances said that the Bharatiya Janata Party believes in the principle of ensuring the welfare of every person who was neglected and oppressed due to any reason. He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has framed all policies keeping in mind the interests of every section of society, proving the "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas" policy. It is due to these beneficial public welfare policies and works, people have elected the Modi government for the third time consecutively. He said that with the aim of furthering the services to the masses, the party has arranged



daily grievance camps in the headquarters.

Priya Sethi, while speaking on the occasion, said that the senior leaders of the party are sitting on a daily basis at party headquarters to attend to the public grievances. She said that the party has built up a responsive and proactive grievance redressal mechanism to address the issues of the masses in these grievance camps. She said that with the same responsiveness and commitment to the masses, senior party leaders are ensur-

ing that prompt remedial measures are taken for the issues put forth by the visitors.

Ankush Gupta, who dia-rized the issues, said that the senior leaders telephonically talked to the concerned departmental officials to resolve the issues and also issued letters to many of them.

Earlier, the people in the form of deputations presented an array of problems related to their day-to-day issues and the local development issues related to the departments like PDD, PWD, PHE, Revenue etc.

## 3 J&K Bn NCC Baramulla "Combined Annual Training Camp" held at NCC Training Academy Nagrota



Top News Report

NAGROTA, July 9: The 3 J&K Battalion of the National Cadet Corps (NCC), Baramulla, is proud to announce the ongoing NCC Camp in Nagrota district "Jammu".

The camp has attracted the presence of Senior Division 138 and Junior Division 362 cadets, total 500 hailing from remote border regions of North Kashmir -Uri, Kupwara, Handwara, Sopore, Pattan, Bandipora, Machil, Tangdhar, Srinagar Baramulla and Jammu. This remarkable initiative aims to foster patriotism, leadership, and discipline among the young cadets.

The NCC Camp serves as a unique platform for the cadets to engage in a series of Training activities including Drill, Weapon training, Map Reading, Radio Telephony etc which makes them physically fit & men-

tally agile. The camp also brings to fore the inert talent of cadets by conduct of various competitions like Debate, Painting, Volley ball etc on the occasion of Rajat Jayanti of Kargil Vijay Diwas series of activities like drawing competition, lectures & Natak are being conducted.

Brigadier Deepak Sajjanhar, SM the Group Commander of Srinagar Group, visited NCC Training Academy Nagrota the CATC camp site of 3 J&K NCC Battalion on 8th July. Upon arrival, he was accorded an impressive Guard of Honour from the cadets, followed by a formal briefing from the Commanding Officer Col M S Kumar.

Subsequently, he toured the training area and reviewed the training being imparted to cadets by the permanent Instructor (PI) staff and

the Associated NCC Officers (ANOs). He also inspected the living areas of the cadets. He interacted with the cadets by sharing valuable tips and anecdotes.

During his address to the cadets he emphasized the advantages of joining the NCC and motivated the cadets to participate in various NCC related activities. He also gave away prizes to the cadets who participated in Public speaking on Topic- War Heroes of Kargil.

He also interacted with Training staff and appreciated their perseverance and dedication to impart Training to the budding youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

The NCC Camp is an embodiment of the commitment towards nation-building and empowering the youth to become responsible citizens and be the torch bearers for new aspirational India.

## Chib emphasizes youth engagement, strategic importance of Upcoming Assembly Polls in J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Uday Bhanu Chib, former President of Youth Congress Jammu and Kashmir and presently National General Secretary of the Indian Youth Congress (IYC), underscored the pivotal role that youth must assume in the forthcoming Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. Engaging closely with the aspirations of young citizens, Uday Chib highlighted key policies of the Congress Party aimed at empowering and addressing the concerns of the youth demographic.

The senior Youth Congress leader was speaking during an interaction with youth of Wards No. 60, 59 and 38 in Jammu north Assembly segment. In the meeting, Hari Singh Chib, Vice President of JKPC, Surinder Kumar, Pummy Manhas, Surjeet Manhas, Digvijay Singh, Lucky Chib and Sher Singh were also present.

