TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper

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BRIEFLY

Two minor brothers drown to death in Bonjwah

JAMMU, Jul 10 (Agencies): Two minor brothers lost their lives when they were bathing and they drowned in a stream in the Bonjwah area of Kishtwar.

An official told that two boys namely Nasir Hussain (16) and yasir Hussain (13) both sons of Mohd Shafi Zargar resident of Gundoo Tehsil Chilli Pingil Disat Doda drowned to death in Kishtwar.

He said that soon after the incident police party rushed on the spot with the local people and searched for the boys in the stream and after around four hours the dead bodies of the boys found and after completing the legal formalities dead body of both the boys have been handed over to

their legal heirs. Meanwhile police have taken cognizance and started an investigation.

Illegal felling of green gold continue in **Forest Dhandal**

DODA, Jul 10 (Agencies): Green trees worth millions of rupees have been illegally chopped off in compartment no. 07 & 08 in the forest block of Dhandal Saraj range forest division

There is an illegal large-scale felling of trees Pine trees in Doda Division. The concerned forest employees specially guard are responsible for the decrepit condition of the forest and should be punished by the administration for not only damaging environment, but also causing huge damage to the state exchequer.

Going by the pace of cutting, the green gold is dwindling in this reserve forest area and more and more illegal forest cutting are coming up without any check.

When contacted DFO Doda he didn't pick the phone call, but replied in WhatsApp chat that this will be verified and strict action will be taken against culprits and delinquent officials.

Parents to be **punished** if minors found driving. warns Noida Police

NOIDA, Jul 10 (Agencies): The Gautam Buddh Nagar Police Commissionerate has issued a stern warning to parents regarding the operation of two-wheelers and four-wheelers by individuals under 18

years of age.

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Two smugglers held with 108 kg gold in Ladakh: ITBP

LEH, Jul 10 (Agencies): Two smugglers have been arrested in the Nyoma sector of the Leh district of Ladakh on the charges of smuggling several kilograms of gold from China.

A statement issued said that two smugglers with horses were caught by 21BN ITBP, in general area Zursar, near PP 54, with 109 kilogram gold.

The individuals as per the statement have been identified as Tsering Chamba (age 69 approx)



son of Norbu Doriee: and Tenzin Targy (40),

son of Shafel Wangdur. both residents of Koyul,

Giving details, the statement said that on 9th July, 2024 at around 01:30/02:00 PM 21st Battalion, ITBP launched a Long Range Patrolling (LRP) in the border areas in Southern Sub Sector in Eastern Ladakh of (in general area Chismule. Narbula top, Zakle and Zakla) to check infiltration as well smuggling as this is summer and activities are heightened around this season also some

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Over 4,600 pilgrims leave Jammu base camp to join Amarnath Yatra

JAMMU, Jul 10 (Agencies): Amid heavy rains, more than 4,600 pilgrims left Jammu city in the early hours of Wednesday for the twin base camps in Kashmir to join the annual Amarnath Yatra, officials said.

This was the 13th batch of pilgrims that left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here for Baltal and Pahalgam base camps in Kashmir.

The batch of 4,627 pilgrims left in 185 vehicles around 3 am amid chants of "Bum Bum Bholey".



They were escorted by a CRPF contingent amid area dominations by the Army, the officials said. While 2,773 pilgrims left in 95 vehicles through the 48-km traditional Pahalgam route, 1,854 devotees left in 90 vehicles

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'State' in PSA order includes **UT of Jammu Kashmir: HC**

SRINAGAR, Jul 10 (Agencies): The High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh recently clarified that the term "State" under the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978 (PSA) includes the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir

The Court, therefore,

dismissed an argument that a person could no longer be put in preventive detention under the PSA by citing acts prejudicial to the security of the "State" of Jammu and Kashmir because Jammu and Kashmir has been "Union Territory" since

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Army Commander asks troops to be prepared for future challenges

LEH/JAMMU, Jul 10 (Agencies): Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General M V Suchindra Kumar on Wednesday visited forward areas along the Line of Control in Ladakh and asked troops to be prepared for future chal-

The Army commander also visited the Kargil



War Memorial in Drass, and paid homage to those who laid down their lives during Operation Vijay.

"Lt Gen M V Suchindra Kumar, Army commander northern command accompanied by GOC Fire and Fury corps visited units deployed along the Line of Control and reviewed operational preparedness of Forever in Operations division," the Northern Command

wrote on X.

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Action will be taken against schools demanding admission fee: DSEK

SRINAGAR, Jul 10 (Agencies): The Director of School Education Wednesday said that appropriate action will be taken on complaints against schools demanding admission fees.

Director School Education Kashmir, Tasaduq Hussain as per news agency Kashmir Scroll said the Fee Fixation and Regulation Committee (FFRC) in Jammu and Kashmir has issued directives to private schools to stop charging admission fee during the enrollment process.

This action follows numerous complaints from parents about

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Tractor driver dies in Tangmarg road accident

SRINAGAR, Jul 10 (Agencies): A tragic incident occurred in Nadergund village of Tangmarg, North Kashmir's Baramulla district, where a tractor driver lost his life after his vehicle overturned.

According to reports, Manzoor Ahmed Mir, a resident of Nadergund,

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Search Operation resumes in Doda J&K Police arrest key suspect for money to track hiding terrorists

JAMMU, Jul 10 (Agencies): Search operation was resumed on Wednesday in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district where firing exchanges have taken place between the security forces and the terrorists.

Officials said that the search operation that was suspended due to darkness and heavy rain



in the Goli-Gadi forests of the Doda district on Tuesday was resumed with the first light on Wednesday.

Firing exchanges took place for over two hours between the terrorists and the security forces in that area on Tuesday after which the terrorists escaped into the thickly forested Goli-Gadi area.

The officials said that the search operation has been resumed and the security forces are now Turn to page 9

laundering & stealing official secrets

JAMMU, Jul 10 (Agencies): J&K Police have arrested a key suspect involved in a multi-crore money laundering operation and stealing secret official documents having serious security implications.

Police sources said that the suspect identified as Tarun Bahl has been

arrested from his Channi Himmat residence in Jammu city and booked under the Official Secrets Act and Section 353/49 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

"He is currently being held on a four-day police remand as investigations continue. During interrogation, Bahl provided vital information that led to the discovery of an extensive money laundering network," said sources.

"His disclosures led to evidence linking Bahl to 125 bank accounts through which he laundered Rs 128 crore to cleanse illicit funds and reintroduce them into the financial system. The

■Turn to page 9



Muslim women can seek maintenance from husband under Sec 125 CrPC: **Supreme Court**

SRINAGAR, Jul 10 (Agencies): The Supreme Court has ruled that Muslim women are allowed to seek maintenance from their husbands under section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), which is applicable to all married women irrespective of religion. Reported by Live Law,

the apex court ordered that a Muslim woman is entitled to seek maintenance from spouse under 'religion neutral' Section 125 of CrPC.

A bench of Justices BV Nagarathna and Augustine George Masih, which pronounced a separate but concurrent verdict, said section 125 of the erstwhile CrPC which deals with wife's legal right to maintenance, covers Muslim women.

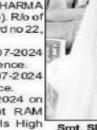
"We are hereby dismissing the criminal

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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.



Smt. SUDERSHAN SHARMA

Sh. Arjan Nath Raina

GRIEF STRICKEN. Son and Daughter in law -

Rajesh Sharma (Principal Education Dept.) and Smt. Jayoti Sasan (Education Dept.) Pavi Sharma (D.A.O Ramban Agriculture Dept.) and Smt. Meena Sharma (Education Dept.) Rakes h Sharma (Senior Pharmacist Health Dept.) and Smt. Neelam Sharma Daughter and Son in law -

Smt. Rajni Sharma and Rajesh Sharma Grand Sons - Athil Sharma, Nikhil Sharma, Anirudh Sharma, Sashiv Sharma. Grand Daughters- Aashima Sharma, Diyyasha Sharma, Rimji in Sharma.

Mob- 9419287740, 9419111310, 7006315844

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 Lai 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, Dhami Raina- Grand Children 9555027347, 9797580290, 9797555400

|BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform you that Sdn. Naresh Kour (Rozy) beloved wife of Sd. Parambir Singh R/o Mohalla Kohrinar, 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 Kohrinar, 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. Harnam Singh (Mother in law)

Sdn. Jagdish Kour (W/o Lt . S. Balwant Singh (Mother)

Contact: 9622136177, 8899978812

TENTH DAY KRIYA

T 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, I BADLI BRIDGE (NEW TEMPLE), BAWANA ROAD, SECTOR 18, ROHINI, NEW DELHI, FOLLOWING KRIYA PWA, 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



Sdn. Naresh Kour (Rozy)

SMT. LAKSHMI SHORI (SHANTA JI)

DAUGHTER SMT. SUNITA KHAROO & SAMAST PARIVAR MOB: 8851749490, 9889432492

BARKHI

"It has been a year since you left us. yet your presence continues to inspire and guide us every day:

Your kindness and benevolence are deeply missed by all whose lives you touched."

We, the Bhagat family, invite relatives and friends to join us in prayer and remembrance on the occasion of the First Barsi of our beloved Mrs. Sudershan Bhagat. Please join. us in benering her memory on 11th July 2024 at 12:00 to 01:00 Pm followed by langar at Gurudwara Tali Saheb, Talab Tillo, Jammu.

Your presence will be greatly appreciated as we come together to commemorate her life and

WITH HEARTFELT GRATITUDE: Dr. O.P Bhagat (Husband) Sons & Daughter-In-Laws

Dr. Virender Bhagat & Dr. Seema Lachala Mr. Surinder Bhagat & Dr. Sapna Bhagat Mr. Kamal Singh

Grand Children

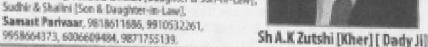
Kabeer Viren Bhagat & Hayah Bhagat



MRS. SUDERSHAN BHAGAT (20.03.1954 - 21.08.2023)



Sh A.K Zurtshi [Kher] [Budy R]. One year has passed, since you left us for eternal journey, but your memories are still firesh, and we feel your presence everywhere. Always shower your blessings on us. We pray to almightly for eternal peace. to your noble soul. Markar & Valuarvar will be performed on 11 & 12 July 2024 at our residence in Ghaziabad. DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY: Mrs Champa (wife), Psan Nath & Kanta ji [Brother & Bhabi], Shyama Ji Dhar [Sister], Bhushan Lal & Birnla ji (Bruther & Bhabi), Reena & Sanjay Pandita (Daughter & Son-in-Law], Sunaine & Ankit [Daughter & Son-in-Law],





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 & Saanvi - Grand Children

Contact Nos: 6005167807, 6005787407, 9469571203

With profound grief and sorrow; we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father S. Mohinder Pal Singh (Retd. Headmaster) S/o Late Sh. Mandev Singh R/o Rajbagh (UJH) Tehsil and Distt. Kathua who left for heavenly abode on dated Friday 05-07-2024.

ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH on Dated 10-07-2024 (Wednesday).

BHOG on dated 12-07-2024 (Friday) at Home

10TH DAY KRIYA & ANTIM ARDAS will be S. Mohinder Pal Singh held on dated 12-07-2024 at about 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Gurudwara Singh Sabha

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sdn. Amarit Kour- Wife (Retd. Teacher)

Dr. Harpreet Singh - Son Dr. Rayneet Singh - Son

Sudan, Sasan, laher Family

Contact No: 9905399084, 9419207718

MASWAR/VAHARWAR IN THE LOVING MEMORY OF MY **BELOVED FATHER**

Lt. SH. SHUBAN KRISHEN PANDIT One Year have passed since you left us for your journey to heavenly abode, though you are not with us, yet your loving memories are still fresh in our hearts. You lived a Noble, Honest and Graceful Life and will always be remembered for Your Love, Care and Kindness for all. That's because you had a HEART OF GOLD. You were strong to the very end, Physically you are not with us, but we miss you and feel your presence in every moment of our life. We pray to God to grant eternal peace to your Noble Soul.

MASWAR and VAHARVAR of our beloved Karamyogi Father Lt. Sh. Shuban Krishen Pandit S/o Lt. Sh. Radha Krishen Pandit Originally R/o Badiyar Balla, Srinagar will be performed on 11th & 12th July 2024 at One Year have passed since you left us for your jour-

Srinagar will be performed on 11th & 12th July 2024 at our Residence H. No. 101, Sec- B, Tirath Nagar, Talab

DEEPLY REMEMBERED & MISSED BY:

Smt. Vijay Pandit (Wife) Preeti Pandit & Ashwani Raina (Daughter & Son-In-law) Rahul Pandit & Ankita Sharma (Son & Daughter-In-law) Master Ahaan Pandit (Grand Son)

GRIEF STRICKEN SIDELIEVE PH NO: 8588839568, 9796071997, 9818885309,7006453648

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Karamyogi Sh. Jawahar Lal of Inder Pulwama at present H.No. 208 Vinayak Nagar Sec. 1st near Govt. M/S Muthi on 07-07-2024 (Sunday) at 8 PM.

10th Day Kriya will be held on 16-07-2024 Tuesday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu at 8:30 AM. GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Asha Ji (Bhabhi) 7006339638 Bhabhi & Brother

Smt. Ratni Ji & Sh. Moti lai Bhat (6006555892)

Smt. & Sh. Shuban Lai Ji (Nephew) 9419021632 Daughter & Son-in-law

Smt. Lovely Ji & Sh. Sanju Bhat - 9797512266 Sh. Ashwani Kumar - Nephew - 9419778105 Smt. Meenakshi Ji & Sh. Vicky Bhat - Daughter-In-law & Son.

每7条件将用19448 Grand Children: Shreya, Orish, Devansh

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 RESI-DENT 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 SMT ANJALI MISRI

AT 8.30 AM. GRIEF STRICKEN MISRI PARIVAR, SAPROO PARIVAR, KOUL PARIVAR

PH. NO. 9419164938, 7006808340

ONE YEAR HAS PASSED SINCE YOU LEFT US FOR HEAVENLY ABODE BUT YOU LOVING AND SWEET MEMORIES ARE STILL CHERISHED BY US AND ARE STILL AS FRESH AS EVER. YOU WILL STAY IN OUR HEARTS AND THOUGHTS.

BARKHI OF OUR BELOVED LT SMT SATYA DEVI SHARMA W/O LT SHRI K C SHARMA LT SMT SATYA DEVI WILL BE PERFORMED ON 11TH OF JULY AT 1200 PM AT OUR RESIDENCE, 169 SHASTRI NAGAR NEAR RAM MANDIR.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW ROOPALI KHAJURIA & COL ANIRUDH KHAJURIA **AND FAMILY MEMBERS**



SH. OMKAR NATH TURKI



(Retd. Headmaster)

Lt. SH. SHUBAN

KRISHEN PANDIT

Sh. Jawahar Lal

SHARMA

DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY:
(Sons & Daughters-In-law)
Sh. Vijay Tickoo & Smt. Neeshu Tickoo
Sh. Bansi Lai Tickoo & Smt. Bimla Tickoo
(Daughter & Son-in-law)
Smt. Usha Marhatta & Sh. P. N. Marhatta
(Sons-In-Law & Daughters)
Sh. Bushan Lal Raina HOL tate Smt. Bita Raina
Sh. Mk. Koul & Smt. Laita Koul
Sh. B. K. Raina & Smt. Veena Raina
Sh. M. L. Pandita & Smt. Nancy Pandita
(Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-Law)
Smt. Neena Marhatta Koul & Sandeep Koul
(Grand Sons & Grand Daughters-in-Law)
Sh. Rakesh Marhatta & Nisha Marhatta
Sh. Kanwal Raina & Smt. Anjail Raina
Grand Children: Yeshasvi, Ananya, Aksah, Anchal, Avishi, Atharva, Aryaman & Avyaansh
Contact No. 9419961424, 6006732765, 7889801185, 9545512591

TENTH DAY KRIYA the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Koshik Kumar Dhar S/o Bittu Ji Dhar in a

10TH DAY KRIYA

Office, Udhampur. The revered soul left for hear abode on 07-07-2024, at Udhampur. The Tenth Kriya will be held on 16-07-2024 Tuesday, at De

Ghat, Udhampur, at 08:00AM.

DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY:-

2024 at 10:30 am at our residence Lane No. 27, Block 173, Flat No. 19 Migrants Township Jagti, Nagrota. Grief Stricken :



TENTH DAY KRIYA With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved son Manol Kumar Bhat S/o Brij Lal Bhat Hera Mohalla Anantnag (Kmr) at present H No. -J/2-220 Sec-2 Durga Nagar Bantalab. who left for heavenly abode on 03-07-2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat (Nr

Directorate of School Education) on 12th of July 2024

GRIEF STRICKEN : Sh Brij Lai Bhat & Smt Bimia Ji (Father & Mother) Manoj Kumar Bhat Daughter & Son in law

Smt Meenu & Saniav Bhat Son & Daughter-in-law Mob. 7006210048/7006626175

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform you that Smt. Krishna Dhar (Thathi) W/o Sh.Bansi Lal Raina originally resident of Kathsu, Pahalgam, Kashmir and A/P H.No.3, Lane No 1,Sector-5, Last Morh, Bagwati Nagar, Jammu left for her heavenly abode on 4th July 2024 TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu on 13th July 2024 (Saturday) at *8.30 AM.



Tenth Day/Kriya We are heartbroken by your departure, you played your role beautifully now its time to re-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.

Nagar Jammu.

Kriya will be held on July 12, 2024, 12:30 PM.

