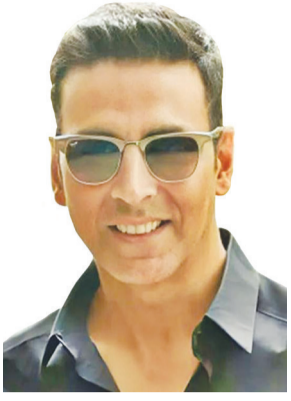


# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

**Akshay Kumar calls Garam Masala the toughest film of his career**



NATIONAL | 7

**Priyanka Gandhi slams BJP over 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas'; terms move 'negative politics'**

SPORTS | 11

**Jhulan Goswami joins Trinbago Knight Riders as mentor ahead of women's CPL**



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Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-15 Issue-192 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

## BRIEFLY

### J&K Police arrest 3 in Baramulla for cheating public

SRINAGAR, Jul 13 (Agencies): Police in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district arrested three alleged fraudsters for cheating on Saturday. Police said the gang of three fraudsters were involved in cheating people under the guise of selling and purchasing vehicles and promising government jobs in reputable institutions like Banks and government Departments.

Acting swiftly, a case was registered in police station Kreeri under section 318(4) Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS) and took three accused persons into custody.

Police identified the three as Mudasir Ahmad Mir, a resident of Thindma, Firdosue Ahmad Mir alias Sameer Khan, of Mughalpora Tangmarg, currently residing in Chanpora, Srinagar and Syed Akther, a resident of Sonlipora Tangmarg.

"The accused are currently under police custody, and further investigation is underway. Additional arrests are expected as the probe unfolds," a police statement said.

### Body of youth who jumped into river Jhelum retrieved after four days

SRINAGAR, Jul 13 (Agencies): The body of a youth, who jumped from Qamarwari Bridge into the river Jhelum, was retrieved after four days on Saturday, officials said.

An official told the news agency (KNO) that the body of Faiz Fayaz, resident of Bemina Srinagar, who jumped into river Jhelum on 10th July has been retrieved.

He added that the body was found by SDRF, River police after hectic efforts for the last four days.

Meanwhile, police have taken up the investigation into the matter.

### Govt bans installation of temporary tents for night stay in Gurez

SRINAGAR, Jul 13 (Agencies): The Jammu & Kashmir Government on Saturday banned the installation of temporary tents for night stay by tourists or any visitors in north Kashmir's Gurez.

"This office had allowed installation of Temporary Tents by Tourists/Visitors for night stay vide this office order No:-SDM/G/2024/245-49

Turn to page 9

## INDIA bloc heads for landslide victory in key polls in 13 Assembly seats

NEW DELHI, Jul 13 (Agencies): INDIA bloc parties won four assembly seats and were leading on six, while the BJP clinched one, and it and an Independent were ahead on one each as votes were counted on Saturday for the by-elections held earlier this week, according to the trends on the EC website.

On Wednesday, bypolls for 13 assembly seats were held in Punjab (1), Himachal Pradesh (3), Uttarakhand (2), West Bengal (4), Madhya Pradesh (1), Bihar (1) and Tamil



Nadu (1).

The Congress, TMC, AAP and DMK are among the INDIA bloc parties that fielded candidates in the bypolls.

In Punjab, Mohinder Bhagat of the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the

state won the Jalandhar West seat by defeating his nearest rival and BJP nominee Sheetal Angural by a margin of 37,325 votes, the Election Commission (EC) said.

The seat fell vacant after Angural resigned

as the AAP legislator and joined the BJP in March.

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said the victory with a big lead in the seat shows that the people of the state are "very happy" with his government's work.

In Tamil Nadu, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's (DMK) Anniyur Siva was ahead of PMK's Anbumani C by 58,785 votes in the Vikravandi assembly seat, the website showed.

Trinamool Congress' (TMC) Krishna Kalyani defeated BJP's Manas

Turn to page 9

## Two dead, 25 injured as bus plunges into gorge in Doda

JAMMU, Jul 13 (Agencies): Two persons were killed and 25 injured when a bus skidded off the road and plunged into a 200-foot-deep gorge in hilly Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, officials said.

The accident took place near Bhatyats at around 10.25 am when the private mini bus was on its way to Thathri from Bhalessa, the officials said.

They said one woman was found dead by the rescuers on the spot, while another succumbed to her injuries

at a hospital.

The nine other injured person, whose condition was stated to be serious, are being treated at the Government Medical College in Doda, the officials said.

Spoke to DC #Doda Harvinder Singh after learning about the tragic road accident in which a mini bus rolled down a deep gorge at Thathri Gandoh leading to loss of 2 lives and injuries to 17. Rescue teams are on the job. 6 of the critically injured shifted to GMC Doda. I'm in constant touch. All possible

Turn to page 9

## Tehsildar suspended for issuing transfer orders without approval in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Jul 13 (Agencies): District Magistrate Baramulla placed Tehsildar Baramulla under suspension for issuing transfer orders of Patwaris without approval from the competent authority.