Reflecting on the strategic significance of the upcoming polls, Uday Chib articulated, "The upcoming Assembly elections represent a critical juncture for the future of Jammu and Kashmir. It is imperative



that the youth actively participate and contribute to shaping the direction of our state."

Uday Chib further recalled the impactful role played by youth during the recent Lok Sabha elections, where their enthusiastic support bolstered the INDIA Alliance nationwide. He urged the youth of Jammu and Kashmir to sustain this momentum, emphasizing, "The youth have demonstrated their potential to effect positive change. Their involvement in the upcoming Assembly polls will be decisive in determining the course of our state's future."

Acknowledging the challenges and opportunities ahead, Uday Chib outlined the commitment of Congress to fostering an inclusive environment where the aspirations of every citizen, especially the youth, are prioritized. "Our policies are designed to empower the youth with opportunities

for education, employment, and leadership," he affirmed.

Hari Singh Chib, in his address, emphasized the Congress party's commitment to engaging with all segments of society, with a special focus on the youth, to forge a constructive future for Jammu and Kashmir. He urged the people of the region to responsibly exercise their democratic rights and actively participate in shaping the state's destiny.

Hari Singh appealed to the residents to lend their support to the Congress Party in the forthcoming Assembly elections, highlighting their agenda for fostering equitable development across Jammu and Kashmir. He underscored the importance of unity and collective effort in achieving progress and prosperity, emphasizing that inclusive governance and shared aspirations are pivotal to realizing the state's full potential.

## Army organizes Summer School for Gujjar, Bakarwals Children at Ichini

Top News Report

RAJOURI, July 9: Indian Army has been taking continuous steps to improve the educational and societal standards of the residents by implementing various Sadbhavana projects. In order to engage and encourage children of Gujjar - Bakarwals, Indian Army is conducting a Summer School for them.

The summer school was started on 08 July 24 at Ichini. A total of 40 children including girls are attending the school. Summer School offers

opportunities to children to learn new things, in addition to providing impetus to Personality Development.

Officials of the Indian Army interacted with children to explain the aim of the summer school and exhorted all participants for hearty participation for their own holistic personality development.

The main intention of organising the camp was to develop innovative thinking through motivational classes, espouse esprit-de corps, camaraderie, sense of adventure and instil motivation to learn.

## Army conducts medical patrol for Gujjar, Bakarwals at Hatta Seri

Top News Report

RAJOURI, July 9: Medical patrols play a crucial role in the remote underdeveloped areas of south of Pir Panjal region by providing essential health care service to underserved communities particularly those residing in far-flung areas. Indian Army at Hatta Seri, Rajouri district carried out a medical patrol in conjunction with area domination patrols especially for

Gujjar and Bakarwal communities.

These medical patrols aim to provide essential medical assistance and healthcare services to remote areas where access is limited.

The initiative underscores Indian Army's commitment to the welfare of Gujjar and Bakarwal communities, thus ensuring that no one is left behind in receiving crucial medical attention while migrating to their summer locations.

## Chugh pays homage to Kathua terror attack killed soldiers

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh, who is also the party incharge for J&K, paid a rich tribute to the five soldiers who died in a militant attack in Kathua region and said "It was a sign of Pakistan ISI's nervous reaction to the peace and development that has come about in J&K during the tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi".

Reacting strongly to the targeted attacks being made on the soldiers, Chugh said it reflected panic and desperations among the ISI-sponsored ranks.

He said ever since the peaceful Lok Sabha elections in J&K there has been a calculated design



to challenge the law and order situation in J&K.

The Pakistan ISI-sponsored anti-national forces would be decisively defeated, said Chugh adding that the pace of development and progress in the union territory would not be allowed to slow down in any case.

"I extend my heartfelt condolences to the families of our brave soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Their martyrdom will not go in

vain. This heinous act is a stark reminder of the evil forces that seek to disrupt peace and stability in our region", said Chugh.