House No. 26, Nitco Lane, Talab Tillo Jammu. Smt. Sushma Gupta GRIEF STRICKEN

Dr. Rahil Gupta & Dr. Procheta Chakravarti (SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW)

Dr. Ankta Gupta & Dr. Abhishek Dhawan(DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)

Devars & Devranis

Mr. Radha Krishen Gupta & Mrs Sushma Gupta

Mr.Bishan Dutt Gupta & Mrs Shalini Gupta

Mr.Bishan Charder Gupta & Mrs Shalini Gupta

(BHAGWATI MEDICINE TRADERS JAMMU)

Mr.Grithant Lai Gupta & Mrs. Bhawana Gupta

Mr.Gridhari Lai Gupta & Mrs.Bhawana Gupti GRANDCHILDREN: Atharv Dhawan 9419157087 8860437660 9419197878

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

ther Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhat, originally resident of Siwer (Lolab), Kashmir. Presently at Lane-2 Extn, Saraswati 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 Saturda
13-07-2024 at Muthi Ghat near Director Scho Education Jammu at 8:00 AM. GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Kanta Bhat -Wife
Smt. Sunita & Amit Kumar Bhat- Son & Daughter-in-law

Smt. Aniu Dhar & Sh. Sunil Dhar Sanvi, Elina & Demira Mob: 9149986988/ 7006862109

10TH DAY KRIYA With profound grief and sorrow, we regre to inform the sad demise of our belove

Father Sh. Dwarika Nath Thusoo originally resident of Karihama Kupwara Kashmir A/p 120/13 Jagti Township Nagrota Jammu on 06-07-2024. 10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed a Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of School Education Jammu on 15th of July 2024

GRIEF STRICKEN Sons & Daughters in Law Sh. Pran Nath Thusso & Smt Meenakshi Thusso Sh. Banerji Thusoo & Smt Anita Thusoo Grand Children

Sh. Rattan Lal Thusso & Sint Rattni Thusoo

Grand Children
Mir Mohti Thusoo
Miss Tejasvi Thusoo
Daughter & Son in Law
Smt Surja Bhat & Sh. Rattan lai Bhat
Brothers & Sisters in law
If Sh. Omkarnath Thusoo & Smt Pyari Ji Sisters & Brother in Laws
Smt Geurj & Late Sh. Sham Lei Pendita
Smt Nancy Bhat & Li Sh. Jawahar Lei Bhat
Smt Dhua Ji Dhar & Sh. Brij Nath Dher
CONTACT NO : 9622304576, 9469099604
Email Id: pnthusoo1964@gmail.com

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

"Top News of J&K" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."



Smt. Parmeshwari Tickoo









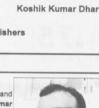










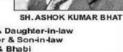












Smt. Preetu & Sandeep Koul -Daughter & Son-in-law Smt. Sudesh & M.L. Pandit - Brother & Bhabi Smt. Veena Ji Peshion W/o Lt. B.L. Peshion - Sister & Brother-in-law Smt. Bimla Bhat & Sh. G.L. Bhat -do-



SH. DWARIKA NATH THUSOO



Sh. Ramesh Kumar Tickoo



DISCLAIMER

BMS opposes termination of employees by J&K Cooperative Housing Corporation

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: The Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) vehemently criticized the management of the Jammu & Kashmir Cooperative Housing Corporation Ltd (J&K CHC) for what they described as dictatorial practices and severe mismanagement.

Harbans Choudhary a senior leader of BMS responsible for the Private/Public sector, led the conference and specifically targeted Bharat Bushan, the Managing Director (MD) of the corporation.

Choudhary accused the MD of illegally terminating the services of lowpaid employees who were affiliated with the Jammu Province Cooperative Housing Corporation Employees Union.

These terminations allegedly occurred because the employees



refused to participate in what they perceived as wrongful activities orchestrated by the management. According to the terminated employees, the corporation had purportedly created numerous housing societies on paper without developing corresponding infrastructure such as demarcated plots, boundary walls, road connectiv-

ity, and essential utilities like water and electricity.

The terminated employees claimed that whenever plot holders visited the sites to inspect their properties, they found undeveloped land without any promised facilities. This dissatisfaction reportedly led to confrontations with field staff, prompting the MD to retaliate by terminating those who failed

to pacify the disgruntled customers.

Moreover, Choudhary alleged that despite reaching retirement age four years ago, the MD continued in his role by manipulating board members. The BMS further criticized the Registrar Cooperative for allegedly ignoring written appeals and personal meetings regarding worker griev-

In light of these allegations, BMS called upon the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir and the Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, to initiate a CBI inquiry into the irregularities at J&K CHC.

They highlighted ongoing investigations by the state Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) into alleged financial improprieties and bad loans.

The press conference also addresses by other BMS leaders including Ashok Choudhary, Sangathan Mantri, Subash Chander, Ramesh Malhotra, Chuni Lal Kuldeep Raj, and Karnail Chhand.

BMS concluded by demanding the reinstatement of terminated workers and warned of future protests if their demands were not met, holding the Housing Corporation's management and MD accountable for any further consequences.

CITU organizes protest against anti-workers policies



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: Scores of workers from various sectors, both organized and unorganized, gathered to voice their grievances and protest against what they perceive as anti-worker policies of the govern-

The demonstrations included chants and slogans demanding better conditions for workers and farmers, and criticizing recent electoral outcomes.

Om Parkash, Working President of a labor organization, highlighted the dissatisfaction with the government's policies, particularly in areas such as livelihoods, unemployment, price rise, and the impact of privatization on workers and farmers.

He expressed concern over the erosion of labor rights and living conditions, emphasizing the need for intensified movements to challenge the government's direc-

Jagdish Sharma, General Secretary of the state committee of CITU, outlined specific demands

including the scrapping of labor codes and National Monetization policies, ensuring minimum wages of at least Rs. 26,000 per month, and halting privatization efforts in various sectors

He called for equal wages and benefits for contract workers compared to permanent employees, and emphasized the need for social security benefits and pensions for all workers. including those in informal sectors.

Kishore Kumar, President of J&K Kisan Tehrik, expressed concern over ongoing reforms and restructuring initiatives announced by the government, which he argued would burden the working class while benefiting major corporations.

He criticized the privatization drive through National Monetization Pipelines across infrastructure sectors such as telecom, mines, railways, highways, and ports.

Various other speakers from different unions and organizations voiced similar concerns and demands. Muzafar Wani, Vice President, and

Bikal Vaid, Treasurer of the J&K state committee of CITU, along with Other spoke on this occasion Muzafar Wani vice president, Jia Lal Prihar Secretary, Bikal Vaid treasurer of J&k state committee of CITU, Romesh Chand General secretary, Nirman Mazder Union Jammu, Jeet Raj, Liagat Ali President. Gobind Singh Sr. Vice President of Border Roads Casual Paid Workers union, Sunita Bhagat president. Anita Rajput General secretary ASHA Workers Union Jammu and others, highlighted specific issues affecting

The collective stance of the demonstrators reflected a unified call for the protection of labor rights, fair wages, job security, and social security benefits for all workers across sectors.

their respective sectors.

They vowed to intensify their protests and campaigns against what they perceive as detrimental policies imposed by the government, signaling a continued struggle for worker rights and social iustice in the face of ongoing economic reforms.

Congress committed to addressing people's local issues: Bhalla / Sawhney people, and people want



Top News Report

JAMMU. July 10: Working President JKPCC Raman Bhalla accompanied by former Minister J&K Yogesh Sawhney, ex-MLA Jammu East visited Jammu East Constituency on Wednesday to discuss concerns and issues of local residents. On visiting the ward, the ieaders first inaugurated a Bhandara at Ram Mandir Purani Mandi, Ward No. 4 Jammu East. Mahant Rameshwar Maharaj Ji had organised it for the devotees and pilgrims of Shri Amarnath Yatra and he honored the Congress leaders during the visit. After paying their respects at the temple, they toured the ward and met with locals who voiced their genuine concerns to them and sought their support. Bhalla assured the people of Congress party's commitment towards addressing these issues.

Speaking during the visit, Former Minister J&K and Working President PCC Raman Bhalla highlighted the recent fire incident at a local shop, attributing it to the faulty smart meters installed by the authorities. He strongly criticized the administration for their negligence, and mentioned the complete damage and loss suffered by the shop owner. He further stated that the suffered shopkeeper had received no compensation or support till now. The fire is a direct result of the poorly managed smart meter installations, he said, adding that it is unacceptable that the affected shop owner has not received any compensation for the huge losses. He further criticized the administration for their lack of response

and called for immediate action to address such safety hazards and look into helping out the affected local residents without further delay. The negligence and lack of action on part of the authorities is causing a lot of issues and obstructing the lives of local residents, he said.

The Working President of PCC also addressed broader issues faced by the residents of Ward No. 4, including poor infrastructure and inadequate maintenance of lanes. People expressed their issues to him and labeled the Smart City program as fraudulent, accusing the ruling BJP of failing to deliver on their promises. He stated that the Smart City program has been nothing but a facade, with no real improvements on the ground. The BJP has completely ignored the basic needs of our

is surprising to hear BJP to hold BJP accountable, leaders boast off about Bhalla asserted. He said Smart City program that on hearing the conimplementation in Jammu cerns of the local people, city when on ground the it is clear that the ground picture is very bleak. Smart meters and their situation in Jammu city is very dire. People are not problematic installation satisfied with the current state of affairs, and the to the common man. reality of things points to a complete neglect by administration, and govt. at the Centre, he said. It is very disappointing to hear of the people's issues which are related to basic amenities such as water, cleanliness, infrastructure, electricity and drainage. Such basic issues are being ignored by the local BJP leaders, administration, govt and it is leading to very poor quality of life for people in Jammu city, Bhalla Also speaking at the meeting, Yogesh Sawhthe locals. Sawhney said. Party is motivated to help

ney stated that the Congress party was dedicataddress all these issues ed in its aim of addressing he added. the concerns of the local populace. We are visiting the ward to listen to the people and ensure that their voices are heard. The current administration has failed to provide even the most basic amenities, and Congress party will continue to fight for the rights and welfare of the residents. Sawhnev said. He further added that the interaction were present. with local people helps to realise the genuine

is causing a lot of trouble however, people's voice has fallen on deaf ears of leaders of the current regime. Congress party also urges the administration to take remedial action in this regard and also provide reasonable compensation to the shopkeeper whose shop was damaged in a fire caused by faulty smart meters. Exorbitant electricity bills, poor drainage management, broken roads were other very troubling issues that were observed in the ward during the interaction with

Along with Raman Bhalla, Yogesh Sawhney senior leaders including Abhimanyu Singh, Varinder Manhas, Pawan Dev Singh, Ram Magotra, Chander Shekhar Sharma, Rahul Tandon, Rai Kumar Meenia, Ajay Kumar Kai, Vimal Kumar, Kuldeep Shukla, Surinder Kumar, Rishab Kohli, Mehul Abrol and others



UTGovt of Jammu and Kashmir Office of the Executive Engineer Electric Division-I, Parade, JPDCL-Jammu

> No: ED-I/2528-30 Dated: 08.07.2024

EXTENSION-II

Due to nil response, Extension of Tender No. e-NIT ED-I/e-NIT/20 of 2024-25 and tender ID tender ID 2024_PDD_249621_1 dated 08.06.2024 for " Rate Contract for Providing of DG sets on rent basis for installation at Different locations within the Jurisdiction of Electric Division-I, Parade Jammu during the financial year 2024-25" is hereby extended upto 15/07/2024 (2 PM). The tender shall be opened on 16/07/2024 (2 PM). All other terms and conditions of the e-NIT shall remain un-changed

DIP/J-1007-P/24

Executive Engineer, Electric Division-I, JPDCL

Shiksha Niketan School hosts **Orientation Programme**

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: Shiksha Niketan Higher Secondary School Jeevan Nagar, on Wednesday hosted a highly productive Orientation Programme, uniting participants from Pushp Vatika, Shiksha Niketan Gandhi Nagar, and various wings of Shiksha Niketan-Jeevan Nagar, encompassing Primary, Middle, High, and Higher Secondary levels.

The Orientation Programme was thoughtfully organized into two distinct segments, each catering to fundamental aspects of education and personal development.

The first segment focused on enhancing phonetics and communication skills, crucial for

academic and professional success

This session was expertly led by Harish Raina, Regional Manager of Prachi Publication Pvt. Ltd., who brought his expertise in linguistics pedagogy and speech sound studies to engage participants from different educational backgrounds.

The segment concluded with an inspiring speech by Risheek Mengi, Director of Pushp Vatika, highlighting the significance of effective communication in educational settings.

Following a traditional lamp lighting ceremony and Saraswati Vandana, which set a spiritual and intellectual tone for the event, badges of honor were presented to the principal and distinauished auests.

The second segment of the Orientation Programme commenced with renewed energy, focusing on team building and cohesion among students and staff.

Led by Avinash Mahaian, Vice Principal of Army Public School Nagrota and also representing Prachi Publications, this segment employed interactive group activities to emphasize the value of teamwork. Participants actively engaged in discussions and a Q&A session moderated by faculty members from the Higher Secondary Wing, including Inderpreet and Sachin.

These discussions delved into strategies for fostering collaboration and achieving collective

goals within educational institutions

concerns of the public

at the grassroots level. It

The session facilitated by Mahajan underscored the essential role of effective leadership in nurturing a cohesive school environment. It concluded with participants sharing innovative ideas aimed at further enhancing teamwork and mutual support among students and staff.

Principal Rameshwar Mengi delivered a closing speech, expressing gratitude to the Higher Secondary Wing Lecturers for their meticulous planning and seamless execution of the Orientation Programme. His remarks highlighted the school's commitment to holistic education and continuous improvement in educational practices.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT
PHE MECHANICAL DIVISION SOUTH JAMMU
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT PHEJ/MS/45 of 2024-25 Dated 06-07-2024 Executive Engineer PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu, on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of

Jammu & Kashmir, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from registered/ reputed firms. Name of the Work Validity of Name of the Cost of Tender **Earnest Money Deposit** Division Document/Tender Fee(In Rs) PHE Mech. Installation, Rs. 200.00 @ 2% of estimated cost/ Bid shall be Providing. testing and commissioning of 25000 GPH X 91 Mtr. Division South (Non-Refundable) In the shape of nder value In the shape valid for 180 of CDR/FDR pledged to e-challan/single window challan Jammu days Head submersible pump-set at Tube well Narwal Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech.

Division South Jammu/tender fee

receipt through online payment

through the JMC link

http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website http://jktenders.gov.in from 08-07-2024 (12:00 PM) and uploaded from 10-07-2024 (10:00 AM) to 22-07-2024 (3:00 PM). The complete bidding

process will be online http://iktenders.gov.in.

Pre-Bid meeting shall be held in the Office of the undersigned on 09-07-2024 at 12:00 P.M.

Bids must be accompanied by EMD and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 3 & 4 of the table The bid shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 180 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the tenderer shall be debarred from participating in tendering process for a period of 1 year.

The Technical Bids of the tender document received shall be opened online in the office of Executive Engineer Jal

Shakti Department PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu on 23-07-2024 at 3:00 P.M or any other day convenient to the Ex. Engineer in the Office chambers of Executive Engineer, PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu. The Financial Bids of the tender document of the qualified bidders shall also be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu during office hours and shall be

ommunicated separately. 7) Cost of bidding document in shape of e-challan/single window challan of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division South Jammultender fee receipt through online payment through http://www.imcjammu.org/online-payment.html

The original instruments in respect of cost of document, EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR and other relevant document of L₁ bidder will be required to be submitted to the Executive Engineer Jai Shakti Mech. Division South Jammu within 05 days after opening of financial bids on line. No separate intimation about opening of financial bids will be sent by this office / by the tender opening authority. In case the original documents are not submitted by the L₁ bidder within 05 days after opening of financial bid, the tender will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further /

future tendering process in the division for a period of one year 9) Other details can be seen inside the detailed tender document.

No: PHEJ/MS/1462-66 Dated:- 06-07-2024

Pain-I along with allied

Internal

under

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DIP/J-2582/24



Division South Jammu

EDITORIAL

Rise of Electric Vehicles (EVs)

In recent years, the automotive industry has witnessed a significant shift towards electric vehicles (EVs), driven by advancements in battery technology, environmental concerns, and regulatory incentives. This transition marks a pivotal moment in the quest for sustainable transportation solutions worldwide.

Electric vehicles offer numerous advantages over traditional internal combustion engine vehicles, including lower emissions of greenhouse gases and pollutants, reduced dependence on fossil fuels, and quieter operation. These benefits align with global efforts to mitigate climate change and improve air quality in urban centers. As a result, governments and automakers alike have committed substantial resources to accelerate the adoption of EVs.

Major automakers have announced ambitious plans to electrify their vehicle lineups, with pledges to phase out internal combustion engines entirely in favor of electric and hybrid alternatives. Tesla, Nissan, General Motors, and Volkswagen are among the leading manufacturers investing heavily in EV technology, driving innovation and affordability in the market.

However, despite the promising trajectory of electric vehicles, several challenges must be addressed to ensure widespread adoption and sustainable growth. One of the primary concerns is the availability and accessibility of charging infrastructure. While significant progress has been made, especially in urban areas and along major highways, gaps in charging station networks remain a barrier for EV adoption, particularly in rural and less densely populated regions.

Another critical challenge is the cost of electric vehicles compared to traditional gasoline-powered cars. Although prices have declined steadily due to advancements in battery technology and economies of scale, EVs generally remain more expensive upfront than their fossil fuel counterparts. Government subsidies and incentives play a crucial role in bridging this cost gap and stimulating consumer demand for electric vehicles.

Moreover, the environmental impact of manufacturing batteries for electric vehicles, which rely on rare earth metals and minerals, raises concerns about resource depletion and sustainable mining practices. Efforts are underway to develop recycling technologies for EV batteries and explore alternative materials to reduce environmental footprint throughout the vehicle lifecycle.

Policy support and regulatory frameworks also play a pivotal role in shaping the future of electric vehicles. Countries worldwide are implementing emission standards, zero-emission vehicle mandates, and financial incentives to encourage automakers and consumers to embrace electric mobility. Clear and consistent policies are essential to provide market certainty and drive long-term investments in EV infrastructure and technology.

Looking ahead, the electrification of transportation represents a transformative shift towards a cleaner, more sustainable future. Continued advancements in battery technology, expansion of charging infrastructure, and collaborative efforts among stakeholders will be crucial in realizing the full potential of electric vehicles to reduce emissions, improve air quality, and enhance energy security globally.

By: Vijay GarG

The goal of examination reform should be to ensure that people from disadvantaged sections are adequately represented in the medical field and they can contribute to making healthcare accessible to their communities

Since its inception about a decade ago, the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) has been a politically contentious issue in Tamil Nadu. The recent turn of events has made it a national issue. NEET was originally conceptualised to ensure merit-based selection to medical schools and standardise the medical entrance process. It was seen as a solution to the problem of high capitation fees being charged by private medical institutions. Has the examination achieved its intended goal? Has NEET curbed the commercialisation of medical education?