"Whereas, Tehsildar Baramulla vide No. TB/N/58-63 dated: 10.07.2024 has issued transfer orders of Patwaris without approval of

Turn to page 9

## Resident Doctors hail new leave policy for medical professionals in J&K



SRINAGAR, Jul 13 (Agencies): The Resident Doctors of Government Medical College Srinagar and its associated hospitals today expressed gratitude to the Secretary, Health and Medical Education, Dr Syed Abid Rashid Shah for issuing a comprehensive order on leave entitlements for Post Graduate students, senior Residents/Tutors and DNB PG students.

The Resident Doctors described the order "as a progressive step and a significant advancement towards welfare of medical professionals working tirelessly in the Government Medical Colleges of Jammu and Kashmir. They stated that this new order addresses long standing concerns regarding the leave policies, bringing them in line with the norms of the National

Medical Commission (NMC) and the National Board of Examination (NBE).

They said inclusion of weekly one-day off, 20 days of Casual Leave, and five days of Academic Leave per year for both Senior Residents and Post Graduate students is a substantial improvement. They added that these steps will not only enhance their work life balance but also promote their academic and professional growth.

"We particularly appreciate the thoughtful inclusion of Maternity and Paternity Leave for both female and male doctors. Besides, extension of course duration to accommodate these leaves is a considerate

Turn to page 9

## 70 per cent of Jammu Kashmir Gram Panchayats lack internet access

SRINAGAR, Jul 13 (Agencies): Out of 4,299 gram panchayats (GPs) in Jammu and Kashmir, 2,993 lack broadband internet connection, an official data published on a Germany-based global data and business intelligence platform Statista.com, revealed Friday.

This makes up nearly

70 percent of panchayats lacking high-speed internet connectivity under the scheme.

BharatNet scheme, also known as the National Broadband Mission, was launched in 2021 for implementation in a phased manner to all gram panchayats (approximately 2.5 lakh)

in the country. The aim was to provide non-discriminatory access to broadband connectivity to all the telecom service providers.

The objective of the scheme was also to enable access providers like mobile operators, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), Cable

TV operators, and content providers to launch various services such as applications like e-health, e-education, and e-governance in rural and remote India. Currently, over 2.1 lakh villages and gram panchayats, were equipped with internet access

Turn to page 9

## J&K political parties oppose Centre's move to give more powers to Lt Guv

SRINAGAR, Jul 13 (Agencies): Political parties in Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday voiced their strong opposition to the Centre's move to vest more powers in the Union Territory's Lieutenant Governor for



taking decisions on matters related to police and all-India service officers.

While main regional outfits — the National Conference (NC) and the People's Democratic Party (PDP) — said the

Turn to page 9

## Amid forecast of rains, temp settles below normal in J&K parts

SRINAGAR, Jul 13 (Agencies): Amidst the forecast of moderate rainfall and flash floods in Jammu and Kashmir, the maximum temperature has recorded a dip on Friday with Srinagar, the summer capital of the Union Territory, recording a day temperature of 29.6 degree Celsius.

The highest temperature was recorded at Kupwara at 31.2 degree Celsius while the mercury in other parts settled below 30 degree Celsius today.

Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir, has recorded a maximum temperature of 27.02 degree Celsius while Pahalgam, a famous tourist destination has recorded a maximum temperature of 25.1 degree Celsius.

Turn to page 9

# MBA MOTORS

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### BARKHI

“दुखारी सुरत अब जलन में उतरती नहीं  
नगर फिजाओं में तुम मौजूद हो। तुम्हारा एहसास  
चमकते-चमकते ये मेरे दिल को इसी  
में राहत है। कि तुम हर जगह मौजूद हो”

Every day we remember you in our prayers, in our thoughts. Your memory can never be forgotten. May you rest in peace and shine in heaven.

**BARKHI** of our beloved **Sh. Vijay Gupta** will be performed on 14-07-2024 from 11:30 am onwards at our residence H. No. 251/A Shastri Nagar, Jammu.

**DEEPLY MISSED & BEING REMEMBERED BY:-**  
**Daughter and Son-in-law**  
Mrs. Bhawna Gupta & Mr. Vikrant Gupta  
**Son & Daughter-in-law**  
Paras Gupta & Shailu Gupta  
**Nephews & Daughter-in-law**  
Sh. Vipin Gupta & Poonam Gupta  
Sh. Rajesh Gupta & Neelu Gupta  
Late Sh. Kamal Kishore Gupta & Shivani Gupta  
**Grand Children:** Aaditi, Aakshra, Aarvi, Varmaan.  
**Contact:** 788978808, 941918301, 9419820340



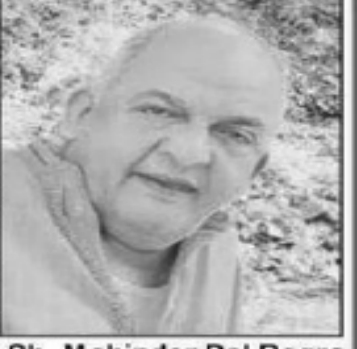
**Sh. Vijay Gupta**

### ADH-BARKHI

Six months have passed since you left us for heavenly abode. The pain of losing you will never fade, your memories are still fresh and we feel your presence everywhere, your blessings are always with us. You will forever live in our hearts guiding and inspiring us.