The people here have given a befitting reply to Pakistan, which is reflected in the high voter turnout in the recent Lok Sabha elections. This is a big slap on the face of Pakistan, as the Kashmiri people are now standing with India.

He said people of J&K want to move fast on the path of growth and development and it was amply reflected in the high turnout of voters in the last Lok Sabha election here.

Chugh promised that the security forces have unleashed a relentless war against terrorists and it would usher in a new era in J&K.

## Army holds lecture on Traffic Awareness at Suigarh

Top News Report

DODA, July 9: In order to raise awareness on traffic rules, an awareness lecture on Road Traffic Accidents was conducted for the youth and residents at Suigarh.

Due to the sudden increase in road accidents in the region, a need was felt to take up an initiative for road safety and awareness drive, in which an interactive lecture and discussion was carried out among locals for awareness and adherence

of safety measures on traffic rules at Secondary High School, Bhella.

A total of 32 locals attended the awareness lecture. Attendees were also made aware about road symbols and road etiquettes.

Principal, Secondary High School, Bhella educated the youth about the road marking and safety measures like wearing of seat belts, helmet and to avoid drunken driving.

He also informed about the offences related to road safety and the penalties associated with them.

## Hyundai onboards 20 para athletes under 'Samarth Para-Sports Programme'

Top News Report

ROHTAK/JAMMU, July 9: In a monumental announcement on Monday, Hyundai Motor India Foundation (HMIF) onboarded 20 para-athletes for a period of three years under its 'Samarth Para-Sports Programme'.

This initiative, in collaboration with NGO partner GoSports Foundation, is part of Hyundai Motor India Limited's broader 'Samarth by Hyundai' initiative.

The 'Samarth Para-Sports Programme' is designed to offer structured support to para-athletes, including financial aid, expert sports science guidance, access to assistive devices, soft skill development assistance and mentorship from renowned coaches and experts to the selected 20 para-athletes.



The selected athletes include 15 emerging (aged 13 & above) and 5 elite (aged 16 and above) para-athletes from across India. The para athletes will receive the resources and mentorship needed to excel at a global level, representing the indomitable spirit of India.

Unsoo Kim, MD Hyundai Motor India Limited, said, "At Hyundai Motor India Limited, we are committed to fostering a world where each individual can contribute meaningfully. The Samarth Para-Sports Programme aligns with our vision of 'Progress for Humanity' and aims to foster an inclusive society where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. By supporting Para-athletes, our endeavor is to showcase their incredible talent on a world stage and give them a chance to pursue

their passions. My best wishes to the GoSports Foundation and all the selected 20 para-athletes. I am sure these athletes will inspire countless others with their courage and determination and make India proud."

Deepthi Bopaiha, CEO, GoSports Foundation said, "GoSports foundation has been a pioneer who has institutionalized support to para-athletes and we are looking forward to creating a larger change with Hyundai Motor India Foundation's Samarth Para Sports Programme. We aim to establish a platform for young and talented para-athletes to thrive and reach the pinnacle of para-sports, Paralympics. We are confident that with the right support and approach, we will be able to make India a great sporting nation."

## Novak Djokovic gets into it with Wimbledon fans after reaching quarterfinals

*Djokovic easily beat 15th-seeded Holger Rune 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 in just over two hours Monday night*

LONDON, Jul 9 (Agencies): Maybe the Centre Court spectators were saluting Novak Djokovic's opponent by saying his name. Maybe they were booing Djokovic, trying to rattle him. The 24-time Grand Slam champion was sure it was the latter — and he let everyone know he was not happy about it. Djokovic easily beat 15th-seeded Holger Rune 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 in just over two hours Monday night to reach the Wimbledon quarterfinals, then made sure to get a message across to those fans he thought were against him.



Gooooood night. Gooooood night. Very goooooood night," he said, stretching out the "Os" in "good" so they sounded like "boo."