This year, more than 24 lakh candidates sat for the NEET after paying application fees ranging between Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,700. The application charges alone give a revenue of about Rs 337 crore to the testing agency. Moreover an individual candidate spends a few lakhs at coaching centres to prepare for the test.

The initial eligibility for qualification, 50 percentile, was diluted to 30 percentile in 2020 and further to zero percentile in 2023. The reason cited was that several seats are vacant in private medical colleges. However, after the 60,000 seats in government medical colleges are filled up, people's paying capacity plays a big role in filling up the remaining 50,000 seats in private colleges. This makes the MBBS dream virtually unattainable for

Is Alternative of NEET UG possible

students of the economically weak strata, despite scoring high marks in NEET. Nearly half of the MBBS seats become a virtual preserve of the wealthy, making a mockery of the objective of rewarding merit. NEET is one of the several alter-

ations in the country's medical education ecosystem in the past decade. The other changes include the dissolution of the Medical Council of India, after the agency faced corruption charges, a reduction in the faculty student ratio from 1:1 to 1:3 and public private partnership model (PPP) for developing medical colleges in each district with the entire district hospital been handed over to a private player. The medical sector has also seen reforms, including the Ayushman Bharat insurance scheme that allows people below the poverty line to access tertiary care and renaming the primary health centres as Ayushman Arogya Mandir with private partnership. Medical education, and healthcare in general, which was a service sector in the hands of the government, has gradually changed to a commodity with the increased participation of private players.

This low entry requirement can undermine the importance of excelling in high school. This, in turn, lowers the standard of school education. The state government and their education ministries do not have any say in the selection process of future doctors in their states. Finally, incidents such as paper leaks and allocation of grace marks, without formal approval of a competent committee, have eroded trust in NEET and the National Testing Agency (NTA).

Following recommendations from the Anandakrishnan Committee, the state abolished entrance

exams and conducted admissions to medical and engineering colleges solely on the basis of higher secondary marks. This method is still followed in admissions to engineering institutes in the state. Even after the introduction of NEET, the government ensured social equality and inclusivity, to an extent, by providing reservation to government school students as per the recommendations of P Kalaiyarasan and AK Rajan committees.

Tamil Nadu's experiences over five decades demonstrate that factors such as infrastructure, faculty numbers and the extent of patient care services determine the quality of young doctors. These factors play a far more decisive role compared to entrance examinations. The exam-based selection criteria is merely a gate-pass. Moreover, as American educationists William Sedlacek and Sue H Kim note, "If different people have different cultural and racial experiences and present their abilities differently, it is unlikely that a single measure could be developed that would work equally well for all". Testing the faculties of students who come from different backgrounds in a country with myriad diversities is not a justifiable method.

NEET needs to be reevaluated. Public health is a state subject and education is part of the concurrent list. All states need to be taken into confidence, before framing the admissions processes, especially in institutions controlled by the state government. The debate on NEET touches on broader issues such as educational equity and federalism. The debate on the examination is not just an academic issue but a deeply political one.

If NEET is riddled with problems,

what are the alternatives? Instead of a single cross-sectional assessment, a summative assessment over two to three years of performance in school education along with a general aptitude test might improve the selection process. This along with existing castebased reservation and quotas for government school students will make the entrance process more inclusive. Keeping the number of repeaters to a fixed percentage and allocating 15 per cent seats for candidates from the rest of the country would be a fair system in a state. Allocation of a small percentage of seats to allied health sciences candidates - nursing, for instance will create a lateral entry system, similar to engineering and polytechnic courses. Objective type questions can be added in the high school board examinations, the scores of which can be used to decide the best candidate in case of a tie between candidates.

The primary objective of refining the medical entrance process is to ensure that students with high average marks gain admission not only to government-run medical colleges but also that the admission criteria of private institutions are safeguarded to admit only those with significantly higher scores, while simultaneously providing adequate support to students from marginalised communities. The goal should be to ensure that people from disadvantaged sections are adequately represented in the medical field and they can contribute to making healthcare accessible to their communities.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist Malout)

LIP CARE DURING MONSOON

By: Shahnaz Hussain

ensed about your dry or chapped lips?
Cool breeze, the aroma of soil, mesmerizing sight, and melodious sounds altogether take you to a

magical world when it drizzles.

As the droplets of the first monsoon rain hit the earth, the moisture content in the atmosphere also rises.

While dancing in the rain is delightful, monsoon's moisture-rich air can

be harsh on delicate lip skin.

Lips are susceptible to drying and chapping due to frequent rain expo-

sure and excess humidity.

The barrier function of our skin gets affected during humid and hot weather and it increases Transepider-

mal Water Loss (TEWL), which leads to dry pale-looking lips

To help you navigate through the rainy season with supple and soft lips, here are some essential monsoon lip care tips:

1---Exfoliation ----

Exfoliation is key to maintaining a radiant complexion year-round, but it's crucial during monsoon to make sure the lip balm can penetrate deeper and nourish your lips. Get hold of a herbal scrub for lips, clean your lips and exfoliate . to remove dead skin cells. Mix 1 tablespoon olive oil and 1 tablespoon brown sugar in a glass jar. Now add 1/2 tablespoon of Vaseline Petroleum Jelly. Mix well and your lip scrub is ready. Keep it in a closed container in the refrigerator. Take a cotton pad and wet it with some micellar water to remove any traces of lipstick or lip gloss. Now

take a dime-sized amount of this DIY lip scrub and gently rub it until you feel some of the sugar dissolving. Once done, wipe off the remaining scrub on your lips with soft tissue paper and then wash with lukewarm water

Mix well one tbsp brown sugar and 1 tbsp honey in a glass jar. Apply

this on your lips and rub in circular motions for few minute. and gently wipe off with fresh water

After gently exfoliating your lips, seal in the moisture with a lip balm, which will lock in the moisture instantaneously.

Exfoliation not only removes dead skin but also improves blood circulation to your lips, making them appear more plump and healthy

Exfoliate your scrub once a week resulting in a smoother lipstick application and more pleasant lips.

To exfoliate lips the right way, one must exfoliate the lips in a circular motion with their fingertips.

Apart from soothing your lips, they also serve as a wonderful basis, or lip primer, before applying your favourite lipstick. It produces an equal base and smoothes out tiny wrinkles on the lips

Do not use any harsh bristles/ toothbrush to scrub your lips. Always use your fingertips and massage the lips in circular motions to get rid of dead cells.

2---Lip Sleeping Mask----

Attaining beauty while sleeping is the best thing you can do to obtain softer lips.

A lip mask is a gel mask that is worn on your lips for a set period. The purpose of a lip mask is to hydrate your lips, which also makes them look fuller and plumper. They work similarly to lip balm but are easier to apply, more intensive, and last longer. With its hydrating formula, the sleeping mask locks in moisture prevents dehydration and ensures that your skin stays plump and supple throughout the night.

After cleansing and toning your face, apply a generous layer of the mask and let it work its magic overnight. Wake up to a fresh and glowing complexion, ready to face the day ahead. The Lip Sleeping Mask delivers overnight results and gradually softens your lips with continuous use.

Some people have found that lip

masks work in conditions where regular lip balm simply cannot keep up. Lip masks can also work out cheaper than constantly applying balm.

Lip masks prevent drying out and chapping of lips, during the monsoon. They also help make your lips look plumper, especially right after using the mask, and in a more natural way than lip liner. They can help reduce signs of ageing that come from the skin on your lips getting thinner.

Choose a mask made from breathable materials to prevent irritation and ensure proper hygiene by regularly cleaning it.

This is why it's best done as the last step before bed. It's also important not to lick your lips or press them together too much.

An overnight lip treatment with humectant and emollient properties provides the ultimate hydration to your lips.

Be sure not to touch your lips after applying the treatment. Drinking or eating can take the overnight lip treatment off.

3---Lip balms

Lip balm is a cream that is used to keep the lips soft or to help sore lips feel better. Lip balm hydrates and protects lips with a nutrient-rich formula that prevents dryness, bleeding, cracking, and irritation

Lip balms can be scented, flavoured, or natural depending on the ingredients. Lip balms have a wax-like consistency which relieves chapped or dry lips as well as restores moisture. It helps shield your lips from dry air, wind, and especially cold temperatures..Add lip balm to your skincare routine to moisturise your lips. Apply it before bed for overnight moisturisation. Put lip balm in your bag for the daytime, and apply it after every meal.

They are easy to carry and allow you to instantly add moisture while on the go. Also, avoid chemical-based or tinted lip balm for better protection. Always choose lip balms that are petroleum-free, paraben-free, GMO-free and cruelty-free. It must not contain any pesticides, gluten or oxybenzone and are perfect for vegetarians.

Honestly, many people just let the product sink in, and reapply in the daytime too. All this to say, use it to your liking. It's even suitable in a makeup regimen for an effortless glossy lip. Some lip masks are designed to be worn overnight, while others are worn for a shorter period, say 30 minutes.

4---MOISTURIZING-----

Lips lack oil glands, which makes them more prone to drying out and chapping than the rest of your skin , that's why they need extra care. To aid this issue, we should moisturize the lips after exfoliating. Use Shea butter, cocoa butter, and Vitamin E-infused lip balms.

Apply a nourishing and moisturizing lip balm made with the goodness of ingredients like Shea butter, Beeswax, and Coconut oil before you step out of your home. Lip balms with olive oil, and coconut oils are also available in the market which is also good. This will improve blood circulation and give you natural pink colours.

Your lips need to be hydrated from the inside too. Add plenty of water, juice and fruits to your diet. They help you keep hydrated.

When you're hydrated, your skin cells plump up and give the skin protein to maintain strength and elasticity. Hydration slows the protein breakdown process and protects the skin's natural moisture from UV damage. To stay hydrated, try drinking fruit, fresh lemon, ginger, tulsi, and other herbal teas. Make sure not to consume drinks like alcohol or caffeine that make you dehydrated.

(The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India)

Nowbugh Kund residents in Kulgam hold protest against water scarcity; Seek LG's intervention*

Top News Report

KULGAM, July 10: The residents of Nowbugh kund village in South Kashmir's Kulgam district on Wednesday staged a protest against the Jal Shakti (PHE) Department Kulgam over the issue of non-availability of drinking water in the area.

Scores of the residents including men, women and children assembled on Road and raised Slogans against Jal Shakti department Kulgam for failing to provide drinking over in their area.

Protestors block Kund Quazigund road alleged that matter has been



hit streets.

ment has been witnessed The Residents said that so far which forced us to we are demanding clean drinking water for their facing acute shortage of drinking water facilities from last one month.

The protesters appealed to higher authorities to look into the matter and to redress the problem at the earliest so that people can feel some sort of

Later station house officer SHO Kund Nazir Ahmad Indrabi along with Assistant Engineer Nisar ahmad reached the spot and assured protesters to bring their grievance to higher authorities for redressal of the grievance. After his assurance protesters dispersed off peacefully.

JKBS felicitates a football, cricket and Karate player

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: With an object to encourage the 15 year old football, cricket and karate player, Sahil Kumar, the Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha felicitated him in a brief function held at Surya Vihar here on Wednesday.

JKBS' Members said Sahil besides a sports star, is a brilliant student of Spring Dales Higher Secondary School also. He belongs to Tugga clan of Batwal community and hails from Krishna Nagar.

Speaking on the occasion, Sahil said, playing a sport is a great work-



out for the body as it improves breathing while working the muscles in the body

JKBS' General Secre-

tary R.L Kaith said he has made us very proud. 'May the sun shine bright on his games!' Kaith wished

Terrorist attacks in Jammu province proof of government's failure: Rahul Tandon

brought to the notice of

the concerned adminis-

tration but no improve-



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: State Youth Congress General Secretary and spokesperson Rahul Tandon has condemned the terrorist attack in Kathua and demanded the Indian government to take strong action against Pakistan.

Taking aim at the Lieutenant Governor's administration, he said that ever since the present Lieu-

tenant Governor became the head of Jammu and Kashmir, terrorist attacks are taking place every day. At some places the buses of devotees are being targeted and at some places the convoys of security forces are being attacked.

The Lieutenant Governor should resign, taking moral responsibility for these attacks. Despite being defeated every time in a direct war with the Indian Army, Pakistan is bent on nefarious activities

He is secretly targeting security forces through mercenary terrorists. He said that it is not in Pakistan's capacity to have a direct confrontation with the soldiers of the Indian Army, that is why

it attacks like cowards. The Indian Army should be given a free hand to take down the terrorists and their facilitators.

PhD scholars from SKUAST, Razia Parveen call on LG Mishra

Top News Report

LEH, July 10: A delscholars from SKUAST led by Dr Thinley called on the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat.

Commissioner Secretary, Higher Education, Padma Angmo, IIS; Commissioner Secretary to LG, L Franklin, IAS; Vice Chancellor, University of Ladakh, Prof SK Mehta and In-charge Registrar, University of Ladakh, Nawang Tundup were present in the meeting.

Dr Thinley apprised the LG about the delay in the transfer of 6 units of Shere-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Kashmir (SKUAST-K) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) to the University of Ladakh.

He informed the LG that the Recruitment Rules has not been framed due to the delay in transfer process and requested the LG's intervention to expedite the transfer pro-

Vice Chancellor, University of Ladakh, Prof SK Mehta informed the LG that the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) has agreed to transfer the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) to the University of Ladakh, subject to allocating the land of KVKs to University of Ladakh.

He also informed that the matter of land transfer had been taken up with SKUAST-K and the Deputy Commissioners of Leh and Kargil.

The LG spoke to the Chief Secretary, Jammu & Kashmir, Atal Dulloo and requested to hold a meeting with SKUAST and University of Ladakh to resolve the transfer of assets and land at the earliest. The LG instructed Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ladakh to discuss the matter with SKUAST

Razia Parveen, In-

charge Lecturer called on the LG at the LG Secretariat. Commissioner/Secretary to HLG. L Franklin, and Director School Education, Ladakh, Tsering Paldan, were present in the meet-

Parveen apprised the LG that she is working as In-Charge Lecturer at Govt Boys Senior Secondary School, Leh and now has been transferred to Kargil district. She informed the HLG about the medical condition of her mother-in-law and requested the LG to retain her in Leh so that she can take care of her mother-in-law.

The LG stated that Razia Parveen has been in Leh for 24 years of her service and the transfer of lecturers is done as per the transfer policy of the School Education Department and urged Parveen to join her duty at the new posting in Kargil for the smooth functioning of the school and the benefit of students.

Godrej Agrovet opens first Samadhan centre in Tamil Nadu for oil palm farmers

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: Godrej Agrovet's (GAVL) Oil Palm Plantation business (OPP) on Wednesday announced the inauguration of its first Samadhan Centre in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.

A one stop solution center which provides a comprehensive package of knowledge, inputs, tools, services and solutions to oil palm farmers will be critical in enabling farmers to enhance their yields and improve their productivity. Empowering farmers with cutting-edge technology and global best practices, Samadhan will aid farmers to make informed decisions about venturing into oil palm cultivation thereby enabling them sustained growth in their income.

Present on the occasion were Dr. T. R.B Rajaa, Minister of Industries, Investment Promotion & Commerce Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, Sougata Niyogi, CEO, Oil Palm Business, Godrej Agrovet Limited and Rakesh Swami, Group President Corporate Affairs, Godrej Industries Group.

Investment Promotion & Commerce Department, Government of Tamil Nadu said, "As a people's representative and a proud son of the Delta region, it gives me immense satisfaction and happiness to be part of the launch of Godrej Agrovet's one-stop solu-



tion center for our state's oil palm farmers today in Thanjavur. This facility exemplifies our government's commitment. under the visionary leadership of Honourable Chief Minister Thiru. MK Stalin, to bringing food processing units to the agriculturally rich Delta districts of Tamil Nadu. We are excited to announce that many more such units will be established soon.

I am confident that partnering with Godrej Agrovet will empower our farmers by leveraging their expertise to improve their income and agricultural practices launch of the Samadhan center is also in line with Godrej's strategy to expand its presence in Tamil Nadu, demonstrating their strong belief in our state's potential.

In addition to this, Godrej is setting up a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility for its

open yet another facility reinforces their trust in the robust business ecosystem and progressive governance of our state. This collaboration marks a significant step towards enhancing the prosperity of our farmers and driving the overall development of the Delta region."

Following the intro-

duction of the National Mission on Edible Oil - Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) in August 2021, Godrej Agrovet Limited, a diversified agri-business company and a pioneer in the Oil Palm sector in India, aims to expand oil palm plantations by an additional 60,000 hectares till 2027. To support the long-term sustainable development of the sector in India, the company launched a one stop solution center, Samadhan, last year. Each Samadhan center intends to support the

ares of oil palm and is equipped to support farmers in maximizing and sustaining yields from mature plantations by leveraging state-ofthe-art agricultural practices and providing specialized guidance from industry experts. The company's partnership with the State Bank of India would also support Oil Palm Plantation farmers during the gestation period.

Balram Singh Yadav, Managing Director, Godrej Agrovet Limited said, "It is encouraging to see the eco-system ment of Tamil Nadu for oil palm farmers in the state. Their support and trust in our capability definitely provide us an opportunity to together contribute to reduce the nation's dependency on oil palm imports in the coming years.'

"With an expertise of

more than three decades, we are the only company to have a state-of-theart Crude Palm Oil mill in the state. We have been working with and educating farmers on sustainable palm oil cultivation practises and are excited to launch Samadhan center in Tamil Nadu, a region with immense potential for oil palm cultivation. Through this center, our endeavour is to enable them to easily access everything - from developmental finance, government subsidies/ schemes, and various other benefits," he further Rakesh Swami, Group

President Corporate Affairs, Godrej Industries Group, said, "It is encouraging to witness the conducive environment being created by the Government of Tamil Nadu. With the Godrej Industries Group's 127year legacy of leaving a positive impact on people & planet and a common objective of leveraging new-age technology to promote both sustainable oil palm plantations and contribute to the prosperity of farmers, it is our honor to collaborate with the government. We look forward to expanding our footprint in the state with their impeccable support."