**ADH BARKHI** of **Sh. Mohinder Pal Regra** R/o M.I.G-11, Housing Colony, Udhampur, shall be performed on **Sunday 14-07-2024** at 11 AM at our residence.

**DEEPLY MISSED AND REMEMBERED BY:-**  
**Smt. Kiran Gupta -Wife**  
**Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Mrs. Megha Gupta and Mr Mayur Mahajan  
Miss Maayukhi and Mayurika - **Grand Daughters**  
**MOB: 9419175687, 9419160364, 9419103975**



**Sh. Mohinder Pal Regra**

### ANTIM ARDAAS


With profound grief and heavy heart, we deeply regret to inform the tragic demise of **Sardar Dr Jaginder Singh (Retd Dy Director Health Services J&K)** Son of late Dr Mahan Singh R/o Village Chithi Bugh Tal at present Indragarh Srinagar on 07-07-2024 after short illness. He, indeed left us with fond memories and an irreplaceable loss.

Wishaguru Vishal rooh nu agne charna with Neasa Balochan, **Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib** at 9 am on 12-07-2024 at his residence - House No. 11, Sector B, Indragarh, Srinagar (near Rehman Mosque).

**Shog Shri Akhand Path Sahib** at 9 am on 14-07-2024 at his residence.

**Kirtan and Antim Ardaas** followed by **Guru Ji langar** at **Chandana Shikharaj Indragarh Srinagar** on 14-07-2024 from 10 am onwards.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Kulwant Kour (Wife)**  
**S. Jaswant Singh (Retd Deputy Director Agriculture) - Brother**  
**Dr. Tara Singh (Retd Member Public Service Commission) - Brother**  
**Dr. Rajinder Singh (Retd Chief Medical Officer) - Brother**  
**Amrajit Singh & Iqbal Kour (Son & Daughter in Law)**  
**Pardeep Singh son of Late Sardar Kowshar Singh (Grand son)**  
**Rajinder Kour (Daughter in Law)**  
**Dr. Rajinder Singh (Retd Joint Director Health) and Davinder Kour (Son in law and Daughter)**  
**RS Sodhi (Retd DG Fire & Emergency Services) and Kiranpal Kour (Son in law and Daughter)**  
**S. Bhan Singh Bhat (Retd Officer) - Brother in Law**  
**Aroop Singh Bhat (Canada) - Brother in Law**  
**Harshraj Singh Bhat (Contractor) - Brother in Law**




**Sardar Dr Jaginder Singh (Retd Dy Director Health Services J&K)**

### 10TH DAY KRIYA

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

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

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



**Sh. Arjan Nath Raina**

### 10TH DAY AND 13TH DAY (RASAM KRIYA)

With profound grief we inform that our beloved father **Sh. Darshan Singh S/o Late Sh. Pawan Singh R/o 126 Rampura, Gandhi Nagar Jammu** left for heavenly abode on 03.07.2024.

**10th Day** will held on 12.07.2024 at 10:00 am and **13th Day/RASAM KRIYA** will be held on 15.07.2024 at 12:00 Noon.

**Venue:** Durga Palace, Rampura, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

**In Grief:**  
**Sons & Daughters in law**  
Dharminder Singh & Rajni Slathia  
Nirmal Singh & Rajeshwari  
Harinder Singh & Samta  
Kavita Chib & Subash Chib- **Daughter & Son in law**  
**Mobile No. 9419237384, 9622133282, 7006485748**



**Sh. Darshan Singh**

### TENTH DAY/KRIYA

“With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of **Smt. Usha Ganju**, W/o Satish Ganju, D/o Late Amarnath Kaul & Late Kheranashori Kaul, resident of E-64, Kamal Pushpa, Bandra Reclamation (West), Mumbai. The revered soul left for her heavenly abode on 9th of July, 2024 at Mumbai.

The **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on the 15th of July, 2024, Thursday at Shivaji Park, sea shore, starting at 8 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
**Ms. Manu Gauri (Wife-in-law)**  
**Smt. Sunita Parash (Daughter)**  
**Rohini Dhar & Rajat Dhar (Daughter & Son-in-law)**  
**Sanchit & Pooja Ganju (Sons & Daughters-in-law)**  
**Vinod & Ashu Ganju (Brother and Sister-in-law)**  
**Suman & Nishita Ganju (Nephew & Daughter-in-law)**  
**Sheela Ganju (Niece)**  
**Rohita, Kavyash, Nisha & Anshu (Grandchildren)**  
**Dr. Kishan & Sunita Kaul (Brother & Sister-in-law)**  
**Yash and Rajni Kaul (Sister and Brother-in-law)**  
**Deeply missed by: R. Dhar & family, V. K. Kaul & family, J. Kaul & family, D. S. Subramanian & family**  
**Contact: 988896604, 982052217, 99284549, 74045308**




**SMT. USHA GANJU**

### TENTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Satya Devi** W/o Sh. Virender Singh Baboria R/o H.No. 510, Indira Chowk, Sabesh Nagar Jammu.