The interviewer tried to dissuade Djokovic from thinking anyone was trying to taunt him.

Rune's supporters at various tournaments often will stretch out his last name, saying, "Ruuuuuune!" — which sounds rather similar to "Booooo!" — and that happened again Monday.

During his on-court postmatch interview, Djokovic spoke briefly about the match, but then veered into a discussion about the people in the stands.

"To all the fans that have respect and that stayed here tonight: Thank you very much from the bottom of my heart. I appreciate it. And to all those people that have chosen to disrespect the player — in this case, me — have a gooooood night.

"They were. They were. They were. I don't accept it. I know they were cheering for Rune. But that's an excuse to also boo," Djokovic said.

"Listen, I've been on the tour for more than 20 years. So trust me, I know all the tricks. I know how it works. It's fine. It's fine. It's OK. I focus on the respectful people, that have respect, that paid (for) a ticket to watch

tonight — and love tennis. And love tennis. And appreciate the players and the effort that the players put in here."

At his news conference later, Djokovic was asked whether he thinks the All England Club should do something to curb rowdy fan behaviour.

"Look, I don't know what Wimbledon can really do about it. I mean, in those particular moments when it happens, the crowd paid their tickets. They have the right to be there and cheer the way they want to cheer. That's absolutely something they choose — how they behave or how they choose to support the player is really up

to them," Djokovic responded. "Yes, you could argue maybe a chair umpire or whoever can step in in certain moments and calm them down, but there's not much you can do. You're not going to take out the whole section of the crowd or stadium because they're misbehaving or showing disrespect."

Rune — who got off to a terrible start in the match, dropping the first 12 points — didn't make much of it all.

"If you don't know what was happening, probably it sounded like boo," he said.

"He was just better than me today," Rune said. "Whether the crowd was this or that, I think it was great support for both players, to be honest."

When the match ended, Djokovic gestured as if he were playing a violin, maybe mockingly indicating he felt bad for anyone in the arena that he had saddened by winning and getting to the quarterfinals at the All England Club for the 15th time.

He has won the championship at Wimbledon seven times and was the runner-up to Carlos Alcaraz last year.

"I played in much more hostile environments, trust me," Djokovic said. "You guys can't touch me."

## With 10 Tests ahead, Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli might skip 3-match ODI series against Sri Lanka



NEW DELHI, Jul 9 (Agencies): India skipper Rohit Sharma and premier batter Virat Kohli are likely to be rested for the three-match ODI series against Sri Lanka in August and either Hardik Pandya or KL Rahul will be asked to lead the side.

It is understood that Indian cricket's biggest contemporary stars have sought a longish break from the BCCI, considering the grueling last three months

since the start of IPL.

For 37-year-old Rohit, it has been close to six months that he took a break. The Mumbaier played every series since the South Africa Test series in December-January, followed by Afghanistan T20Is, England Test series, IPL and the recently-concluded T20 World Cup.

"Both are automatic choices in ODI set up and the three 50 over games against England before the Champions Trophy is good enough

practice for them. For next few months, they both will prioritize Tests and India will play 10 of them between September to January," a BCCI source told agency on conditions of anonymity.

India play 2 Tests versus Bangladesh, followed by three against New Zealand before the big-ticket five Test Border Gavaskar Trophy against Australia Down Under.

It is understood that selectors as well as the two seniors would like to manage their workload judiciously.

"The Champions Trophy will happen in mid-February and they don't need to go for a week-long 3 match ODIs in Sri Lanka. If they want, they are most welcome but I guess they would want rest," the source added.

In Rohit's absence, Pandya looks the most likely choice but KL Rahul, who led the ODI squad in South Africa can't be ruled out either.