With 10 Samadhan Centers already operational in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the company intends to establish 50 Samadhan centers by

NC pays tributes to Rohit Kerni on his death anniversary

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: Senior leaders of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) on Wednesday paid heartfelt tributes to late Rohit Kerni former District President Jammu Urban YNC, a youth JKNC leader on his 4th death anniversary in a programme held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan Jammu.

On the occasion, Ajay Sadhotra, General Secretary of JKNC and former Minister along with other party workers paid tributes to Rohit Kerni.

Speaking on the occasion, Ajay Sadhotra, delivered a touching address, reminiscing about Kerni's unwavering commitment to the party and his dedication to the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He praised Kerni for his exemplary leadership qualities and noted his pivotal role in energizing the youth wing of the party, inspiring many young minds to actively engage in public



"Rohit Kerni was not just a leader but a beacon of hope for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. His passion for social justice and his tireless efforts to empower the younger generation have left an indelible mark on our party and the community,' he remarked

Speaking on the occa-

sion, Pardeep Bali Provincial Secretary Jammu, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell and Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone"Rohit Kerni's departure has left a void that is deeply felt by all of us. His commitment to the principles of democracy and his inclusive approach to leadership set a benchmark for

future leaders to emu-

late," they said. Tejinder Pal Singh, District President of JKNC Jammu, who organized today's programme, emphasized Kerni's profound influence on grassroots politics and his ability to bridge generational

gaps within the party. The programme also saw attendees sharing

personal anecdotes and memories of Kerni, underscoring his affable nature and his dedication to serving the people selflessly. Participants observed a minute of silence in his honor, reflecting on his life's work and pledging to carry forward his vision for a prosperous and harmonious Jammu and Kashmir

Among those who were present include Harsh Vardhan Singh President NCSU, Nitish Gowsami, Muzamil Malik Provincial Secretaries Jammu YNC, Gurnam Singh Block President Jammu West, Sahil Kerni District Secretary Jammu YNC, Yasir Ahsan Vice President YNC, Sahil Chib, Sandeep Mehra, Aman Manhas, Vishal Parihar, Dheeraj Sasan, Gourav **Bhagat Ward President** 33, Tejpal Singh ward President 58, Nikil Bharti, Amit Sharma, Boby Kumar, Manjeet Singh, Akbir Singh, Abisheak, Deepak Kumar, Sourab Manhas, Rahul Singh, Sonu Kumar and others.

Raqeeq Khan calls for immediate action on Post-Mortem Room upgrade

Top News Report

MENDHAR, July 10: The community of Mendhar Sub Division urgently calls on the district administration to prioritize the modernization of the mortuary/post mortem room at Mendhar Sub Division Hospital. Despite repeated requests from BMO Mendhar and CMO Poonch, the current facility, which is constructed with outdated stone works, remains in dire need of improvement to meet modern standards.

The existing structure fails to provide the necessary facilities and technology required for efficient and respectful post mortem procedures. The health professionals have persistently raised concerns, highlighting the urgent need for a new building equipped with modern technology. Unfortunately, their appeals have gone unheard by the district administration.

"We are grateful for the continuous efforts of BMO Mendhar and CMO Poonch, who have repeatedly advocated for the upgrading of this essential facility. However, the lack of response from the higher authorities is deeply concerning," Raqeeq said.

Rageeg urged the district administration to take immediate action and submit a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the construction of a new, state-of-the-art mortuary. This initiative should be treated as a top priority to ensure that the hospital can provide the highest standard of care and dignity for the deceased.

Bhupinder Singh uses the traditional pottery wheel to create contemporary sculptures, a genre which he calls 'altered pottery sculpture'

Chemistry can be capricious! It lets you down when you pin your hopes on it, and lifts you up when you least expect. Here's an example. In the early 18th century, German alchemist Johann Friedrich Böttger claimed that he had cracked the formula of producing gold from sand. When Augustus the Strong, King of Poland and Elector of Saxony, heard about it, he kept him in custody and asked him to produce gold. Böttger's experiments failed, but he invented something which was even better than gold — Meissen China, the European porcelain.

This is the bit of history associated with The Manufacturer, which is reminiscent of the Royal-Polish and Electoral-Saxon Porcelain Manufactory established by the king in 1709. Three centuries later, a continent away. the same treacherous chemistry plays out in an obscure studio in Mohali, where we find Bhupinder Singh painstakingly mixing red lead with silica, feldspar, tin oxide and copper oxide to produce the shade of green that he needs to colour his freshly baked pottery sculpture.

The story of the altered pottery sculptor may not be as dramatic as Böttger's, but interesting nevertheless. Imprisoned in parental expectations, Bhupinder tried to learn the periodic table and tinkered with acid-filled test tubes so that he



could enter the medical field. But chemistry failed him and after getting a compartment in that subject, he switched over to fine arts. During his student days at Chandigarh College of Art, the nudge to take up pottery came from his teacher. It was just his reaction to challenges that pottery-making involved.

He not only rose to the occasion, but went a step further. He combined his love for sculpting and passion for moulding clay to come up with pottery sculptures with contemporary lines. "I hated learning those chemical formulae, but love mixing chemicals to get the right shade," he tells us, satisfied with the result and moving on to the pottery wheel to mould his dream. So committed he is to his art that when he received the Sohan Quadri Fellowship, he invested the entire sum to set up his studio. And that he

couldn't become a doctor does not bother him that much. "I am

Lalit Kala Akademi. Tricity, according to him, is waking up to ceramic art, but sadly not the market. "People come whenever I exhibit, they even join my workshops but there are very few buyers. The taste for pottery is largely confined to the traditional pots."

now teaching my art to doctors,

engineers," he laughs, as he

refers to his recent workshop

conducted by the Chandigarh

Going by Bhupinder's creations, which are carelessly thrown around his studio, his signature style is anything but traditional. Though the base of his sculptures are made on the wheel, using the traditional coil, stab and pinch methods, it's the top halves where he lets his creativity run free. "As you can see, most of my creations are modelled after female figures.

During my art college days, I was influenced by Gandhara miniatures, which I saw in the Museum and Art Gallery in Sector 10. That influence is reflected in my pieces," he says.

Another signature element is figures of trees, which he thinks comes from his habit of cycling around the city that allows him to absorb and internalise the greenscape. A die-hard fan of sculptor Henry Moore and digital disciple of Taiwanese artist Hsin-Chuen Lin, he does not mind picking up inspirations from different genres as long as he is able to retain his own style.

What about the traditional kumhars? "Well, I often visit the Maloya Kumhar Colony. I interact with them. For them I am the odd sardar who works with clay. And in all probability they are right. Except for the famous Gurchaan Singh, founder of the Delhi Blue Pottery Trust, I have not come across any turbanwearing potter so far."

The turban, however, is the only link he finds with the great artist. He says, "I do take inspiration from him, though essentially we belong to two separate categories — his was pottery and mine is altered pottery sculpture. I have a long way to go to do what he has for done for this art."

Having cracked the chemical code, Bhupinder will stop at nothing

How Kalki Koechlin lost her luggage en route to France for shoot of 'Her Song'



Actress Kalki Koechlin, who has started shooting for her next

project, 'Her Song', lost her luggage while en route to the shoot loca-

tion in France. A source close to the actress told IANS that for the first three days of filming, Kalki had to rely on the kindness of her co-actor, Elea Clair, as she borrowed her

The situation was made even more difficult by the weather.

clothes to get by.

During those initial days, the temperature was a chilly 10 degrees Celsius, and Kalki didn't have any of her warm clothes. When her luggage finally arrived, the weather underwent a complete shift, soaring to a sunny 30 degrees Celsius, rendering her warm clothes entirely useless.

This is not the first time the actress has found herself in such a predicament -- losing luggage seems to be a recurrent issue during her travels.

Despite these laughable setbacks, Kalki kept her spirits high and her sense of humour intact.

In 'Her Song', Kalki will be seen playing Olivia, a witty American-French writer. With her trademark charm and wit, Kalki is set to bring Olivia to life in a way that only she can.

Celebs exude elegance and spread colour at Anant and Radhika's haldi ceremony

Anant Ambani, the youngest son of Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani. and Radhika Merchant, daughter of industrialist Viren Merchant, are all set to get married on July 12.

After their extravagant sangeet ceremony, which also included pop icon Justin Bieber's performance, the couple celebrated their haldi ceremony on Monday. It was a star-studded affair with the who's who of Bollywood graced the function. Founder and Chairperson of Reliance Foundation Nita Ambani, opted for a stunning suit look for the ceremony. Nita Ambani looked gorgeous in a golden suit designed by Manish Malhotra. The celebrity designer took to his official Instagram



handle to share her picture.

The Ambani family hosted a vibrant haldi ceremony at their iconic residence, Antilia, in Mumbai. The lavish affair was attended by close family members and Bollywood personalities. Among the guests were Anant's uncle and well-known businessman Anil Ambani, accompanied by his wife, the former actress Tina Ambani. Salman Khan, dressed in a radiant vellow kurta and black pyjamas, also arrived in style to extend his blessings to the soon-to-be-wed couple. His presence added to the star-studded list of attendees. which included Ranveer Singh, Ananya Panday, and Sara Ali Khan, among others.

The cast of Punjabi film Ucha Dar Babe Nanak Da talks about the divine

Everyone must have heard the devotional song Ucha Dar Babe Nanak Da, as many Punjabi singers have lent their voice to it from time to time. There has also been a film by the same name, starring Gurdas Maan, Kulbhushan Kharbanda and Preeti Sapru. Now, a fresh story with the same title has been presented by director Tarnvir Singh Jagpal.

Releasing on July 12, Ucha Dar Babe Nanak Da stars Yograj Singh, Isha Rikhi, Naginder Gakhal and Harby Sangha. During a press conference in Mohali on Tuesday, the film's message was conveyed — 'God is the only one who gives solace, even after sufferings'.

Veteran actor Yograj Singh, who plays a pivotal role in the film,



expressed his excitement, "Ucha Dar Babe

Nanak Da is not just a film; it is a spiritual

voyage. The story resonates with the teachings and essence of Guru Nanak Dev ji, and it was an honour to be a part of such a profound project. I believe this film will touch hearts and inspire many."

Harby Sangha informed how he enjoyed the film's schedule that was shot around the director's own village, Jagpaipur. He shared, "I have also sung the title song. It's a unique film and a very different subject. We have used simple language and shown dayto-day happening in the lives of villagers."

About the recent changes in Yograj's get-up, as he is often seen wearing blue and yellow-coloured turban with parn hanging till his shoulders, he shared, "I believe that humans

make a lot of mistakes and now that I have reached my seventies, I have realised how I have always been away from God. So, I choose this bhesh of Baba Deep Singh to connect with him. I choose yellow and blue because for me it means beauty, peace and love."

Harby, reflecting on his long acting journey, recalled now ne had entered the industry because he always wanted to be close to Gurpreet Ghuggi his inspiration. "As I got to spend time and learn from him, I didn't even realise how far I had come. I appreciate everything that I got and take each project as the first one." Sangha will soon be making his presence felt on a digital platform in a romantic comedy.

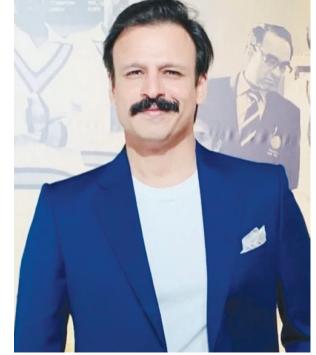
Vivek Oberoi says lack of movie offers made him shift focus to business

Vivek Oberoi has never shied away from speaking about his personal and professional challenges. The actor, who has gone through several ups and downs in his movie career, is now also a successful entrepreneur apart from being a known actor. Vivek, in an interview with agency, said that he shifted his focus on business after he had no movie offers in spite of proving himself as an actor.

Vivek Oberoi recalls starting business to run his home

Vivek, while recalling his difficult phase, said, "When I started struggling in Bollywood when I started facing difficulties even after being a successful actor... I was after proving my skills, there was a different kind of pressure when I wasn't getting offered any films. That was my source of income - I was running my house, charitable foundation with the money I earned through my business and acting in movies, doing events and making appearances, I paid my staff with it too." He further said, "I was running a school in Vrindavan, helping cancer patients, so when my income from movies started drying up, stopped getting roles, I knew I wouldn't be able to continue all these things. Philanthropy is a part of my life, and I needed to be financially secured, I

facing challenges even



never asked for money from anyone, I didn't ask my father, so I wouldn't

ask anyone else either. That's when I started active business. Got

into real estate, founded some companies, some technology companies grew very big. Today, I have invested in around 29 companies."

Vivek Oberoi's acting career

Vivek made his acting debut with Ram Gopal Varma's Company. The Gangster action-thriller featured Ajay Devgn, Manisha Koirala, Mohanlal, Antara Mali and others in crucial roles. He then starred in films like Road, Saathiya, Dum, Masti, Yuva, Shootout at Lokhandwala, Rakhta Charitra 1, Rakht Charitra 2 and Krrish 3.

Vivek Oberoi was last seen in Rohit Shetty's web show - Indian Police Force

Vicky Kaushal drops song 'Tauba Tauba', exclaims 'Punjabi gaana aur main dance na karu'



Actor Vicky Kaushal never misses a chance to groove to Punjabi music. This is exactly what he did in the song 'Tauba Tauba' from his upcoming film 'Bad Newz'.

Vicky shared the music video of the song 'Tauba Tauba', where he is seen executing some intricate dance moves

with ease. 'Punjabi gaana aur

main dance na karu?! Let's go! #TaubaTauba song out now,' he captioned the clip.

This isn't the first time Vicky has danced to a Puniabi number.

Last year, Vicky went viral dancing in an allblack outfit to Riar Saab and Abhijay Sharma's song 'Obsessed'. His dance moves even

helped the song reach the second position on the top 50 hits from India on the music streaming platform Spotify. 'Tauba Tauba' from

'Bad Newz' is by Karan Aujla, who is known for hits such as 'Players', 'Gangsta', 'Mexico' and 'God Damn'.

Directed by Anand Tiwari, 'Bad Newz' is a comedy-drama that also stars Ammy Virk, Neha Dhupia and Triptii Dimri.

The film tells the story of two Punjabi boys and a Christian Hindu girl. One of the boys has a one-night stand with the girl, who ends up getting pregnant.

18 killed as bus hits milk tanker in Uttar Pradesh's Unnao

The accident takes place around 5 am near Jojikot village in Behta Mujhawar police station area

UNNAO, Jul 10 (Agencies): Eighteen people were killed and 19 injured when a doubledecker sleeper bus headed for Delhi hit a milk tanker on the Agra-Lucknow Expressway here on Wednesday, officials

The accident occurred around 5 am near Jojikot village in Behta Mujhawar police station area.

District Magistrate Gaurang Rathi said it appears that the bus, which was coming from Motihari in Bihar, was speeding and hit the milk tanker from

A probe had been launched, he said.

Rathi said 20 passengers who sustained minor injuries were sent to Delhi in another bus.

Additional Director General of Police, Lucknow, SB Shiradkar, told agency that 14 men, three women and a child were killed.

Bangarmau Circle Officer (CO) Arvind Kumar said due to the collision, both the bus and milk tanker overturned. Drivers of the two vehicles were among the dead.

He said the injured were rushed to a hospital and their condition was stated to be

Police have identified 14 of the deceased so far.

Glass shards and people's belongings lay scattered on the highway next to the overturned bus and milk tanker. Cranes were used to put the two vehicles back on their wheels and



they were later towed away.

The impact of the collision left the front portion of the bus badly mangled with one side ripped open.

"We were sleeping. I don't know what happened," Mohd Shamim, a passenger who sustained head injuries in the accident, told reporters at the hospital.

Another passenger, Dilshad, said he was travelling with eight family members and was clueless about the fate of six of them.

"My brother and I are in the district hospital, we don't know where the other family members are. We were sleeping at the time of the accident and woke up to find ourselves trapped inside the bus. Those who reached the spot were busy recording videos instead of helping us," he said.

Dilshad said the bus driver

was speeding all night.

Another injured, Chandni, said there were around 60 passengers in the bus and officials reached the accident spot an hour after the accident.

She thanked the local administration for facilitating a video call with her husband.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said officials had been instructed to ensure the best treatment for the injured.

"The loss of lives in a road accident in Unnao district is extremely sad and heartbreaking. My condolences are with the bereaved families," he said in a post on X.

"District administration officials have been instructed to reach the spot and expedite the relief work. I pray to Lord Shri Ram to grant a place to the departed souls at his feet and for the speedy recovery of the injured," the chief minister said.

President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi condoled the loss of lives in the accident.

In a post on X, Murmu said, "The news of the death of many people in a road accident on the Lucknow-Agra Expressway in Unnao, Uttar Pradesh is extremely sad. I express my deepest condolences to the family members of those who have become victims of such sudden death and wish for the speedy recovery of those injured."

PM Modi announced an ex gratia of Rs 2 lakh for the families of the deceased.

"The road accident in Unnao is extremely painful. My condolences to those who have lost their loved ones in this (accident). May God give them strength in this difficult time. Along with this, I wish the injured a speedy recovery," the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) quoted Modi as saying in a post on X.

Modi said the local administration is extending all possible help to the victims under the supervision of the state government.

"The Prime Minister has announced an ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh from PMNRF for the next of kin of each deceased in the mishap in Unnao. The injured would be given Rs 50,000," the PMO said.

Five killed, six injured as MUV collides with tree



NARMADAPURAM (MP), Jul 10 (Agencies): Five persons in their twenties were killed and six others injured when their multi-utility vehicle (MUV) collided with a tree in the wee hours of Wednesday in Narmadapuram district of Madhya Pradesh, a police official said.

The accident occurred near Pachlavara village when the victims were returning to Pipariya town in the district after attending a marriage function in Sadia village, he said.

The deceased were identified as Sovit Rajput (20), Aman Malviya (21), Pradumya Agrawal (22), Mayank Chourasia (22) and Shreyansh Jain (23), Pipariya police station's Assistant Sub Inspector (ASI) Ganesh Rai said.

The six injured persons were referred to the Narmadapuram district hospital, he said, adding that a case was registered and investigation into the incident was underway.