**Tenth Day** will be performed on 14th July 2024 (Sunday) at Kali Mata Mandir Opp AG Office Jammu at 8.30 AM.

**Grief Stricken**  
**Sh. Virender Singh Baboria - Husband**  
**Son & Daughter-in-law**  
**Sh. Amit Singh & Suman Baboria**  
**Sh. Suresh Singh & Smt. Sheetal Singh**  
**Sh. Rajeev Singh & Smt. Anika Devi**  
**Son-in-law & Daughter**  
**Sh. Kalvir Singh Sambhal & Smt. Sudesh Kumari**  
**Sh. Ravinder Son - Brother-in-law**  
**Smt. Priyanka Sharma - Sister**  
**Smt. Parkash Devi Shan - Nephew**  
**Smt. Binia Devi - Nephew**  
**Smt. Asha Devi - Nephew**  
**7780813908**



**Smt. Satya Devi**

### TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of **Smt Vandana Sharma** W/o Sh. J.P. Sharma (Retd UCO Bank Jammu) on Friday 5th of July 2024.

**10TH DAY** will be performed at Rani Park Jammu on Sunday 14th of July 2024 at 10.00 AM.

**KRIYA** will be performed on Monday 15th July 2024 at 935, Jullaka Mohalla, Jammu.

**UTHALA** will be performed on Monday 15th July 2024 at Brahman Sabha, Parade Ground Jammu from 5.00 PM to 6 PM.

**DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:**  
**Sh. Rajesh Sharma & Inna Sharma - Son & Daughter in Law**  
**Sh. Rakesh Sharma & Kavita Sharma - Son & Daughter in Law**  
**Suhani & Suzzana - Grand Children**  
**MOBILE NO: 9086214850, 9718991178**



**VANDANA SHARMA W/O SH J.P SHARMA**


### TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Om Parkash Sharma** (Retired Assistant Information Officer) S/o Lt. Sh. Nath Rao House No. 348, Ward No. 5, behind SBI Udhampur (Barren) originally R/o Parthial.

**Tenth Day** will be performed on Saturday 13th of July 2024 at Ram Mandir Hall behind SBI Udhampur at 11:00 a.m.

**Kriya** will be held on 14th of July 2024 at Devika Ghat.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Smt. Priya Devi - Wife**  
**Sh. Sanjeev Kumar - Son**  
**Smt. Monika Sharma - Daughter-in-law**  
**Smt. Leela Devi W/o Lt. Sh. Kedar Nath Dubey - Sister**  
**Daughters**  
**Smt. Manju Sharma**  
**Nirmal Kaur**  
**Kamlesh Sharma**  
**Dhivy Chavvi - Grand Daughter**  
**Ashish Bangathia - Grand Son-in-law**  
**Mehesh Sharma, Anshika Sharma, Aditya Sadhotia - Grand Daughters**  
**Kritay Gupta - Great Grand Son**  
**Phone No.: 802406796, 9419626031, 7006915894**




**Sh. Om Parkash Sharma**

### OBITUARY

With profound sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved Father, **Dr. K.L. Dhar**, Former Joint Director of CSIR-IIM / RRL, Jammu, originally from Chatabal, Srinagar. He departed for his heavenly abode on the night of July 10, 2024, at his residence in Mohali-160059, Punjab.

**DEEPLY MOURNED BY:**  
**Daughters-in-law and Sons:**  
Mrs. Rita & Dr. Raj K. Dhar  
Mrs. Anita & Prof. Rakesh Dhar  
Mrs. Anu & Mr. Vivek Dhar  
**Grandchildren:**  
Mrs. Dr. Sakshi & Mr. Rashank Dhar  
Mrs. Mileelisha & Mr. Arjuman Midha  
Eshita Dhar, Rashika Dhar, Gangesh Dhar  
Together with friends and relatives.  
For further information, please contact:  
9246882193, 8222064483



**Dr. K.L. Dhar (10-7-2024)**

### KRIYA & UTHALA

Our hearts are heavy & words cannot fully convey the sorrow, we feel over the irreparable loss of our beloved father **Sh. Krishan Kumar Mandla** who peacefully transitioned from this World to his Eternal Home on 2-07-2024 at Mumbai. His selfless love & warmth will forever be cherished in our hearts.

**Kriya** will be held on 14th July 2024 (Sunday) at 12.00 noon at our residence 10-B, Karan Nagar Extension, Jammu.

**Uthala** will be held on 15th July 2024 (Monday) from 5.00 - 6.00 pm at Trikuta Yatri Niwas, Ved Mandir Road Ambphalla.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Late Smt. Usha Jamwal - Wife** at her Heavenly Abode  
**Kulpreet & Sumedh Singh Mandla - Daughter-in-law & Son**  
**Mala Mandla & Rakesh Singh Slathia - Daughter & Son-in-law**  
**Josika, Savirya, Shaurya & Vedanth - Grand Children**  
**Deeply Missed By:**  
**Mandla & Slathia Family**  
**Mobile Nos: 9820521992, 9419190137, 9906019497**