## "Salary Negotiation" Forces BCCI Delay In Gautam Gambhir Head Coach Announcement: Report

NEW DELHI, Jul 9 (Agencies): The Indian cricket team remains without a designated head coach, as Rahul Dravid's tenure in charge of the team ended with the conclusion of the T20 World Cup 2024. A second-string Indian team has travelled to Zimbabwe for a 5-match T20I series, but with the head of National Cricket Academy (NCA), VVS Laxman, filling in the vacant head coach role temporarily. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has already interviewed two candidates for the job - Gautam Gambhir and VV Raman-with the former expected to take up the role.



announcement is due to the ongoing salary negotiation between Gambhir and the board. Alongside Dravid, the coaching stint of his staff, including batting coach Vikram Rathour, bowling coach Paras Mhambrey, and fielding coach T Dilip has ended. After Gambhir's appointment becomes official, the board needs to start working on the process of hiring other coaches too.

It has also been reported, that the board plans to give Gambhir a complete free hand as far as the selection support staff is concerned. A batting coach might

not even be hired as Gambhir himself was a top-level opening batter during his playing days. BCCI secretary Jay Shah had earlier said: "Both coach and selector appointments will be made shortly. CAC has interviewed and short-listed two names and after reaching Mumbai whatever they have decided we will go by that."

VVS Laxman is going to Zimbabwe but new coach will join from Sri Lanka series."

The Indian team is scheduled to tour Sri Lanka for three T20Is and as many ODIs starting July 27.

## 'Face Of Indian Boxing' Nikhat Zareen Defied Taunts To Dream Of Olympic Glory

NEW DELHI, Jul 9 (Agencies): Nikhat Zareen defied taunts to succeed Mary Kom as the face of Indian boxing and now wants to add an Olympic medal to her growing list of achievements. Already a two-time world champion and Commonwealth Games gold medalist, Zareen is among the favourites in the women's 50kg category in Paris. "I am blessed and grateful to have achieved my dream of becoming a world champion," the 28-year-old said in the build-up to the Games. "Now I want to fulfil my second dream of winning an Olympic medal."

Zareen's route to the top has not been easy. Born into a conservative Muslim family in the south-central state of Telangana, Zareen first came across boxing when her father took her for running training.

"Once, when we were at the stadium, there were girls participating in every sport apart from



boxing," Zareen told the Olympics.com website.

"I asked my father why there were no girls competing in boxing. Is boxing only for boys?"

Aged 12, her first sparring session ended up with a black eye and a bloody nose. That only inspired her.

"How did she beat me up so badly?" she recalled saying of her first time in the ring.

"I will return the favour the next time," Zareen vowed.

Many Indian families frown on women choos-

ing sport as a career, and her mother tried to stop her from pursuing her boxing dreams.

The third of four sisters, Zareen ploughed on despite the family opposition and the taunts of neighbours.

Zareen said that as a girl, and a Muslim, she became acutely aware that societal rules imposed "limits" on what she was supposed to do, she told the Times of India newspaper.

"Often girls don't try to come out of that comfort zone," she added.

"Their dreams remain just dreams."

Expectations and pressure

The path to the top in women's boxing is a difficult one, pioneered in India by Kom who rose to global recognition for her exploits in the ring over two decades.

Now 41 years old, Kom overcame poverty, and an initially disapproving father, to win six world championships between 2002 and 2018, Olympic bronze in 2012 and both Asian and Commonwealth Games golds.

Her life story was made into a Bollywood movie in 2014, where Kom was played by superstar Priyanka Chopra. But for all her achievements in the ring, Kom never managed to win Olympic gold.

Zareen first showed her promise when she won a junior world cup event aged 15.

She then lost an ill-tempered and controversial showdown with Kom in 2019 which led to Zareen missing out on

a chance to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics.

Zareen put the disappointment behind her to win back-to-back world titles in 2022 and 2023.

Zareen knows those achievements will add to the pressure on her to deliver in Paris.

She said she was "excited" about the Paris Olympics but nervous "because people have lots of expectations from me".

Before competing she calms herself by chatting with family and close friends.

"Before going to the venue I listen to music, I pray and I play games which get me distracted from the nervousness," she said.