Hyderabad Man Drives Car With 3 Children Into Lake

HYDERABAD, Jul 10 (Agencies): A man attempted suicide along with his three children by driving the car into a lake on the outskirts of Hyderabad

today. Seeing this, passersby ran to rescue them and pulled all four out of the lake. The incident happened at Inamguda Lake under Abdullapurmet police sta-

tion limits. Ashok, a resident of BN Reddy Nagar in Hyderabad and working as a contractor, had taken out his son and two daughters for a morning outing. After reaching the lake, he drove the car into

As the occupants in the car were drowning, locals saved them with the



help of ropes.

The locals had initially thought it to be an accident. However, the preliminary probe by the police revealed that Ashok wanted to end his life with his children. Financial problems are said to be the reason for the man's extreme step.

Police registered a case and took up further investigation.

Hit-and-run case: Car fatally knocks down woman in Nashik, driver arrested

NASHIK, Jul 10 (Agencies): In yet another hit-and-run case in Maharashtra, a 31-year-old woman was killed after a speeding car knocked her down in Nashik city, police said on Wednesday.

The 51-year-old car driver, who was under the influence of alcohol at the time of the incident on Tuesday evening and fled from the spot, was later arrested, they said.

The accused has been identified as Devchand Rambhau Tidme, resident of Dhruv Nagar who worked at a company in Satpur MIDC area here, an official from Gangapur police station said

The victim, Archana Kishore Shinde, resident of Hanuman Nagar, was walking home after work at around 6 pm when the speeding car hit her from behind on Bardan Phata-Shivaji Nagar Road, near Gangapur Road, the official said.

The woman received a serious head injury. She was taken to a nearby hospital where doctors declared her dead, he said. Before the accident,

two youth coming from the opposite direction saw the car heading towards the woman and they tried to alert the driver. However, the car driver did not reduce the speed and the vehicle hit Shinde. The car driver then fled from the spot, the police said.

The incident was captured in the CCTV cameras installed in the area. An alert citizen present at the spot also noted down the car's number.

The police later reached the driver's home and arrested him. He was on his way home when the accident took place, the official said. His medical check-up report indicated he was under the influence of alcohol at the time of the accident.

As a result, he could not control the vehicle and hit Shinde. After the accident, he did not help the victim and went home instead, the police said.

The Gangapur police have registered a case against the man under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita sections 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), 281 (rash driving) and provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, the official said. A probe was on into the case, the police

Joint Accounts, ATM Access: Supreme Court **Underlines Homemakers' Rights**

the water.

The observation came as the Supreme Court ruled that a divorced Muslim woman can seek alimony from her husband under Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure

NEW DELHI, Jul 10 (Agencies): The time has come for Indian men to recognise the indispensable role played by homemakers and the sacrifices they make for the family, the Supreme Court said today.

The observation came as a bench of Justice BV Nagarathna and Justice Augustine George Masih ruled that a divorced Muslim woman can seek alimony from her husband under Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The bench held that the law for seeking maintenance applies to all married women, irrespective of their religion.

Underlining the key role of homemakers in the family, the court said it is necessary for husbands to provide financial support to their wives. "We highlight the necessity for husbands to provide financial support to their wives... practical



measures such as maintaining joint bank accounts and sharing ATM access to ensure economic stability for women within the household," the court said.

The Supreme Court's order stating that a Muslim woman is entitled to maintenance from her husband after divorce under Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure underlined but a fundamental right of married women.

"This right transcends religious boundaries, reinforcing the principle of gender equality and financial security for all married women," it said.

Section 125 broadly says a person with sufficient means cannot deny maintenance to their wife, children or parents. The judgment has come

on a petition by Mohd Abdul Samad, who was directed by a family court to pay a monthly allowance of 20,000 to his divorced wife. Mr Samad had challenged the direction in Telangana High Court, which modified the amount to 10,000. He then moved the Supreme Court. His counsel argued that divorced Muslim women can seek recourse to the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986 Act and stressed that it provides much more than what Section 125 CrPC does. He also argued that a special law -- referring to the Act -- shall prevail over a general law.

Amicus Curiae Gaurav Agarwal countered that the personal law does not take away a woman's entitlement to relief under the gender-neutral CrPC.

Enforcement Directorate summons YouTuber Elvish Yadav in money laundering case

NEW DELHI, Jul 10 (Agencies): The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned YouTuber Siddharth Yadav alias Elvish Yadav on July 23 for questioning in a money laundering case linked to the suspected use of snake venom as a recreational drug in parties hosted by him, official sources said on Wednesday.

The central agency had registered the case in May and pressed charges under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) after taking cognisance of an FIR and a charge sheet filed against Elvish Yadav and linked persons by police in Uttar Pradesh's Gautam Buddh Nagar (Noida)



district.

The sources said Elvish Yadav was initially asked to appear this week before the ED at its Lucknow office but he sought deferment of the summons owing to his scheduled foreign travel and professional commitments.

He has now been asked to depose before the investigating officer of the ED on July 23,

they said.

Rahul Yadav alias Rahul Fazilpuriya, a singer from Haryana allegedly linked to Elvish Yadav, was questioned by the ED this week in the said case, they said. He may be called again.

Alleged generation of proceeds of crime and the use of illicit funds for organising rave or recreational parties is under the ED's scanner.

Jacqueline Fernandez summoned by ED today in money laundering case NEW DELHI, Jul

10 (Agencies): The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned Bollywood actor Jacqueline Fernandez for questioning on Wednesday in a Rs 200-crore money laundering case involving conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar, official sources told news agency.

The 38-year-old Sri Lankan-origin actor has been questioned by the federal agency multiple times in the case that pertains to the alleged cheating of high-profile people, including the wives of former Ranbaxy promoters -- Shivinder Singh and Malvinder Singh -- to the tune of Rs 200 crore.

The ED has alleged that Chandrashekhar allegedly duped



the wives of the Singh brothers and used these "proceeds of crime" or illegal money to purchase gifts for Jacqueline Fernandez.

In a chargesheet filed in 2022, the probe agency claimed that the actor was "enjoying valuables, jewellery and costly gifts provided by Chandrashekhar despite knowing about his criminal anteced-

ents". Jacqueline Fernandez has said that she had no knowledge of Chandrashekhar's alleged criminal activities and that she is innocent.



Senthil Balaji, who was arrested in a money laundering case by the **Enforcement Director**ate last year.

A bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Augustine George Masih deferred the matter after Solicitor General Tushar Mehta sought time.

"List it day after tomorrow at the end of the list," the bench said.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Balaji, submitted that a number of adjournments have been taken by the ED in the matter. The top court had



SC adjourns hearing on former

TN minister Senthil Balaji's bail

on April 1 sought a response from the ED on Balaji's bail plea while issuing notice to the agency. Dismissing Balaji's

bail petition, the Madras High Court on February 28 said that it will send a wrong signal if he is let out on bail in a case of this nature and it will be against the larger public interest

It said the petitioner had suffered incarceration for more than eight months and it would therefore be more appropriate to direct the special court to dispose of the case within a time frame. The high court ordered

that the trial shall be conducted on a day-today basis in accordance with the guidelines given by the top court.

Balaji was arrested on June 14 last year in connection with a money laundering case linked to a cash-for-jobs scam when he was the transport minister during the AIADMK government.

On August 12 last year, the ED had filed a 3,000-page charge sheet against Balaji.

On October 19, the high court had dismissed Balaji's earlier bail plea.

A local court had also dismissed his bail petitions thrice.

Israeli strike in central Gaza kill

new push on cease-fire deal

20 Palestinians as mediators make

showed kids playing

soccer in the school's

yard when a sudden

boom shook the area,

prompting shouts of "a

The Israeli army said

the airstrike near the

school and reports

of civilian casualties

were under review,

and claimed it was

targeting a Hamas

militant who took part

in the Oct. 7 attack on

Israel, though it pro-

vided no immediate

evidence. The military

blames civilian deaths

on Hamas because the

militants fight in dense,

urban areas. But the

army rarely comments

on what it is targeting

in individual strikes,

which often kill women

In nine months of

bombardment and

offensives in Gaza,

Israel has killed more

than 38,200 people and

wounded more than

88,000, according to

the territory's Health

Ministry, which does

not distinguish between

combatants and civil-

ians in its count. Nearly

the entire population

has been driven from

their homes. Many

have been displaced

multiple times. Hun-

dreds of thousands are

packed into sweltering

Israel's onslaught was

triggered by Hamas'

cross-border raid on

Oct. 7, during which

militants killed 1,200

people in southern

Israel, most of them

civilians, according to Israeli authorities. The

militants took roughly

250 people hostage.

About 120 are still in

captivity, with about a

This week, Israeli

troops have also been

waging a new ground

assault in Gaza City in

the north of the territo-

ry — its latest effort to

battle Hamas militants

regrouping in areas

the army previously

said had been largely

Large parts of Gaza

City and urban areas

around it have been

flattened or left a shat-

tered landscape by pre-

vious Israeli assaults,

and much of the popu-

lation fled earlier in

the war. But the latest

cleared.

third said to be dead.

tent camps.

and children.

strike, a strike!"

US says India can spur end to Ukraine war as PM Modi, Putin flaunt ties

White House spokesperson Karine Jean-Pierre said India can play an important role in brokering peace in Ukraine by leveraging its historical ties with Russia.

WASHINGTON, Jul 10 (Agencies): The US said on Wednesday that India's close ties with Russia provide it with the ability to convince President Vladimir Putin to end the ongoing war in Ukraine. The statement came as Prime Minister Narendra Modi concluded his two-day visit to Moscow, during which the two leaders flaunted their rapport.

White House spokesperson Karine Jean-Pierre reiterated the importance of New Delhi's role in promoting peace, stating, "India is a strategic partner with whom we engage in full and frank dialogue, including their relationship with Russia, and we've talked about this before. So we think it's critical that all countries, including



India, support efforts to realise an enduring and just peace when it comes to Ukraine."

Jean-Pierre's remarks came in the wake of PM Modi assuring the world community that India is committed to peace and is ready to cooperate in all possible ways to resolve the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

She further said, "We also believe India's longstanding relationship with Russia gives it the ability to urge President Putin to end his brutal war, an unprovoked war in Ukraine. It is for President Putin to end. President Putin started the war, and he can end the war.'

During bilateral talks with Putin on Tuesday, PM Modi expressed his concerns over the human toll of the nearly 29-month-long war in Ukraine, particularly the loss of innocent lives. He said his heart "simply explodes" at the killing of innocent children, a day after a deadly Russian missile attack on a children's hospital in Kyiv. The Prime Minis-

ter's remarks, which appeared to be critical of Russia, came after Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy reacted sharply to the Indian leader embracing Putin during their interaction.

The PM had also described Moscow as India's "all-weather friend and trusted ally".

PM Modi called for dialogue and diplomacy to resolve the Ukraine conflict, saying, "For a bright future for the future generations, peace is most essential. No solution is possible on the battlefield.

Solutions and peace talks are not successful in the midst of bombs, guns and bullets, and we have to find the path to peace through dialogue."

Putin, on his part, thanked PM Modi for trying to help find a peaceful solution to the Ukraine issue.

for the attention you pay to the most pressing issues, particularly trying to find ways to resolve the Ukraine crisis, primarily through peaceful means," the Russian premier said during their meeting at the Kremlin, reported news agency.

Israeli airstrikes early Wednesday killed 20 Palestinians in central Gaza, including six children and three women, some of them inside a purported "safe "I am grateful to you zone" declared by the

Israeli military, hospital authorities said. This second straight night of deadly strikes in the central town of Deir al-Balah and nearby refugee camps came as U.S., Egyptian and Qatari mediators as well as Israeli officials came together in the Qatari capital, Doha, for talks trying to push through a long-elusive

> and hostage release. Israel and Hamas had appeared to narrow the gaps in recent days, but obstacles remain.

deal for a cease-fire

DEIR AL-BALAH,

Jul 10 (Agencies):

Strikes early Wednesday hit three houses in the Nuseirat refugee camp, killing 12 people including five children, said authorities at al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital, where the casualties were taken. An Associated Press reporter counted the bodies.

The camp, like others around Gaza, was originally erected to house Palestinians driven from their homes during the 1948 war surrounding Israel's creation. It has grown into an urban neighborhood in

the decades since. A fourth strike early Wednesday killed four men, three women and a child when it hit a home in Deir al-Balah, an area that is located within the "humanitarian safe zone" where Israel has told Palestinians to seek refuge as it conducts offensives in multiple parts of the Gaza Strip.

The overnight bombardment came hours after Israeli warplanes struck the entrance of a school sheltering displaced families outside the southern city of Khan Younis. The toll from the strike rose to 31 people killed, including eight children, and more than 50 wounded, officials at the nearby Nasser Hospital said Wednesday.

Footage aired by Al-Jazeera television

After Israel on Monday called for an evacuation from eastern and central parts of Gaza City, staff at two hospitals — Al-Ahli and the Patients Friends Association Hospital — rushed to move patients and shut down, the United Nations said.

incursions and bom-

bardment prompted a

new flight of people.

The Israeli military said Tuesday that it told hospitals and other medical facilities in Gaza City they did not need to evacuate. But hospitals in Gaza have often shut down and moved patients at any sign of possible Israeli military action, fearing

In the past nine months, Israeli troops have attacked at least eight hospitals, causing the deaths of patients and medical workers along with massive destruction to facilities and equipment. Israel has claimed Hamas uses hospitals for military purposes, though it has provided only limited evidence.

Only 13 of Gaza's 36 hospitals are functioning, and those only partially, according to the United Nations' humanitarian office.

International mediators were making a new concerted effort to push through a proposed cease-fire deal.

An Egyptian official said the head of Egypt's General Intelligence Service, Abbas Kamel, went to Doha to join discussions over the deal. The official said U.S. and Israeli officials were also attending. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to brief the press on the meetings.

A day earlier, CIA Director William Burns, who has led the American mediation, met with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi in Cairo

Obstacles remain in the talks, even after Hamas agreed to relent on its key demand that Israel commit to ending the war as part of any agreement. Hamas still wants mediators to guarantee that negotiations conclude with a permanent cease-fire.

Israel has rejected any deal that would force it to end the war with Hamas intact. Hamas on Monday accused Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of "putting more obstacles in the way of negotiations," including the operations in Gaza City.

Jeep falls from a mountain road into a ravine in Pakistan-administered Kashmir, killing 14 people

MUZAFFARABAD. Jul 10 (Agencies): A jeep fell from a mountain road into a ravine in the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir on Wednesday, killing 14 people and injuring two others, officials said.

The incident happened in the Neelam Valley, government administrator Nadeem Janjua said. Rescuers had transport-

ed the dead and injured to a hospital while the cause of the accident is still to be determined, Janjua said.

Kashmir is divided between neighboring

India and Pakistan, with both claiming the entire territory.

Road accidents are common in Pakistan mainly because of to poor road infrastructure and poor enforcement of traffic laws and safety standards. Last month, a van fell into a river in the same district, killing 16 people, mostly chil-

Rains wash out a highway in China's Tibet region, stranding 130 people

BEIJING, Jul 10 (Agencies): Rescue efforts were underway Wednesday for more than 130 people including some tourists who were trapped in a mountainous town in China's Tibet region after heavy rains and flooding washed away

sections of a provincial highway, China's state media said.

Those trapped also included migrant workers and business people, according to state broadcaster CCTV. Another 342 stranded people had been relocated earlier

to nearby towns.

Steady rain since Saturday blocked roads, CCTV said, and the surging waters of the Nadang river caused severe landslides and mudslides. Power and communication was cut off from Chengtang town, but emergency

communication was later restored.

The broadcaster reported that people were trapped because of road damage, the rainfall and a "lack of physical strength" after long-distance hiking. The town, on the southern slope of the Himalayas near the border with Nepal, has an average altitude of 2,000 meters and is in an area known for hot springs and hiking.

Rain was forecast through Thursday, adding difficulty to the rescue work, CCTV

Russian lawmakers approve an increase in income taxes for the wealthy

MOSCOW, Jul 10 (Agencies): The Russian parliament's lower house gave final approval Wednesday to a bill that would raise income taxes for the rich, in a move to help fill government coffers during the fighting in Ukraine.

The bill, which was endorsed in the final third reading by the State Duma, needs to be approved by the upper house and signed by President Vladimir

Putin to become law. The legislation, which envisages a progressive tax on personal income, is a major change of course from the flatrate tax that was widely credited with improving tax collections after it was introduced in 2001.

The bill would impose a 13% tax for incomes of up to 2.4 million rubles (\$27,500) a year. For incomes over that amount a steadily higher tax rate would



apply, with the maximum rate of 22% for incomes exceeding 50 million rubles (\$573,000). Putin has said that

the tax increase would affect no more than 3.2% of Russia's taxpayers.

The bill also calls for an increase in the company income tax rate from 20% to 25%

The tax reform is esti-

mated to bring 2.6 trillion rubles (\$29 billion) in additional federal revenues in 2025.

A 13% flat tax was put into effect quickly after Putin's first election in 2000 in an attempt to fight widespread tax evasion and boost state revenue. In 2021, Russia modified the system so that people earning more than 5 million rubles a year would pay 15% on the amount above the threshold.

UK PM Keir Starmer to visit US, first foreign trip since taking office

LONDON, Jul 10 (Agencies): UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer jets off to Washington this week for his first steps on the world stage, just days after taking office following a landslide election victory.

Starmer, 61, will attend NATO's 75th anniversary summit in the US capital on his debut foreign trip since becoming British leader last Friday.

He will reaffirm Britain's enduring support for the Western military alliance and Ukraine's fight against Russian aggres-

The visit kicks off a whirlwind of international diplomacy in Starmer's first two weeks in power, with the UK also hosting a European leaders' conference next week.

"It will be an opportunity for him to learn and get to know other leaders as much as to communicate any particular messages," foreign policy expert James Strong told

Britain's previous Conservative government was one of Ukraine's staunchest allies, providing money, weapons and troop

training to help it repel Russia's invasion. Starmer has pledged continued support for Kyiv under Labour, and is expected to reaffirm that message in person to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky at the NATO meeting.

Starmer's Defence Secretary John Healey has already visited Ukraine since last Thursday's election, and Foreign Secretary David Lammy has been visiting European NATO members.