**Sh. K K Mandla (Retd. AEE)**

### 10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **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 at Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of School Education Jammu on 15th of July 2024 at 8.30 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Sons & Daughters in Law**  
**Sh. Pran Nath Thusoo & Smt. Meenakshi Thusoo**  
**Sh. Baneji Thusoo & Smt. Anita Thusoo**  
**Grand Children**  
**Mr. Mohi Thusoo**  
**Nisa Tejoshi Thusoo**  
**Daughter & Son in Law**  
**Smt. Surje Bhat & Sh. Rattan Lal Bhat**  
**Brothers & Sisters in Law**  
**U. Sh. Omnath Thusoo & Smt. Pyadi Ji**  
**Sh. Rattan Lal Thusoo & Smt. Ratni Thusoo**

**Sisters & Brother in Laws**  
**Smt. Gauri & Late Sh. Sham Lal Pandita**  
**Smt. Nancy Bhat & Lt. Sh. Jawahar Lal Bhat**  
**Smt. Dhruv Ji Dhar & Sh. Rishi Nath Dhar**  
**CONTACT NO : 9822304576, 9469099604**  
**Email Id: pnthusoo1964@gmail.com**



**SH. DWARIKA NATH THUSOO**

### Dr. Ashu Sharma appointed as Youth President of Dogri Bhasha Academy

**Top News Report**

JAMMU, July 13: Dr. Ashu Sharma, an established litterateur and translator, awarded with the Yuva Sahitya Academy Award of Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi in Dogri language, has been appointed as the youth President of the youth unit of Dogri Bhasha Academy, Jammu.

This information was given in a press release jointly issued by the Founder of Dogri Bhasha Academy, Yashpal Nirmal and President, Roshan Bral.

It is worth noting that Dr. Ashu Sharma is Ph.D in Dogri language and has been creating literature for the last several years. So far, about a dozen of her books have been published. She has also been awarded the Yuva Puraskar by the Sahitya Akademi for her collection of short stories in dogri language entitled "Kathaputti".

She was associated with the dogri bhasha academy for the last 12 years. She has been actively involved in the cultural and literary activities organized by the Dogri bhasha academy time to time.

She has been associated with the Dogri Bhasha Academy for the last 12 years. She has been actively involved in cultural and literary activities organized by the Dogri Bhasha Academy from time to time.

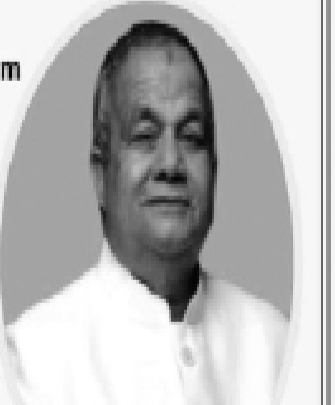
Seeing the hard work, dedication and devotion towards duties of Dr. Ashu Sharma, today the executive of the Dogri Bhasha Academy has decided to appoint her as the youth president.

### TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **SH ASHOK KUMAR GUPTA** S/o Late Sh. Narsingh Dayal Gupta R/o H.No 21 Sector 6, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu

**TENTH DAY** will be performed at **Panch Mandir Channi Himmat on 14-07-24 (Sunday) from 10 am to 11 am**

**Grief Striken**  
Sh. Amit Gupta & Smt. Anshu Gupta (Son & Daughter-in-Law)  
Sh. Sumit Gupta & Smt. Shweta Gupta (Son & Daughter-in-Law)  
Sh. Sachin Gupta & Smt. Serika Gupta (Daughter & Son-in-Law)  
**Brother's & Sister's-in-Law**  
Sh. Tarlok Gupta & Smt. Veena Gupta  
Sh. Kamal Gupta & Smt. Meenakshi Gupta  
Sh. Darshan Gupta & Smt. Neelam Gupta  
Sh. Sumnder Gupta & Smt. Sanish Gupta  
Sh. Mohinder Gupta & Smt. Anju Bala  
**Brother-in-Law & Sister-in-Law**  
Sh. Kulbushan Gupta & Smt. Rajni Gupta  
Sh. Amit Gupta & Smt. Dhruv Gupta (Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-Law)  
**Grand Children :** Ansh, Sewar, Behraj, Sayam, Siya  
**94191-90030, 94191-17233, 96825-23211**



**Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta**  
M/s Ashok Kumar & Sons, R.S Pura Jammu  
M/s JCM Traders, Sarwal, Jammu

### 10TH DAY KRIYA

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

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

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




**SMT ANJALI MISRI**

### OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Kunal Bhat/ Neepu** S/o Sh. Roop Krishan Bhat H.No. 9C Mohinder Nagar Extension opposite Canal Power House Canal road Jammu on 9/7/2024.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of Education Jammu on 18/07/2024 at 8.30am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Mrs Rani Bhat (Aunt)**  
**Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhat (Uncle)**  
**Sh Rakshit Bhat (Brother)**  
**SAMAST BHAT PARIVAR AND DHAR PARIVAR**  
**PHONE : 9906196206, 9469213692**



**Sh. Kunal Bhat/ Neepu**

### Ramakrishna Mission organizes two-day teachers' training programme at KC Int'l School

**Top News Report**

JAMMU, July 13: A two-day teachers' training program was successfully organized by Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu, at KC International School, Jammu, on July 11 and 12, 2024 on the topic "Harmony: Love & Freedom in Action" The Secretary of Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu, Swami Yajnanandananda, gave the workshop its inaugural opening. He called on educators to be lifelong learners in his inaugural speech, stressing the importance of their never-ending quest of knowledge and insight for students' overall growth as well as the welfare of families, communities, the country, and all of mankind.