Zareen has to pinch herself when she thinks of herself as a double world champion and role model for aspiring women boxers.

"I never thought a girl who was once a challenger could be the face of Indian boxing," she said.

## Focus On Yashasvi Jaiswal's Batting Position As stronger India Ready To Face Zimbabwe In 3rd T20I

HARARE, Jul 9 (Agencies): India will find it tough to choose between Yashasvi Jaiswal's seemingly effortless flamboyance and Abhishek Sharma's uber-cool aggression at the top when they rejig their combination to make space for World Cup-winning squad members in the third T20 International against Zimbabwe in Harare on Wednesday. The arrival of Jaiswal, Sanju Samson and Shivam Dube, all of whom were part of the main team during the title-winning run last month, gives the Indian team a formidable look in the most important game of the series as visitors look to press home the advantage after the booster shot of a series-leveling 100-run victory in the second match.

Abhishek, the left-handed opener, did enough to live up to his pre-series hype with a 46-ball century in only his second game and did look the part opening the innings.

However, Jaiswal, with a handsome strike rate of 161 plus in 17 T20I matches, including a hundred and four half-centuries, does

have the first claim to be skipper Shubman Gill's opening partner by virtue of being the reserve opener of the first-choice T20 team.

Although rare but it is not uncommon for batters to be dropped in the very next match after a milestone innings.

Case in point were Manoj Tiwari, immediately after his maiden ODI hundred against the West Indies in 2011, and Karun Nair after his triple hundred in a Test match against England in 2016.

But skipper Gill is unlikely to let that happen with his best friend since their U-14 days and someone who scored his first international ton with a willow borrowed from the former.

So, it could well be a case of one of the two southpaws batting at one drop. Sanju Samson, who normally bats at No. 3 for Rajasthan Royals, might come in at No.5, while Rituraj Gaikwad, who batted at No.3, will probably drop down a place to No.4.

As far as the changes in the playing eleven are concerned, Jaiswal is likely to



replace B Sai Sudharsan, who was selected only for the first two games.

Samson will come in place of Dhruv Jurel, who had a good outing behind the stumps.

Dube, the only player who was a part of T20 World Cup playing XI, is likely to walk in to replace Riyan Parag. The imposing batter could be an even bigger nemesis for the Zimbabwean spinners during the back-10.

As far as Zimbabwe is concerned, their batting has left a lot to be desired with scores of 115 while batting first and 134 in the second essay chasing 235.

On the Harare Sports Club track where there is a bit of extra bounce available for the spinners, Ravi Bishnoi (6/24 from 8 overs) and Washington Sundar (3/39 in 8 overs) have proved to be unplayable at times.

Bishnoi, who normally bowls 20 to 22 googlies in his 24 balls per match, has varied his pace brilliantly and with home skipper Sikandar Raza being kept quiet, the other batters haven't looked good enough to counter the Indian bowling attack.

The 13-run shock defeat in the opener was a timely wake-up call for the young visiting side and it did well to play without

five specialist bowlers in the second game where batting first became an advantage.

For skipper Gill, a good score would be a necessity after two dry games and he is just too good a player to fail thrice. That could prove to be an ominous sign for the home team bowlers, who don't have even one guy with express pace.

In a nutshell, it could be another one-sided game.

India: Shubman Gill (captain), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Abhishek Sharma, Rituraj Gaikwad, Sanju Samson (wk), Shivam Dube, Rinku Singh, Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Avesh Khan, Mukesh Kumar, Riyan Parag, Dhruv Jurel, Khaleel Ahmed, Tushar Deshpande.

Zimbabwe: Sikandar Raza (captain), Faraz Akram, Brian Bennett, Johnathan Campbell, Tendai Chatara, Luke Jongwe, Innocent Kaia, Clive Madande, Westly Madhevere, Tadiwanashe Marumani, Wellington Masakadza, Brandon Mavuta, Blessing Muzarabani, Dion Myers, Antum Naqvi, Richard Ngarava, Milton Shumba.