Labour is committed to the alliance and wants to match the Conservatives' promise to raise defence spending to 2.5 per cent of GDP, above the NATO target of two per

"We can expect lots of talk about 'business as usual"," added Strong, a lecturer at Queen Mary University of London.

While Starmer will stress continuity on the main foreign policy issues, he will also be keen to signal a reset in relations with allies that were soured by Brexit.



Labour has pledged closer cooperation with European neighbours, including on bilateral deals with France and Germanv but also on agreements with the EU bloc as a whole.

'Special relationship' -"We can expect to hear a lot of talk about

improving relations, about being a more

reliable partner, and above all about being more stable and predictable," said Strong. The trip also presents an early opportu-

nity for Starmer to build a rapport with US President Joe Biden and cement the socalled UK-US special relationship. Starmer's centre-left Labour party is more

closely aligned with Biden's Democratic Party than the Conservatives, which could help, but the trip comes at a sensitive time for the US president.

Biden, 81, is under pressure to make way and allow another Democrat to take on Republican rival Donald Trump in November's presidential election.

Starmer will be mindful that he may have to deal with the isolationist Trump from January next year.

"(He) will want to demonstrate his rocksolid commitment to the UK's alliance with America, and to send a strong signal about the resilience of the 'special relationship', whatever lies ahead," Sophia Gaston, head of foreign policy at the right-wing Policy

Exchange think-tank, told agency. A point of contention between Starmer and Biden could be the Israel-Hamas warÄñn Gaza, with Labour viewed as more

The leaders are also likely to discuss policy towards China, including on trade, commerce and technology.

pro-Palestinian than Washington.

Starmer will then host the European Political Community summit at Blenheim Palace, near Oxford, in central England, on July 18, with France's president Emmanuel Macron and Germany's leader Olaf Scholz

expected to attend. Labour wants "an ambitious" security pact with the European Union.

Olivia O'Sullivan, director of the UK in the world programme at the Chatham House international affairs think-tank, told AFP the two summits "provide an opportunity to put more meat on the bones of this proposal".

Starmer may also want to flesh out the shape of a post- Brexit trading deal, after his introd global stage in Washington.

Delegations from IIT Madras calls on LG Mishra to discuss progress of Sindhu Central University

Top News Report

LEH, July 10: A delegation from IIT Madras led by Professor Sachin S Gunthe called on the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat. Commissioner/Secretary to the LG. L Franklin .: Commissioner/Secretary, Higher Education, Padma Angmo, IIS; Vice-Chancellor, University of Ladakh (UoL) and In-charge Registrar, Nawang Tundup were present in the meeting.

Prof Sachin informed the LG that he is the Faculty Coordinator for Sindhu Central University while IIT Madras and IIT Kanpur are the

mentor institutes. He also informed the HLG that the delegation is in Ladakh to take stock of the situation of the Sindhu Central University. He further informed that the work on the Sindhu Central University is progressing well and the transit camp of the Central University should be complete by August-end.

Prof Sachin informed the LG that the target date for the completion of the Sindhu Central University is within four years. He also informed about the three courses started by them at IIT Madras and IIT Kanpur. He further informed that seven students, including three from Ladakh, have enrolled for the courses at Sindhu Central Uni-

versity. Prof Sachin also informed about the plan to conduct a joint venture with University of Ladakh.

The LG stated that the placement of local students of Sindhu Central University who are currently studying at IIT Madras and IIT Kanpur should be held along with other students of the campus.

Other issues such as utilising wind energy at University of Ladakh campus for research purposes; preference for Ladakhi students and faculty members in Sindhu Central University; reservation for local students at University of Ladakh, etc were also discussed in the meeting. A delegation comprising

Vijayak, Brigadier Vinay
Bahl and Chief Engineer,
Project Himank, Brigadier
Vishal Srivastava, called
on the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier

Vijayak, Brigadier Vinay
the Wildlife Department of UT Ladakh to stop the construction and widening of the road.
Brig Bahl apprised the

Brig Bahl apprised the LG of the issues faced by them in completing the said project within the stipulated timeframe and requested the HLG's intervention in this regard. Brig Srivastava also apprised the HLG of the issue faced by them in the construction of new roads in the Changthang area.

The LG asked Brig Bahl and Brig Srivastava to meet PCCF Brij Mohan Sharma to find a viable solution to address their issues as these projects will not only benefit the people of Ladakh but also the country on the security front.

CHL Ramban protecting interests, rights of children in distress: DCPO Ramban

Top News Report

RAMBAN, July 10: Under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, the Child Helpline (CHL) Ramban is steadfastly committed to safeguarding the rights and wellbeing of children in distress.

Through prompt and decisive actions, the helpline has successfully resolved several critical cases, demonstrating its dedication to providing timely support and protection. Here are some recent success stories that exemplify the relentless 24/7 efforts of the Child Helpline.

In an impressive display of efficiency and coordination, Child Helpline Ramban successfully rescued a kidnapped minor girl. On May 12, 2024, the helpline received a distressing call reporting the abduction of a minor girl from Langya Morh Bagna, Ramban. The caller alleged that a resident of Govindpora Maitra had kidnapped the girl and was holding her hostage at another residence in Village Kundi. Upon receiving the complaint, the Child Helpline, with the support of local police, launched a swift and decisive operation. At 11:30 PM, on the same day, they conducted a raid on the specified residence, successfully rescuing the minor girl.

Following her rescue, the child was presented before the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), which, after completing all necessary formalities, placed her in the Child Care Institution Parisha. Ultimately, the minor girl was reunited with her family, bringing a joyous conclusion to a potentially tragic situation.

On June 15, 2024, by rapid response by Child Line demonstrating exceptional responsiveness and coordination, Child Helpline Ramban successfully located and rescued a missing minor girl at Banihal Railway Station. At 10:00 PM, the helpline received an urgent report regarding a missing girl at the railway station. Under the supervision of the District Child Protection

Officer, a team led by Project Coordinator of Child Helpline Ramban, Muddasar Jiral, was promptly dispatched to the scene.

The team, involving all relevant stakeholders and in collaboration with a local NGO, successfully located and rescued the minor girl. She was subsequently placed in the Child Care Institution (CCI) Parisha Ramban for her safety and care. After completing the requisite formalities, Child Helpline Ramban, under the supervision and direction of the District Child Protection Officer, transferred the child to the Child Welfare Committee Badgam, ensuring her continued protection and well-being.

These are some of the success stories high-lighting the dedication and swift action of the Child Helpline Ramban and its associated teams in safeguarding children and upholding their rights. The efficient handling of these cases not only rescued vulnerable children but also reinforced the community's trust in the helpline and local authorities.

Public Outreach: MP Khatana hears array of grievances in Reasi

Chief Engineer, Project

Top News Report

MAHORE, July 10: In an ongoing effort to connect with constituents and address their concerns, MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana conducted a series of meetings with different groups in the Reasi district as part of his public outreach programme.

The sessions, held at the Conference Hall in Mahore Dak Banglow, Mahore Kalwa (Mulass), and Budhan, provided a platform for locals to voice their grievances and seek redress.

During his tour of the 56 Gulabgarh constituency in Reasi district, MP Khatana was accompanied by key BJP representatives, including Seh Prabhari BJP Reasi Akhlaq Choudhary, BJP district vice president & **Executive Officer Waqf** Board Reasi, JK Minority Morcha President Reasi Mushtaq Malik, ST Morcha president Reasi, Rafiq Choudhary, Chain Singh Pradhan BJP Kisan Morcha Reasi, and Mandal Pardhan Sukhdev Singh, among others

A major issue raised by the public was the pending compensation for



land acquired for road construction under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). Despite repeated visits to concerned offices, residents reported that they have not received the due payments. This prolonged delay has caused significant financial distress for the affected families, who rely on these funds for their livelihood.

Residents also expressed dissatisfaction with the performance of revenue officials, accusing them of neglecting their duties. They reported that officials often failed to respond to their concerns and were rarely available for consultations. There were demands for the imme-

diate transfer of officials who have been posted in the same area for more than two years to ensure better accountability and efficiency. The residents argued that such transfers would prevent complacency and promote a more responsive and

dynamic administration. A significant concern voiced during the meetings was the lack of accessibility to government officials and services. Locals urged the government to bridge the gap between officials and the public, ensuring that their voices are heard in government offices. Many residents reported difficulties in accessing police services, stating that they are often unable

to meet with police offi-

cers to address their issues. This inaccessibility has led to a growing sense of frustration and helplessness among the public

(Dr) BD Mishra (Retd),

at the LG Secretariat.

Commissioner/Secretary

to the LG, L Franklin, and

Principal Chief Conserva-

tor of Forest, Brij Mohan

Sharma, IFoS, were

Brig Vinay Bahl

informed about the con-

struction of new roads

along with the widening

of existing roads in the

border areas of Ladakh.

He also informed the

LG about the clearance

taken by them from the

Wildlife Board for the con-

struction and widening of

the said roads. He fur-

ther informed about the

present in the meeting.

Several villagers reported being excluded from the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) scheme, leaving them without access to essential water supplies. This exclusion has left many communities struggling and relying on uncertain sources of water. The residents highlighted the critical need for clean and reliable water sources, emphasizing that water is a fundamental right and should be accessible to

all.

There was a recurring theme of a trust deficit between the masses

and the administration. Locals emphasized the need for transparent and responsive governance to rebuild trust and ensure effective public service delivery. They called for regular interactions between officials and the public to foster a sense of accountability and mutual respect.

After listening patiently to the public's concerns, MP Khatana assured them that he would take up these matters with the appropriate authorities to address and resolve the problems faced by the residents of Reasi district. He emphasized his commitment to ensuring that the issues raised by the public are highlighted and addressed at the highest levels of government. The outreach programme is part of MP Khatana's broader initiative to engage with constituents directly, ensuring that their issues are highlighted and addressed at the highest levels of government. By providing a platform for the public to voice their grievances, MP Khatana aims to foster a more inclusive and responsive governance system that truly serves the needs of

Movement Kalki Protests at Jantar Mantar

demanding responsibili-

Top News Report

NEW DELHI/JAMMU, July 10: At Jantar Mantar in New Delhi, a compelling protest unfolded on Wednesday as members of Movement Kalki, led by core committee member Sunny Kant Chib, voiced vehement objections against the deplorable wages forced upon midday meal cooks and temporary school cleaners. These essential workers, predominantly female, endure monthly salaries as low as 1000 rupees for cooks and 650 rupees for cleaners, despite their crucial roles in feeding and, maintaining hygiene for children in schools.

The demonstration resonated with a sense of urgency as protesters highlighted the severe disparity between the ties these workers shoulder and the meager compensation they receive. Temporary female cooks are tasked with preparing meals for 80-90 children daily, along with managing utensil cleaning, all for wages that fall drastically short of basic living standards.

Under the scorching Delhi sun, both male and female activists gathered, underscoring the solidarity and determination of Movement Kalki to bring attention to these systemic injustices. The protest saw impassioned speeches and rallying cries for fair treatment and equitable pay for all workers contributing to essential services in educational institutions across the country.

A memorandum addressed to Prime Min-

ister Narendra Modi was formally presented during the protest, demanding swift and decisive action to rectify the grossly inadequate wages and improve working conditions for these workers. The memorandum underscored the urgency of the situation, warning of potential escalation in Jammu if their demands

were not met promptly. The protest at Jantar Mantar serves as a poignant reminder of the ongoing struggle for dignity and fair treatment among the most marginalized segments of society. As the activists continue to mobilize support and raise awareness, they hope for a positive response from the government to ensure justice and equality for all workers in similar predicaments nationwide

Two smugglers held with 108 kg gold in Ladakh: ITBP

inputs of smuggling was received in the area near Sirigaple, Ladakh.

It said the team headed by Deepak Bhatt, DC/GD consisting of 03- SOs and 17- Ors while reaching the area of Sirigaple 01 km away from IB ground at 1320 hrs, the party come across 02 suspicious persons with mules. Patrol party chased them down and took them to camping area of the suspects. Initially they told that they are collecting medicinal plants but later patrol party found huge quantity of gold and other items from their possession.

Patrol party took custody of both the suspects and seized items and left for Tactical HQRS Koyul and reported matter to Ajay Nirmalkar, Comdt 21 Battalion, ITBP on satellite phone who directed them for further pre-wrapped and safe custody of precious metal and suspects. Matter reported to higher headquarters and further investigation and action is in progress in coordination with sister organizations. This patrol was planned by SHQ Srinagar ITBP with the approval of HQ NW Ftr, ITBP along with several other patrol simultaneously launched in general area, it also said

The items which have been seized include Gold-International Gold Bars 108 No's weighing-108.060 Kg's. (Weighed on Electronic Weighing Machine by ITBP at Koyul.); Mobiles 02, Binocular 01, Chinese food items (Fragrant Cake 01 packet; Lao Beijing 01 packet; milk 02 cane; milk lassi 02 packets; knives 02; ponies 02; torchwonder torch 01; hammer 01; nose plier 01;

All the formalities were followed, while as the seizure along with the suspects have been handed over to Custom department officers for further questioning and needful action as enshrined in the law, statement added.

Over 4,600 pilgrims leave Jammu base camp to join Amarnath Yatra

via the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route, they said. With this, a total of 72,325 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for the Valley since June 28, when Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch. The 52-day yatra began on June 29 and will conclude on August 19.

More than 4.5 lakh pilgrims paid obeisance at the cave shrine last year.

'State' in PSA order includes UT of Jammu Kashmir: HC

"There is no doubt that the definition of State as contained in Section 3 (58) of General Clauses Act, 1898 includes Union Territory. The term, 'all local or other authorities within the territory of India or under the control of Government of India' comprises State and Union Territories. The term State includes the Government of each State, that is the State Executive and legislature of each State, that is the State legislature. It is pertinent to mention that it includes Union Territories as well," the July 3 judgment stated.

The ruling was passed by Chief Justice N Kotiswar Singh and Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi while dismissing a challenge to the preventive detention of one, Yawar Ahmad Malik, under the PSA.

A single judge of the High Court had ear-

lier upheld the 2022 detention order against Malik. This single judge ruling was challenged by Malik (through his father) by way of an appeal.

On July 3, the Division Bench of the High Court dismissed the appeal and upheld the single judge's decision. "The grounds of detention formulated by the detaining authority and the ground by the detaining authority and the ground by the detaining authority and the ground so the second so the

Court dismissed the appeal and upheld the single judge's decision. "The grounds of detention formulated by the detaining authority and the record supplied by the respondents does not suffer from and legal infirmity. The detention order appears to be on sound logic for the reason that the detaining authority, before passing the order, has applied its mind to draw subjective satisfaction to order

preventive detention of the detenue by curtailing his liberty," the Court found. Notably one of the grounds on which Malik

FROM PAGE 1

the people.

Notably, one of the grounds on which Malik had challenged the detention order was that there was no application of mind by the detaining authority.

His counsel pointed out that the detaining authority had accused Malik of carrying out activities prejudicial to the security of "the State", rather than the "Union Territory" of Jammu and Kashmir.

The lawyer contended that after the intro-

duction of the Jammu and Kashmir Re-Organisation Act of 2019 (which followed the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution), Jammu and Kashmir was no longer a State and was converted into two Union Territories (Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh).

The argument, however, failed to impress the High Court which held that the term "State", in this context, would include Union Territories, going by the definition of "State" in the General Clauses Act, 1897.

The Court proceeded to dismiss the appeal after finding no infirmity in the detention order. Advocates Asif Ahmad Dar, GN Shaheen represented the appellant. Deputy Advocate General Muneeb Wani and advocate Nowbahar Khan represented the Jammu and Kashmir authorities.

Army Commander asks troops to be prepared for future challenges

The Army commander complimented the troops for their high standards of professionalism and exhorted them to be prepared for future challenges. He also met formation commanders and jawans during his visit to Batalik in Kargil sector.

Action will be taken against schools demanding admission fee: DSEK

schools violating the statute by demanding such fees, often without providing receipts. The FFRC warned that schools found guilty could face legal consequences, including possible de-recognition if they fail to comply. He said that if any school will be found

involved, action will be taken against them and if anyone will have gone more extreme then more stringent action will be taken against them.

While responding to a query, he said that DSEK will take a call on extension of summer vacation in case of any weather advisory.

Tractor driver dies in Tangmarg road accident

suffered critical injuries when his tractor overturned while he was driving. Despite being rushed to a nearby hospital, he was declared brought dead by attending doctors. Confirming the incident, a police officer stated that an investigation has been initiated, and further details will follow.

Search Operation resumes in Doda to track hiding terrorists

engaged in tracing the terrorists in the forested area. Massive CASO (Cordon & Search Operation) joined by elite Para commandos of the Army was started on Tuesday to hunt down the terrorists.

brone surveillance, sniffer dogs, sharp-shooters and experts in mountain combing and warfare are part of the massive CASO going on in the area. Tuesday's encounter in Doda came on the heels of the ambush of an Army patrolling party in Kathua. The terror attack, which was the fifth in Jammu in one month, resulted in the death of five soldiers.

J&K Police arrest key suspect for money laundering & stealing official secrets

accused owns 16 luxury cars. Evidence also suggests his involvement with senior bureaucrats and local politicians in Jammu and Kashmir," the sources said.

"Our analysis of Tarun Bahl's activities uncovered his typical wheeler-dealer methods devoid of any legitimate business foundation. Bahl's operation involves strategically placing himself within the police and civil

administration often using bribery or blackmail to gain influence. This created a vicious cycle of corruption with Bahl leveraging information to exert control over various officials," the sources further said.

"He coerced certain officers into committing illegal acts such as leaking confidential information to sow discord within the government for personal gain. His readiness to be swayed by hostile elements poses a significant threat to national security," top sources said.

Muslim women can seek maintenance from husband under Sec 125 CrPC: Supreme Court

appeal with the major conclusion that section 125 would be applicable to all women and not just married women," Justice Nagarathna said while pronouncing the verdict.

The bench said maintenance is not charity but the right of married women and it is applicable to all married women irrespective of their religion.

The top court dismissed the petition of one Mohd Abdul Samad, who has challenged the order of the Telangana High Court refusing to interfere with the maintenance order of the family court.

He has contended that a divorced Muslim woman is not entitled for maintenance under Section 125 of CrPC and has to invoke the provisions of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986.