Sanjay Kumar Singh, Founder Director of Dimensions Education Pvt Ltd, Delhi, delivered the presentation in a distinctive and captivating way that struck a chord with the attending instructors. Teachers reported that the training exceeded their expectations and completely transformed their life. Teachers who attended the course gained important skills and knowledge that helped them connect with their students and coworkers on a deeper level. It promoted a collaborative and innovative culture that enabled teachers to improve their approaches and make more meaningful contributions to the learning environment.

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**HOLY HIM-SHIVLING DISAPPEARED**

**Shiv Sena, Sant Samaj raise demand of fixing accountability, refund of registration fee**

**Top News Report**

KATRA, July 13: Shiv Sena (UBT) and Swami Rajeshwaranand Ji Maharaj from Sant Samaj has demanded accountability and refund of registration fee by Shri Amarnath Shrine Board after the disappearance of the Holy Him Shivaling within two weeks of the start of the annual Shri Amarnath Yatra which is going on from 29 June to 18 August.

In a special conversation with journalists at Shri Raj Mata Shani Mandir in Katra, Shiv Sena (UBT) State Chief Manish Sahni and Swami Rajeshwaranand Ji Maharaj said that devotees wait eagerly for the whole year to have Darshan of natural Him-



Shivaling in Shri Amarnath cave.

During the Yatra, the whole of Jammu and Kashmir reverberates with the chants of Bam Bam Bhole.

During this time, while Bhole Baba devotees are delighted with the Darshan of the Holy ice Shivaling and the tourism business of Jammu and Kashmir also gets a special boost but for the

last few years, the disappearance of the Holy Him-Shivaling before the completion of the Yatra period has caused great disappointment among the devotees, the effect of which is clearly visible in the form of a decline in the number of devotees, he said.

This year, on 29 June, within just ten days of the 50-day long Yatra, the Holy Him Shivaling disap-

peared due to which, the devotees who reached for the Darshan are disappointed and angry with the Shrine Board and the administration, he said.

At the same time, there is a state of disappointment among the people associated with the tourist business as well, he added.

Sahni took the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board to task and said that it is the responsibility of the Shrine Board to run the Yatra smoothly and keep the Holy Shivaling safe for Darshan.

Sahni and Swami Rajeshwaranand have jointly demanded from the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha (who is also the Chairman of Shri Amarnath Shrine Board)

to fix the accountability of the Shrine Board and return the registration amount collected from the devotees.

Along with this, the decisions of the administration like harassing the local people of Pahalgam and closing the main roads from Nunwan to Ganeshbal in view of security during the Yatra were strongly condemned.

Sahni said that due to this the local people are facing a lot of problems in commuting.

He said that the cooperation of the local people cannot be forgotten to continue the Yatra smoothly. Special care should be taken to ensure that the local people do not face any problem during the Yatra.

**Administration failed to provide basic amenities to people of village Sandhi: Telli**

**Top News Report**

JAMMU, July 13: JKNC OBC Cell serious of workers meeting held at village Sandhi presided by its Chairman Abdul Gani Telli, grievances of the people were heard and they were assured that their problems will be addressed, programme was organised by Din Mohd. senior vice-president obc cell.

While addressing the meeting, he said people of village Sandhi which comprises around one panchayat are suffering due to bad condition of road connectivity from Sunjwan to Sandhi village, which is about 15 kms from district headquarter Jammu DC office but there is very poor condition of the link roads.

Lack of drinking water it's shocking when we see the local residents

of the areas are storing rainy water at their roofs for daily use and drink, and shortage of teaching staff in Government High School is running without headmaster post there is the root cause of various problems of the local areas, who have demanded immediate attention of the administration in this regard he said.

According to JKNC Chairman OBC Cell, despite various representation no action has been taken to improve the basic facilities for people's over the continuous neglect rural areas of the Jammu district under the present dispensation water supply, health care, road connectivity, education, and other unattend-

ed public services, a grim outlook for development of rural and far off areas, this shows that there is much difference between words and deeds.

Abdul Gani Telli appealed to the local residents of the areas to stand united and support the party Chief Patron Dr. Farooq Abdullah, and Omar Abdullah, in upcoming assembly elections for a brighter future of OBC community.

Others those who attend the meeting, included DD Mehra, Kuldeep Raj, Gandrav Singh, Kaku Din Mohd Iqbal (Naib Sarpanch), Mohd Rafiq, Nazir Ahmed, Haji Shail Din, Haider Hussain, Sultan Mohd, Mangat Ram Kalsi, Shashi Keshap, Gopal Krishan were present.

**Release funds for Turnover Incentives Claims of existing working units in J&K: FoJ**

**Top News Report**

JAMMU July 13: We bring to Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha's attention the dire situation faced by the Existing Working Units of Jammu & Kashmir due to the non-release of requisite funds by the Finance Department.

This delay has severely impacted the industrial sector, which plays a crucial role in providing direct and indirect employment to thousands of local residents.