# BJP failed to maintain peace in J&K, how long will we endure martyrdom: Shiv Sena

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit has strongly condemned the cowardly attack on Indian soldiers by terrorists in Kathua of Jammu division on Monday, in which 5 soldiers including Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) were martyred, demanded to teach a tough lesson to Pakistan. Along with this, taking a strong dig at the central government of BJP, all the claims of establishing peace in Jammu and Kashmir have been termed hollow. In a press conference held today at the party's state central office, state chief Manish Sahni said that till when will we toler-



ate the martyrdom of our soldiers. The time has come to teach a lesson to Pakistan by taking strong retaliatory action against its nefarious activities. Sahni termed all the claims of the central government regarding

peace restoration proven hollow. Sahni said that the terrorist organizations active in Jammu and Kashmir have established their foothold in Jammu division along with Kashmir. The army and innocent people are

being targeted by hiding in the dense forests and hilly areas here. Sahni said that in the last one month, 6 terrorist attacks have taken place in Jammu division, while this is the second major terrorist attack in Kathua

district in a month. In these attacks, 10 civilians have died and 5 soldiers have made the supreme sacrifice. Earlier, on June 9, terrorists had ambushed a bus carrying pilgrims from Shiv Khodi temple in Reasi district. After the firing by the terrorists, the bus fell into the ditch. In this, 9 people lost their lives, while 41 people were injured. Sahni warned the terrorist organizations and the local people helping them to refrain from nefarious and cowardly acts. Along with this, a demand has been raised for the intelligence agencies to be extra vigilant and to conduct thorough investigation of the forest and hilly areas.

# Dimple leads anti Pakistan protest



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Sunil Dimple, the President of Mission Statehood, has led protests across various locations in Jammu against Pakistan in response to recent attacks on army trucks that resulted in the martyrdom of a JCO and five soldiers. During the protests, Pakistan flags and effigies of ISI, Hafeez Saeed, Azhar Masood, and Lashkar-e-Taiba were burnt, with Dimple denouncing these figures and entities as responsible for the cowardly terrorist acts. Addressing the demonstrators, Dimple criticized what he sees as a complete failure of the BJP-led NDA government and security agencies in controlling terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. He demanded the resignation of LG Manoj Sinha and criticized the BJP

government for allegedly exploiting the situation for political gain without effectively curbing militancy post the abrogation of Article 370. Dimple highlighted the worsening security situation in peaceful areas of Jammu due to what he perceives as the central government's reluctance to hold assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. He pointed out increased attacks and targeted killings across various districts in the Jammu region, emphasizing weak border security and rising infiltration. He called for Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah to address these issues in Parliament and suggested convening a special session dedicated to the militancy situation in Jammu and Kashmir. Dimple urged the Director General of J&K Police and security forces to im-

tiate an all-out operation to eliminate ISI modules operating in the region. Additionally, Sunil Dimple advocated for India to conduct surgical strikes and engage in war with Pakistan to liberate Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK) and Gilgit-Baltistan, integrating them into Jammu and Kashmir state. He expressed full support from Mission Statehood to the Indian Army in achieving these objectives and declared the firm stance that Jammu and Kashmir is and will remain an integral part of India. Other leaders including Narender Sharma, Sunil Bamba, Bhart Bhushan Bhat, Vishal Kapoor, Sameer Gupta, and others also voiced their support during the protests, echoing Dimple's sentiments against Pakistan and solidarity with Indian security forces.