Parents to be punished if minors found driving, warns Noida Police

The police have warned up to Rs 25,000 fine, potential legal action against parents or guardians of underage drivers, 12-month vehicle registration cancellation, and no license until age 25 for the minor for flouting rules. This move is part of a broader campaign to ensure road safety and adherence to traffic laws, the police said in light of several incidents involving minors in Noida, Greater Noida and other parts of the country.

Govt failed to safeguard rights of Border dwellers and weaker sections: Vijay Lochan

Top News Report

SAMBA, July 10: The present dispensation has completely failed to safeguard the rights and interests of Border dwellers and other vulnerable sections of the society. Despite numerous promises and assurances, there has been no substantial action to address the systemic issues and injustices faced by these communities

This was stated by Vijay Lochan, Chairman JKNC Scheduled Castes (SC) Cell, while addressing a meeting at Ramgarh area of district Samba. The meeting was organized under the chairmanship of Ashok Attri Vice President Central Zone, Jammu, Samba and Kathua.

At the beginning of the meeting, Ashok Attri highlighted the problems



faced by people of border areas due to non-availability of basic amenities, unemployment, irregular power and water supply. lack of health care facilities including shortage of staff in schools and healthcare centres and deplorable conditions of roads.

Vijay Lochan, the Chief Guest, criticized the present government for neglecting the border belt of the Jammu region, particularly the Samba district. He expressed great anguish over the unfulfilled promises made to

border dwellers, such as providing 5 marla plots at safer locations and recruitment rallies in the border areas. He emphasized that the border people are always the frontline warriors, similar to the armed forces vigilantly guarding the borders. Despite their crucial role, they have been consistently ignored under

the current regime. Lochan also expressed great resentment against the Central Government headed by BJP for its failure to provide comprehensive compensation to

gees, despite assurances given by the then Home Minister in 2018. He urged the Central Govt to pay pending compensation to the West Pakistani refugees in one go who are facing huge hardships since their migration in 1947. He asked the party workers to gear up for the upcoming Assembly elections and reached out to the people in their respective areas to make them aware about how BJP has cheated them on the promises made by

Jagga Ram Provincial Vice President SC Cell asserted that the Party has always remained committed to protect the rights of SC/ST and weaker sections of the society in the past and shall continue to do the same in future too

it in 2014 before going to

elections

Vice President of Central Zone, JKNC, raised serious concern over the pressing issues faced by farmers of border areas and the Kandi belt of Samba due to non-availability of irrigation water. He highlighted the severe impact this has on agricultural productivity and the livelihoods of farmers.

Addressing the gath-

ering Mr Satpal Block President and Member MC Ramgarh criticized the government for not ensuring a fair Minimum Support Price (MSP) for crops, which leaves farmers financially vulnerable. He called for immediate measures to resolve the irrigation water crisis and to implement a fair MSP policy, emphasizing the need to support the farming community, which forms the backbone of the region's economy.

Brig Deepak Sajjanhar visits Naval **Unit Camp at Hardosaran**

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: Brigadier Deepak Sajjanhar, SM, Group Commander of the Srinagar NCC Group, undertook a significant visit to the maiden Pre Nau Sainik Camp (NSC) Phase I at Hardosaran near Ranjit Sagar Dam. This visit was pivotal as it aimed to oversee the preparations of naval cadets of 1 J&K Naval Unit NCC for the upcoming All India Nau Sainik Camp (AINSC) 2024, scheduled to be held in Lonavala, Pune from August 25 to September 5, 2024.

Pre NSC Phase I is the first of three preparatory camps being conducted in anticipation of AINSC-2024. Due to logistical reasons, the camp was shifted to Hardosaran, facilitated under the command of Naval Unit Commanding Officer Lieutenant Commander Tej Ram Sharma. This new location provides cadets facility to undertake various water borne activities which are extremely essential for training for AINSC. Traditionally this camp was held at NTA, Nagrota and Mansar lake was utilised for water borne activities.

Brigadier Deepak Sajjan har's visit on July 9, 2024, included a comprehensive review of the training of cadets' under progress, meticulous oversight of preparations for AINSC-2024, motivational interactions with the cadets, inspection of facilities and administrative arrangements. Upon arrival, he was warmly received by Lieutenant Commander Tej Ram Sharma and honored with an impressive cerby the naval cadets of 1 J&K Naval Unit.

During his address to the cadets, Brigadier Deepak Sajjan har emphasized the importance of setting goals. both short-term and long-term, in life and highlighted the advantages of joining the NCC. He drew parallels between life's challenges and those faced in NCC camps, emphasizing how such experiences not only prepare cadets for national-level events like AINSC-2024 but also equip them with essential life skills.

The visit of Group Commander has left an indelible mark on the morale and enthusiasm of the Naval NCC Cadets of 1 J&K Naval NCC Unit, enriching their journey towards personal growth and readiness for future challenges.

BJP committed to provide good governance to masses: Sat Sharma

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: Sat Sharma, former Minister & former President, J&K BJP, Ashwani Sharma, former MLA, Choudhary Vikram Randhawa, former MLC, Jeet Angral, former JMC Chairman and Er TK Sharma, BJP Swachh Bharat co-Incharge listened to the public issues in a grievances camp conducted at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Individual and deputations from Gangyal, Paloura, Bhatindi, Aman Vihar, New Plot, Talab Tillo, Rajouri, Kharian, Thanna Mandi, Rajouri, Dashmesh Nagar, Poonch, Dagiana, Resham Ghar, Budgam, Janipur, Bajalta, and other areas visited the BJP headquarters to present their issues related to construction of big nallah in sector 2 Gangyal, Park in the forest area of Janipur, a waiting list of Rehbar-e-Khel, the opening of Nallah, sanitation problems, the difference in recruitment rules of Dental Surgeons, issue of the scooter by social welfare department, accident case claim etc.

Sat Sharma, while listening to the grievances, stressed on the BJP's commitment to provide good governance to the general masses. He said that the party is committed to mitigating the sufferings of the people and believes in keeping continuous contact with the public 365 days a year. He said that the heavy rush of people at the party office on a daily basis itself shows that they are fully convinced that it is the BJP only, which can help

them to find solutions to their problems. Ashwani Sharma said that the party has initiated several measures to provide easy access to the public to share their issues, which, otherwise they are not able to communicate effectively at the appropriate platform. He said that they have made a sincere try to give solution to the maximum issues presented and have communicated telephonically and in written to the concerned department

officials for the other issues Vikram Randhawa said that the BJP believes in the all-inclusive progress and development in our society and nation through good moral and social values. To ensure this goal, the party is organizing these grievance camps so as to further

GDC Marheen carries out plantation drive

Top News Report

MARHEEN, July 10: The NSS Unit and Eco Club of GDC Marheen carried out a plantation drive under the campaign of "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" launched by Prime Minister of India in the New College site on Wednesday.

The drive was conducted under the supervision of Prof (Dr) Anupama Gupta, esteémed Principal of the college.

A large number of saplings of various plants were planted by NSS Volunteers, the students, staff members and worthy principal of the college.

While speaking on the

the college raised awareness among the students about the urgent need of a forestation and also motivated the students to plant more and more trees to conserve nature.

The event was organized under the supervision of Dr Arun Dev Singh NSS, Programme Officer, Dr Balbinder Singh and Dr Shallu Rani NSS Organizing

A large number of Volunteers participated in the event. Prof. Anoop Sharma, Dr. Munisha Devi present during the plantation drive. Jogesh and Vishan menial staff assisted on this occa-

Nelma Devi realizes dream of comfortable and safe & secure home through PMAY-G

Top News Report

RAMBAN, July 10: Nelma Devi, a resident of Kanthi Panchavat. Block Ramban, is overjoved as she moves into her new home under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) scheme.

Nelma Devi, a widow after the death of her husband, had been living in a dilapidated kaccha house with her children. Today, she expresses heartfelt gratitude to the administration for providing her with a safe, comfortable, and secure

"I was struggling to make ends meet and couldn't afford to build a house. The administration's support has come as a blessing to me and my family. We now have a roof over our heads and a sense of safety and security," Nelma said, her eyes brimming with tears of joy.

The PMAY-G scheme has transformed Nelma's life, offering her a new beginning and a hopeful future. Her new home stands as a testament to the government's commitment to ensuring housing for the needy and vulnerable sections of society. Nelma expressed profound thanks to the district administration of Ramban for their diligent efforts in implementing the scheme and bringing this life-changing support to her and her family.

The Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin aims to provide "Housing for All" ensuring that everyone has access to a safe and dignified living space. Nelma Devi's story is one among thousands of beneficiaries of the district, highlighting the positive impact of this ambitious and compassionate initiative.

Vibodh urges BJP workers to ensure Lotus blooms in J&K

Top News Report

SUNDERBANI, July 10: During his day-long visit to the Kalakote Sunderbani assembly segment, Vibodh Gupta, BJP J&K General Secretary and Former MLC, passionately urged party workers to strive diligently towards ensuring the success of the party in the upcoming assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. We need to unite and work tirelessly to ensure that the lotus blooms across Jammu and Kashmir, bringing progress and prosperity to every citizen, he added.

Vibodh emphasized the need for extensive outreach programs to expand the party's footprint to every polling booth across Sunderbani-Kalakote assembly segment. He called

upon party workers to act as ambassadors for the welfare schemes initiated by the Modi government, engaging regularly with the public in our respective areas. He also underscored the importance of connecting with beneficiaries of these schemes to raise awareness effectively and to connect them with future programs of the government.

He urged party workers to dedicate themselves to organizational programs, such as Tridev Samelan, Polling Booth Samelan, Morcha Samelan, New Voters Registration to ensure that the party is strengthen at grassroots level.

Vibodh also criticized the National Conference, PDP, and Congress, labeling them as "ideologically bankrupt" and driven solely by "cor-



ruption, nepotism, and favoritism." He called upon party members to expose these practices and uphold the BJP's commitment to clean governance and development-oriented policies.

Speaking on the occasion BJP's Prabhari Nowshera, Sunderbani-Kalakote assembly seaments Sanjay Baru claimed that the LS poll results showed that the

people had voted for stability and continuity, and, therefore, the NDA came to power for a third term consecutively. He maintained that the people of Jammu and Kashmir will also vote for BJP and it's development agenda rejecting dynastic political parties such as NC, PDP and Congress.

BJP District President Neena Sharma commends the Modi govering commitment to transforming India into a powerhouse of development and progress. The government's relentless efforts in ensuring inclusive growth, empowering the marginalized, and bolstering national security are exemplary she added. District general secretary, Pritam Sharma conducted the proceedings of the meetings

ernment for its unwav-

BJP leader Randhir Singh, DDC Member Rajinder Sharma, Former District President Capt. (Retd.) Ramesh Chander, Bal Krishan, Former MC President Rajinder Parshad Gupta, Sardari Lal Sharma, Chaman Raina, District Office Bearers, District Morcha Presidents, Mandal Presidents and Shakti Kendra Parmukh were present in the meetings.

Ice & Steel Cycling Expedition scales world's highest motorable pass

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: The 'Ice and Steel Cycling Expedition' of the Indian Army which was flaggedoff from the Daulat Beg Oldie on 01 July 2024 today conquered the Highest Motorable Pass in the World and is likely to set a new world record for scaling maximum number of motorable passes in a single stretch, covering so far approx 600 kms, over a period of ten days.

The expedition is being conducted as part of the celebrations of the Rajat Jayanti Mahotsav of the Kargil Vijay Diwas and aims to pay tribute to the martyrs of the Karqil War. The expedition also interacted with locals, tourists and school children enroute, to inspire



expedition members laid wreaths at Galwan and Rezang La War Memorials, as an ode to the martyrs who laid down their lives defending these sectors

During its journey, the expedition will scale six passes above 15000 ft including the World's **Highest Motorable Pass** Umling La. The expedition has already pedaled through the toughest dirt tracts of Chushul plains & Indus River valley.

The sense of achievement could be seen in the eyes of the cyclists, who in the last few days have cycled through the most rugged terrain & inclement weather, battling the effects of high altitude and reduced oxygen in the atmosphere. The expedition will now undertake its final stretch of the journey, to the banks of the picturesque Tso Moriri

CMF Buy Nothing launches CMF Phone 1, Watch Pro 2 and Buds Pro 2

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: Nothing sub-brand CMF has launched its first smartphone CMF Phone 1 with a starting price of Rs 15,999 (including offers). This is the company's cheapest smartphone yet, and also the most repairable, with an easily replaceable back panel held together by stainless steel screws. Along with the phone, Nothing also launched the affordable Buds Pro 2 and Watch Pro 2. All three products will be available for purchase from July 12 at 12 noon on CMF's official website CMF (cmf.tech) and through retail partners.

Carl Pei, CEO of Nothing, said, "The CMF Phone 1, CMF Watch



Pro 2 and CMF Buds Pro 2 showcase Nothing's unique approach to integrating creativity, practicality and personalization through design. These products mark our commitment to entertainment in a boring industry, and I am very excited to see the market's response." Available in four colours

black, light green, blue (India only) and orange, the CMF Phone 1 looks like any modern Android phone from the front, with a massive 6.67-inch screen with a 120Hz refresh rate. It runs on the MediaTek Dimensity 7300 SoC, paired with up to 8GB of RAM and up to 256GB of internal storage. Additionally, the phone also includes a TF card slot for expanding the storage up to 2TB.

The CMF Phone 1 has dual rear cameras with a 50-megapixel primary sensor and a portrait camera and a 16-megapixel front camera. It shoots videos up to 4K from the main camera and 1080p from the selfie camera. Nothing is based on Android-14. Running on OS 2.6, it promises at least two major OS

The CMF Watch Pro 2, the brand's second smartwatch, sports a 1.32-inch circular display in an aluminium alloy case with interchangeable bezels. It supports auto-brightness adjustment, an advanced sleep detection algorithm, builtin multi-system GPS, and 120 sports modes, including automatic detection of activities like running and cycling. It claims up to 11 days of normal use or 12 days of heavy use on a single charge and is compatible with Android and iOS devices. The Buds Pro 2 are said

to be capable of delivering best-in-class audio quality with advanced features including active noise cancellation (ANC) up to 50dB, LDAC for high-resolution audio streaming, and a customisable smart dial on the case for volume adjustment and media playback controls that can be configured via the Nothing X

Top News Report

DODA, July 10: State Bank of India (SBI) has long been recognized not just for its banking services but also for its commitment to social and environmental causes.

exemplified by the launch of a plantation drive by the Seri branch in High School Seri, Doda, a picturesque region located within the Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday. The drive was led by SBI Manager Dikshant Gupta, who has been instrumental in promoting various community and environmental initiatives in the region.

The Doda district, known for its natural beauty and rich biodiversity, faces numerous environmental challenges, including deforestation and land degradation.

In response to these issues, the Seri branch of SBI decided to undertake a plantation drive as

a proactive measure to contribute to the conservation of the local environment. This initiative aligns with SBI's broader Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) goals, which emphasize sustainable development and environmental stewardship.

Under the leadership of Dikshant Gupta, the plantation drive was meticulously planned and executed. The event saw the participation of bank employees, local community members, and volunteers, all coming together with a shared goal of enhancing the green cover of the area. A variety of indigenous tree species were selected for planting, ensuring that the new growth would be well-suited to the local

These species not only contribute to the local biodiversity but also play a crucial role in soil conservation and water retention, which is vital for the health of the region's

climate and ecosystem.

environment, said Dikshant Gupta.

SBI Seri Branch organises plantation drive

He added that the plantation drive was more than just an event; it was a statement of SBI's ongoing commitment to the environment.

Dikshant Gupta, in his address during the event, emphasized the importance of trees in maintaining ecological balance and combating climate change. He highlighted that such initiatives are essential not only for the current generation but also for future generations who will inherit the planet Gupta's words resonated with the participants, many of whom expressed a newfound appreciation for the importance of envi-

ronmental conservation. Moreover, the involvement of the local community was a key aspect of

the drive's success. By engaging local residents and educating them about the benefits of tree plantation, SBI ensured that the initiative would

have a lasting impact. The community's involvement also fostered a sense of ownership and responsibility towards the newly planted trees, increasing the likelihood of their survival and growth.

This collaborative approach between the bank and the community exemplifies how corporate entities can work hand-in-hand with local populations to achieve common goals.

The plantation drive at the Seri branch is part of a broader series of environmental initiatives undertaken by SBI across the country. The bank has consistently championed green practices, from promoting digital banking to reduce paper usage to supporting renewable energy

projects, he said. These efforts are driven by the understanding that environmental sustainability is integral to longterm economic stability and societal well-being.

Gambhir era begins in Indian cricket; BCCI expects tenacity from new coach

NEW DELHI, Jul 10 (Agencies): World Cup-winning former opener Gautam Gambhir was named the head coach of the Indian cricket team by the BCCI, which hoped that he would bring "tenacity and leadership" to the position that was held with "remarkable success" by Rahul Dravid until recently.

The 42-year-old left-hander, who played a key role in India's 2011 ODI World Cup triumph, was the frontrunner to replace Dravid whose tenure ended with the country's triumph in the T20 World Cup in Barbados last month.

Gambhir's first assignment as India coach will be the tour of Sri Lanka for three T20Is and as many ODIs starting July 27.

"His appointment as head coach marks a new chapter for Indian cricket," said BCCI president Roger Binny. "His experience, dedication, and vision for the game make him the ideal candidate to guide our team forward. We are confident that



under his leadership, Team India will continue to excel and make the nation proud," he added.

The Board stated that the Cricket Advisory Committee comprising Ashok Malhotra, Jatin Paranjpe and Sulakshana Naik today unanimously recommended Gambhir.

Greatest privilege As a player, Gambhir led Kolkata Knight Riders to IPL titles in 2012 and 2014. He then proved his coaching credentials as the mentor of the KKR team that won the IPL title in 2024.

Gambhir said it would be an "absolute honour to serve the tricolour" and he would do "everything in his power" to deliver good results for the team.

"India is my identity and serving my country has been the

greatest privilege of my life. I'm honoured to be back, albeit wearing a different hat. But my goal is the same as it has always been, to make every Indian proud. The men in blue shoulder the dreams of 1.4 billion Indians and I will do everything in my power to make these dreams come true!" said Gambhir in a post.