Despite repeated requests and reminders, the Finance Department has shown a casual attitude towards releasing funds to clear the Liabil-

ity of Turnover Incentives Claims for the Financial years 2021-22 and 2022-23. Majority of these units are operated by local entrepreneurs, overcoming numerous challenges to contribute significantly to the local economy.

Lalit Mahajan, Chairman of the Federation of Industries Jammu (FoJ), has highlighted that the withdrawal of SRO 431 of 2018, which provided essential hand-holding support with an annual budgetary allocation of approximately 200 Crores, has exacerbated the situation. This support has been replaced by a mere initial budget of 50 Crores annually under the Industrial Policy 2021, promising settlement of

claims based on actual turnover incentives.

For the financial year 2021-22, turnover incentive claims amounting to approximately Rs. 206 Crores have been filed by the industrial units, out of which only a minimal payment (8 to 10%) has been released to a few units as of June 2024. The remaining balance for this period, and any processing for the financial year 2022-23, remains unaddressed, causing significant dissatisfaction and uncertainty among the industrial units of Jammu & Kashmir.

In light of these critical issues, we earnestly request your intervention to direct the Finance and

Industries Departments for the immediate release of requisite funds to clear the liability of turnover incentives based on the actual claims filed. Furthermore, we urge you to take up this matter with the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister to ensure adequate budgetary allocation in the Union Budget 2024-25 for the settlement of turnover incentives claims for the industrial sector of Jammu & Kashmir.

LG's timely intervention is crucial to alleviate the distress faced by the industrial units and to uphold the commitment towards supporting local entrepreneurship and economic development in the region.

**Tilak Shan congratulates newly elected Rajya Sabha member**

**Top News Report**

JAMMU, July 13: Shiv Sena President Chenab Valley, Tilak Shan congratulated Krupal Balaji Tumane who was elected to the Rajya Sabha on Friday and expressed hope that he will be able to raise concerns of the state they represent.

Shan added "Congratulations to Krupal Balaji Tumane elected



to the Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra state and best wishes for their Parliamentary career. I hope they effectively voice the aspirations of the state they will represent.

**LG Mishra holds review meeting with CEC & ECs of LAHDC Kargil**

**Top News Report**

LEH, July 13: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) held a meeting with Chairman and Executive Councillors of LAHDC Kargil along with the Departmental Secretaries/Directors and Head of Departments physically and virtually at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat to review the progress of ongoing works/schemes in Ladakh and to discuss the issues faced by them in carrying out the projects/schemes.

At the outset, the LG stated that the objective of the review meeting is to discuss the works done along with incomplete works that need to be expedited. Directing all concerned Departmental Secretaries/Directors and Head of Departments to attend the meeting unflinchingly, the HLG stated that the officials must apprise him of the issues of the respective departments, the need to resolve the issues discussed in the meeting in a timebound manner and finding a viable solution to complete the pending works.

The LG stated that the Directors and Head of Departments would be given one charge so that they could focus on their departments and ensure that the department's work doesn't suffer. He also asked Advisor, Dr Pawan Kotwal to hold a meeting of the Departmental Secretaries to ensure an increase in spending of the budget allocated by the Government of India to UT

Ladakh. The LG discussed several other issues in the meeting, viz. the submission of Recruitment Rules (RR) for the gazetted posts of Animal Husbandry and Power Development Department; the feasibility of conducting the At-Home function on the occasion of Independence Day this year in Kargil also; the requirement of the post of Director for Sheep Husbandry Department; the construction of Police Post along with Animal Husbandry Department's shed on the other side of the river in Rangdum village to stop the infiltration of Bakarwals from J&K for grazing their cattle; the processing and expediting of SRO-43 cases; promotion of sea buckthorn products; setting up check posts in border areas; the update on establishment of Engineer College and Sindhu Central University in Ladakh; the update on purchase of MRI machine for District Hospital, Kargil; allocation and distribution of more pashmina kid pens among the beneficiaries in Changthang area; the possibility of operation of IAF flights or Air India flights at Kargil Airport under the Udan scheme; the update on status of visa for the technician who would visit China for training to operate the Pashmina Dehairing Plant; the update on saturation of 4G mobile towers by BSNL; the update on sugar liability and the money deposited; the update on saturation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in Ladakh along

with ensuring that only the Sarpach is allowed to collect fee for water charges from the villagers and not by any government official; the garbage clearance in different blocks along with the need to clear garbage from transformer enclosures in Leh; the need for a holistic approach for construction of public conveniences-cum-cafes at Khardung-La and Chang-La along with ensuring that there is no littering in that area; the need to define the definition of hotels, guest-houses, restaurants and homestays in Ladakh; the need to upgrade the manpower of UT Disaster Response Force (DRF) and establishing a separate unit at Leh and Kargil districts, their proper training and conducting mock drills on a regular basis; the need to provide lucrative stipends to Aapda Mitra when they are on duty at the time of incidents of disasters in Ladakh, etc.