# DFSS organizes protest against Pakistan



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Under the leadership of President Ashok Gupta, the Dogra Front and Shiv Sena (DFSS) organized a large-scale protest in Jammu city to vehemently protest against Pakistan. The protest was fueled by recent terrorist attacks across various districts of Jammu, including Gandoh, Doda, Reasi, and Kathua, resulting in civilian deaths, injuries to security personnel, and the loss of Indian Army soldiers. During the protest, an effigy symbolizing Prime

Minister Shahbaz Sharif of Pakistan was burned, accompanied by chants of "Pakistan Hai Hai," underscoring the intense anti-Pakistan sentiment among participants. Gupta expressed deep concern over the redeployment of troops away from certain areas due to the Ladakh standoff with China, which he pointed out has created opportunities for terrorists to exploit and conduct attacks in Jammu. In his address, Gupta offered heartfelt condolences to the families of the soldiers martyred in the Badnora attack, emphasizing national

unity in the face of terrorism. He strongly advocated for a united, apolitical response against Pakistan, labeling it a "terror nation" responsible for sponsoring militant activities in the region. Gupta urged for decisive military action to be taken against Pakistan, asserting that it should be dealt with firmly using forceful measures to eliminate its influence. The protest was attended by party members, including Bantu, Prem, Kalu, Raju, Ganesh, Vikram, Rampal, Vinay, Abhishek, Raman, Sundar and others.

# Army convoys should be equipped with state-of-the-art drone technology: Chandel

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Hinduist Sanatani leader and National Valmiki Army President Raju Chandel, while talking to journalists, said that the mercenaries of Pakistan have completely lost their cool. The way they are continuously attacking our Indian Army is a cowardly act. Recently, our Indian Army is hunting terrorists in Anantnag, Kokarnag, Kashmir, Jammu etc. areas. Chandel said that the way terrorists suddenly ambushed the army convoy in Kathua district of Jammu and a large number of our soldiers were martyred in it, it has now become unbearable. The country's Defense Minister should immediately attack Pakistan and wipe out this terrorist country from the world map, he said adding that our forces are fully prepared to give a befitting reply to traitor Pakistan. Chandel said that how long will we keep sacrificing the lives of our innocent soldiers? I want to appeal to the country's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Defense



Minister Rajnath Singh to attack the cowardly traitor Pakistan by giving a strong message. Chandel said that drone systems with such technology should be used against terrorists so that whenever an army convoy passes by road, they can know about the terrorist activities happening in the area from a distance and those terrorists can be eliminated sitting with the help of drones. Every convoy should be provided with the most modern drone system so that drone search operations can be conducted ahead of every convoy and the movement of terrorists can be detected immediately.

# Qazi Faheem meets with Party President G M Shaheen to discuss key issues



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 9: JD(U) State organiser Qazi Faheem held a pivotal meeting with Party President G M Shaheen and State General Secretary Vivek Bali to address several pressing matters. The discussion focused on a range of burning

issues affecting the community and party strategy moving forward. The meeting was marked by a shared commitment to resolving critical concerns and implementing effective solutions. Key topics included strategies for improving public welfare, strengthening party unity,

and addressing current socio-political challenges. G M Shaheen emphasized the importance of collective effort and innovative approaches to navigate the current landscape. Vivek Bali echoed these sentiments, highlighting the need for robust communication and grassroots involvement to ensure the party remains attuned to the needs of the people. Qazi Faheem expressed his appreciation for the collaborative spirit of the meeting and reaffirmed his dedication to working closely with party leadership to drive positive change. The trio agreed to continue their dialogue and cooperation in the coming weeks to refine their action plans. This meeting underscores the party's proactive stance in addressing urgent issues and its unwavering commitment to serving the community with integrity and determination.

# Ashok Gupta nominated as Member Samparak BVP National Team

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 9: Ashok Gupta Vice-President Sanskar Purmukh elevated as one of six members National Team of Bharat Vikas Prishad this was disclosed in a communique issued here from Centre. Ashok Gupta was honored by State Patron of BVP JK Prant. Member National Team NGSC Arun Sharma, Regional secretary sewa Dr Bharat Bhushan prant president, Secretary General Shiv Ram Sharma state Vice President Samparak Parmukh BVP JK Prant Vijay Sharma Organizing Secretary Romesh, Mahila Parmukh Madhu, Gurmeet Singh, Jagjit Singh Ishar Executive of Environment were present.



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