Gambhir also congratulated Dravid for his stellar three-year tenure. "It is an absolute honour to serve my tricolour, my people, my country. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Rahul Dravid and his team of support staff for their exemplary run with the team. I am honoured and excited to take on the role of Head Coach for Team India," he said.

Gambhir said he was looking forward to working with some of the leading luminaries of cricket, including National Cricket Academy chief VVS Laxman, to take Indian cricket forward.

Fab 4 for Pooja Vastrakar, India win



CHENNAI, Jul 10 (Agencies): Pacer Pooja Vastrakar ran riot with a careerbest bowling show of 4/13 before Smriti Mandhana shone with the bat with an unbeaten half-century as India thrashed South Africa by 10 wickets in the third and final women's T20 International to level the series 1-1 here.

Left-arm spinner Radha Yadav (3/6) also chipped in with a fine performance of from her three overs to help India shoot South Africa out for a mere 84 in 17.1 overs after opting to bowl.

India easily chased down the small target of 85 with 55 balls to spare and without losing a wicket with opening batters Mandhana and Shafali Verma remaining not out on 54 and 27, respectively.

Mandhana hit the winning runs — a six off Nadine de Klerk — as India reached 88/0 in 10.5 overs. This was India's biggest victory over South Africa in this format, both in terms of wickets (10) and balls to spare (55).

Mandhana, who was at her magnificent best towards the end of the run chase, hit a six in the 10th over and followed it up with two fours and a sixer in the next to end the contest quickly. This was her 24th T20I half-century.

The opening duo played smart cricket, managing 40 for no loss at the end of the powerplay, with the visitors using five different bowlers in this phase but without any success Mandhana and Verma later went for the big shots to end the contest quickly. In all, Mandhana struck eight fours and two sixes from the 40 balls she faced while Verma scored three fours from 25 balls.

South Africa had won the first match by 12 runs before the second T20I was washed out on Saturday.

Brief scores: SA: 84 all out in 17.1 overs (Brits 20; Vastrakar 4/13, Radha 3/6); India: 88/0 in 10.5 overs (Mandhana 54*, Shafali 27).

Filling Virat Kohli's big shoes 'hard' for Ruturaj Gaikwad

HARARE, Jul 10 (Agencies): India's Ruturaj Gaikwad knows well that it will be "tough" and "hard" to replace retired Virat Kohli at the No. 3 spot in T20Is and said he is just focusing on making valuable contributions with the bat in whatever position the team leadership deems fit.

The retirement of Kohli, skipper Rohit Sharma and all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja from the shortest format following the T20 World Cup triumph has opened the doors for the upcoming players and Gaikwad is one such talented batter who has the potential to seal a place at the desired spot.

"This is a big topic and I think it's not the right point to think about it. To even compare with him (Kohli) or try to fill in his shoes is relatively very tough and very hard," Gaikwad said on the eve

of India's third T20I against Zimbabwe. "As I had said in the IPL as well, it is difficult to fill my best shoes as well. Definitely, you want to start your career, you want to start the way you want, you want to play your own game. So that's the priority right now. Focus on one



game, focus on how you can contribute towards the team in whichever position you play and make sure you are on the winning side more often than not."

Gaikwad has batted at No. 3 position for India in the first two T20Is against Zimbabwe but the Pune-born cricketer said he has no preference and will bat wherever the team requires him.

"No, wherever the team wants, I will bat there. There is no problem. There is not much difference between the opening and the No. 3 because you have to play the new ball. So there is not much difference," he said.

Wishes pour in for Sunil Gavaskar on 75th birthday

He is the first Mumbaikar to reach the 10,000-run mark in Test cricket

NEW DELHI, Jul 10 (Agencies): As Sunil Gavaskar touched another significant milestone in his life, turning 75 on Wednesday, there was an outpouring of good wishes for him on social media where his legendary exploits with the bat were recalled with reverence.

Considered one of the greatest batters to have played the game, the Mumbaikar was the first to reach the 10,000-run mark in Test cricket.

'Happy Birthday, Sunil Gavaskar! Your batting technique was so perfect that you could play aggressively and defensively with equal ease. Best wishes for everything and have a wonderful year ahead!' wrote BCCI secretary



Jay Shah on X.
Gavaskar became a widely-respected commentator after the end of his illustrious cricket-

ing career, narrating the nuances of the sport and giving his critical analysis one series after

another through his syn-

dicated columns and TV appearances.

Congratulating Gavaskar on the milestone, IPL side Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) said the batting great set the platform for India's success on the international

stage.
'The Little Master turns
75 today. Wishing Sunil
Gavaskar, the man who
paved the way for Team
India's batting revolution, a very happy birthday,' wrote RCB on X.

Gavaskar, who faced the most fearsome bowlers in the world but shunned the helmet, preferring to play with a padded floppy hat instead.

He was given an apt tribute by IPL franchise Delhi Capitals, which said on its social media post, 'We tip our Hats to you, Legend. Happy Birthday to the man who brought Sunny Days to Indian Cricket.'

Former India pace bowler Munaf Patel wished Gavaskar many more years of health.

'Happy Birthday Suni (sic) Sir. Wishing you a healthy life ahead,' wrote Munaf.

Born in 1949, Gavaskar had a trial by fire on debut when he faced the fearsome West Indies bowlers in 1971.

He played his last Test against Pakistan in 1987 and was a member of 'Kapil's Devils' squad which lifted the 1983 World Cup trophy in England, defeating a star-studded West Indies in the final.

New age Punjab players add edge to Indian cricket

These sportspersons are enhancing region's reputation of producing world-class cricketers

CHANDIGARH, Jul 10 (Agencies): With Indian cricket is scaling new heights with each passing day, a major portion of this credit goes to the young generation of Punjab cricketers, who are turning out to be the flag bearers of Indian cricket.

After Arshdeep Singh's

heroics in the recent

T20 World Cup title win,

another emerging star of Indian cricket from the state, Shubhman Gill, got an opportunity to lead the side in the ongoing Zimbabwe tour. Besides, these two, left-arm all-rounder Abhishek Sharma scored a brilliant century in the second match of his international debut against Zimbabwe. Coming to fill in for the likes of Yuvraj Singh and Harbhajan Singh, these youngsters of Punjab are only enhancing the region's reputation of producing world-class

Not only in men's cricket, but the state is performing fairly well in women's cricket also. As hitter Harmanpreet Kaur leads the current Indian women's team, the contribution of the likes of Tanya Bhatia, Sneh

cricketers.



Rana, Amanjot Kaur and Manant Kashyap for the Indian team is not to be forgotten.

Not just these names, but Punjab pacer Siddharth Kaul, who represented the Indian U-19 team and later also the senior squad, signed a deal with English County Northamptonshire, marking his debut in the English domestic circuit.

Sandeep Sharma, who plays for Chandigarh, had his stint with the Indian team while playing for Punjab, and Harnoor Singh, a member of the U-19 World Cup winning team, also moved to his parent state Punjab after a short stint

with a Chandigarh association.

The likes of Gurkeerat Mann and Mandeep Singh, also from Punjab, represented the modern era of cricketers to bag fame in international cricket.

"It's just the beginning. Many players can make it to the Indian men's and women's teams. It's just a matter of time, the world will see more players from Punjab in the Indian squad," said Dilsher Khanna, secretary, Punjab Cricket Association (PCA).

He added, "The association is giving the best platform to the youngsters and talented crick-

ters.

The Sher-e-Punjab league turned out to be a huge advantage for the players.

On the day of getting his Indian debut call, Abhishek was playing in the same league. It has helped Punjab players to showcase their talents for the IPL teams. Most of our players have played in the Indian U-19 teams and some have even been included in the India-A squad.

The (above-mentioned) names have added to the legacy of former international players from the region and the state associa-

tion," added Khanna.

He also predicted that the Punjab teams would perform fairly well in this year's domestic circuit, given the exposure to the players. For the first time in the last decade, the top performers of the Sher-e Punjab league have been picked to play a five-match international friendly series against hosts Namibia. Last November, the Punjab team won Syed Mustaq Ali Trophy, their first national title after 1993.

Not only players, but representatives of the PCA are also getting recognition in international cricket. Khanna is perhaps the youngest representative of the association who bagged the honour of being the manager of the Indian T20 World Cup team, which recently won the title under the captainship of Rohit Sharma.

Vikram Rathour, who had coached the Punjab team in the domestic circuit, was the batting coach of the same T20 World Cup winning squad. Under his venture, the Indian team finished as runners-up in the 2023 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup.

Rachin Ravindra gets central contract from New Zealand Cricket



WELLINGTON, Jul 10 (Agencies): Rachin Ravindra secured his very first New Zealand Cricket contract a year after being overlooked for the board's central retainership. The 20-player contract list has seen Rachin's Wellington teammate Ben Sears, Canterbury's Will O'Rourke and Otago's Jacob Duffy, left-arm spinner Ajaz Patel getting added to the list after missing out on a contract during the last year. The Indianorigin Rachin finally got the reward for all the runs he has plundered across the formats for New Zealand since last

The all-rounder emerged as the breakout star of the ODI

World Cup 2023, which was held in India. The 24-year-old scored 578 runs from 10 matches and finished off as the fourth-highest rungetter. The batter went on to make a mark on the Test circuit as well, by scoring 240 runs at Mount Maunganui against South Africa. This was the highest maiden Test century by a New Zealand batter and also broke into the team's T20I squad.

The rise of Rachin Ravindra

He was also named as the ICC Emerging Player of the Year for 2023 and went onto become the youngest recipient of the Sir Richard Hadlee Medal at the New Zealand Cricket Awards.

"Growing up you'd see those contract lists come out each year and think it would be cool to be on that list one day - and for it to eventuate now is a pinch-myself moment," Ravindra was quoted as saying in an NZC release. "It's been a really cool past 12 months playing international cricket. I've learned a lot and the hunger is definitely there to keep improving and

giving to the Blackcaps.

"It's such a special group to be in, from players to support staff - and that's been the most enjoyable part, to be honest. Playing a game you love with your mates for a living is something very special, and I hold it close to my heart."

New Zealand's centrally-contracted players for 2024-25:

Finn Allen, Tom Blundell, Michael Bracewell, Mark Chapman, Devon Conway, Jacob Duffy, Matt Henry, Kyle Jamieson, Tom Latham, Daryl Mitchell, Henry Nicholls, Will O'Rourke, Ajaz Patel, Glenn Phillips, Rachin Ravindra, Mitchell Santner, Ben Sears, Ish Sodhi, Tim Southee, Will Youn.

Manjit Singh asks govt to reduce electricity tariff in J&K

Demands recruitment of linemen in JPDCL, lauds role of daily wagers

Top News Report

SAMBA, July 10: Urging the Govt to reduce the electricity tariff, Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, Manjit Singh today sought clarification from the Govt for denying 24/7 electricity supply even after charging huge electricity bills to the power consumers.

The statement was given by Manjit Singh during an extensive tour of the Bari Brahmana Block in Samba District. The Provincial President Jammu was accompanied by Scheduled Tribe, J&K President of the Party, Saleem Alam. While addressing the people, after they raised serious concern over the unscheduled power cuts, and irregular drinking water supply in the Block, the Former Minister expressed surprise as to how the JPDCL and Jal Shakti Department could do with the people, especially when



the Jammu plains including Samba and Kathua is affected with the heart-

After hearing the grievances of the people, he said that apparently the Govt is not working for the welfare of the people as the bureaucracy has taken over the charge for the last several years without an elected Govt.

"As there is no elected

Govt, the problems for

have multiplied and the grievance redressal system has completely collapsed," he added.

He said that the Govt has failed to ensure 24/7 electricity to the people even after charging huge

the common masses

"These charges have put additional burden on the pockets of the general masses and led to strong resentment. The

The Former Minister visited several residential areas, and all of them raised their voice against JPDCL for its inability to provide adequate elec-

tricity supply. At the time when the JPDCL failed, he lauded the role of daily wagers, who work round the clock and ensure the people get electricity.

"These daily wagers work in very less amount of daily wager which should be enhanced to a respectable level, and accordingly, the shortage of linemen is a sign of poor planning in the department," he said, and demanded that recruitment for the linemen should be conducted to fill up all the vacant posts in the JPDCL.

He also demanded that the daily wagers should be regularized, and their demand for minimum wage act should be implemented so that the departments in the J&K Govt continue working without a break.

ABDPSS's Amarnath Yatra Bhandara enters day 11



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti, Jammu and Kashmir has continuously been arranging Bhandara for Baba Amarnathji Yatris since June 30, 2024 at Railway Station, Jammu with enthusiasm and fervor. 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. On 11th day of Bhandara Mahant Brijmohan ji Maharaj inaugurated Bhandara in the presence of Sunil Shamra, Nation-

al 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-ordinator 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 yatries day and night in the best possible manner.

Among Others who attended todays Bhandara namely, Vishal Sharma, Swatantar Bakshi, Vikram Sharma, Raja Mankotia Anil Kumar, Tarachand and others etc.

BVP organizes Bhandhara, Medical Camp on its foundation day



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: Bharat Vikas Parishad (BVP) organised Bhandhara & Medical Camp (Avush) on the eve of its Foundation day celebrations. Arun Gupta President Chamber along with his team Mates inaugurated and got themselves examined by Team of

Doctors vis a vis Phythrapist. Addressing media personnel Prant President Bharat Bhushan Sharma, Arun Sharma, Ashok Gupta, National Member Samparak, Regional Secretary Prof. B.B Sharma, highlighted the importance of Bharat Vikas Parishad, Dr Santosh Gupta, Patron,

Madhu Gupta, Arti Gupta Mahila Parmukh, Branch head of various Branches, Org Secretary Romesh, Vijay Sharma retd. DC state Vice pres dent Samparak Parmukh, Hirday vaid, Ravi Gupta of Nanak Nagar, Padha of Tridev Branch, Secretary General Shiv Ram, Dr Jain were participated in Hawan & Bhandhara.

Delegation from Virender Construction calls on Lt Governor Ladakh

Top News Report

unscheduled power cuts

have also affected drink-

ing water supply and

overall, it has given rise

to the feeling of discon-

tent among the people

against the Govt," he

He asked the Govt to

come clear regarding the

existing power crises in

Jammu and Kashmir in

the wake of shortage of

electricity that has col-

lapsed the entire supply

added.

LEH, July 10: A delegation from Virender Construction led by Major General, TPS Rawat (Retd), AVSM, VSM, called on the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), at Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat. Advisor to LG, Dr

Pawan Kotwal,; Commissioner/Secretary to LG, L Franklin,; Additional PCCF, Brij Mohan Sharma, IFS and Station Commander, IAF Station, Thoise Group Captain Sanjay Kumar Yadav were present in the meeting.

Rawat apprised the LG of the construction of a hangar at Thoise Airfield and informed the nonavailability of construction material in Nubra sub-division to carry out the said work. He requested the LG's intervention to allow the use of a crusher for the construction of the hangar at Thoise airfield keeping in view the security of the

The LG stated that Thoise Airfield is under the Karakoram Wildlife Sanctuary and informed about the exercise being carried out by the UT Administration to rationalise the boundaries of the Wildlife Sanctuary. He hoped that this area would be excluded from the sanctuary when the rationalisation exercise is complete so that developmental works are not

The LG inquired about the operation of Thoise Airfield for civilian use from Station Commander, Airforce Station Thoise, Group Captain Sanjay Kumar Yadav.

Station Commander, Airforce Station, Thoise, Group Captain Sanjay Kumar Yadav informed the LG that land has been identified and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) would be signed with the Airport Authority of India (AAI) to allocate the land and construct a civilian terminal at Thoise Airfield.

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Sham Langar warns Pakistan to cease terror support

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 10: Sham Lal Langar, Convenor of BJP Trade Cell, Jammu and Kashmir, today vehemently condemned the recent terror attack on an army convoy in the Machedi area of Kathua district. This heinous act of violence resulted in casualties among our brave soldiers who were performing their duty to safeguard the nation.

Expressing his deep sorrow and outrage, Sham Langar stated, "Such cowardly attacks by terrorists are a direct assault on our nation's sovereignty and security. We stand in solidarity with the families of the martyred soldiers and extend our heartfelt condolences. Their sacrifice will not be forgotten, and their bravery will continue to inspire us."

Sham Lal Langar strongly warned Pakistan to desist from supporting and harboring terrorist activities. He said, "Pakistan must immediately stop its support to terrorist outfits operating from its soil. The continuous backing of terrorism by Pakistan is a grave threat to regional peace and stability. India will not tolerate such acts of aggression and will take all necessary measures to protect its citizens and borders."

He further added, "The international community must recognize and condemn Pakistan's persistent involvement in promoting terrorism. We urge global powers to exert pressure on Pakistan to dismantle terrorist networks and ensure that their territory is not used as a launching pad for attacks against India.'

Sham Langar emphasized the BJP's unwavering commitment to ensuring the safety and security of the nation. "Our government, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. is resolute in its determination to combat terrorism in all its forms. We will continue to strengthen our defense capabilities and take decisive action against those who threaten our peace and security."

Sham Langar called for unity and resilience among the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir. "We must stand together in these challenging times and support our armed forces in their efforts to maintain peace and security in the region.

DSWO Leh organizes **Seminar-Cum-Training for De-Addiction centre staff**

Top News Report

LEH, July 10: The District Social Welfare Office (DSWO), Leh, organized à one-day seminar-cumtraining for the newly recruited staff at the District De-addiction Centre.

The training aimed to equip the staff with knowledge and skills to combat drug addiction in the region.

Nilza Angmo, District Social Officer, Leh emphasised the need to understand the contextual aspect of the addiction problem in Leh. Pallavi Singh, Director, Jammu & Kashmir State Level Coordinating Agency (SLCA) Society for Promotion of Youth and Masses (SPYM) spoke about the role, and responsibilities, and also gave an overview of the functioning of a deaddiction centre. Stanzin Legsmon, Narcotics Wing, Ladakh Police, discussed the legal aspects, while Urgain Angmo, Counsellor at SNM Hospital, shared insights into the current addiction scenario in Ladakh.

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e-mail: topnewsjk@gmail.com, editortopnewsjk@gmail.com

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