Chairman, LAHDC Kargil, Dr Mohd Jaffer Akhoun raised several issues related to Kargil district, including the need to resolve the issue of payment of salaries of teachers engaged under the Samagra Shiksha scheme in Kargil; the need to sanction staff such as safai karamchari and housekeeping on outsourcing basis for Council Secretariat at Kargil; the need to allocate special fund for Muharram and resolving the border issue at Zoji-La between Ladakh and J&K, etc. The LG informed Dr Mohd Jaffer Akhoun

that the salary of teachers engaged under the Samagra Shiksha scheme would be paid by July 20 after getting the nod from the Ministry of Education.

He stated that Deputy Commissioner, Kargil would prepare the list of manpower required at Council Secretariat in Kargil on an outsourcing basis and share the list with Advisor, Dr Pawan Kotwal.

He asked Dr Kotwal to look into the demand for allocation of special fund for Muharram based on past practice.

Other issues such as banning plastic bottles up to 1 litre and packaged plastic chips along with forming a committee to look at alternatives to these problems were also discussed in the meeting.

Chairman, LAHDC Kargil, Dr Mohd Jaffer Akhoun; Executive Councillors- Zakir Husain, Kacho Mohd Feroz and Aga Syed Mujtaba Musavi; Advisor to the LG, Dr Pawan Kotwal; Principal Secretary, Sanjiv Khirwar; ADGP Ladakh, Dr SD Singh Jamwal; Commissioner/Secretary, Dr Vasanthakumar N; Commissioner/Secretary, Padma Angmo; Commissioner/Secretary to the LG, L Franklin; Secretary, Yetindra Maralkar; Secretary, Michael D'Souza; Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve; Deputy Commissioner, Kargil, Shrikant Suse; Directors, Head of Departments and other concerned officials were present in the meeting.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
Corrigendum

Sr. Divisional Material Manager, NRI, State Branch DDM Office, Firuzpur for and on behalf of President of India issue (Corrigendum) through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
1.	94249627A	Office Hysteroscope with Hysteroscopic set	01 nos
2.	94235470A	ARTHROSCOPY SYSTEM	01 nos
3.	94249626A	Automated Immune Assay Analyza	01 nos

Corrigendum

Sr. No.	Reference	Existing	Revise
1.	5. Standard Governing Condition Clause-5.3	ITT_Rev_1.21_APRIL_2024. Public procurement of this item is restricted to Class - I and Class-II local suppliers only. Thus, only class-I and class-II local supplier as defined under the public procurement (preference to Make in India) Order, 2017, as amended shall be eligible to bid in this tender. Offer from vendors who do not qualify to be class - I or Class-II local supplier, shall be summarily rejected and, therefore, such vendors should not participate in the tender.	Deleted
2.	Tender Opening Date	94249627A (TOD-17.07.24), 94235470A (TOD-10.07.24), 94249626A (TOD-17.07.24)	06.08.2024

Note:- Above tenders with detailed description are uploaded on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. The firm, who desires to participate against e-tenders, is advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a class III digital certificate form certifying Agencies authorized under IT Act 2008 by Govt. of India. Manual offers against e-tenders will not be accepted.

Corrigendum 13/2024-25 Date:- 12.07.2024 2120/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER, GANDHI NAGAR  
(cdpegandhinagar@gmail.com)

**Notice**

**Subject: Final Selection List of candidates for the post of Sanganis (Anganwadi Worker).**

Whereas, Vide Advertisement Notification No. 04 of 2023, dated: 16.11.2023, 02 (Two) number of posts of Sanginis (Anganwadi Worker) were advertised for filling up of the vacant posts in Poshan Project Gandhi Nagar in pursuance of HR policy as notified Vide Govt. Order No: 103-JK (SWD) of 2023, dated: 28-04-2023 read with Govt Order No. 222-Jk (SWD) of 2022, dated: 30-11-2022.

Whereas, 03 (Three) number of applications were received for the vacant posts of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) for various Anganwadi Centres in different Panchayat Wards/Municipal Wards of poshan Project Gandhi Nagar as on last date of submission of applications forms.

Whereas, recommended by the selection committee constituted vide Govt. Order No. 103-JK(SWD) of 2023, dated: -28-04-2023, 02 candidate were provisionally/ tentative considered for the post of Sanginis (Anganwadi worker) against available vacant post in Anganwadi center Channi Himmat 'A' Municipal ward NO: 51 & Anganwadi Centre Gandhi Nagar 'A' Municipal Ward NO: 21 Vide this office Notice NO: CDPO/GN/1215-23/2024, dated: 05-01-2024.

Whereas, objections were invited from the general public regarding Provisional selection list of 02 candidate for the post of SANGINIS (Anganwadi worker) published in print Media Vide No: DIP/J-13580/2023& Notice No: CDPO/GN/1215-23/2024, dated:05-01-2024 but no objections were received from the General public.

Whereas, on the recommendation of District level Selection Committee, Final selection list of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) dully approved by Additional District Development Commissioner Jammu conveyed by District Programme Officer Poshan, Jammu, Vide NO: DPOJ/poshan/3760-68/2024, dated: 12-03-2024. The final Selection List of 02 Number of Anganwadi Centre is hereby issued regarding consideration of following candidates for the post of SANGINIS (Anganwadi Workers) against available vacancy in Anganwadi centre mentioned against each (List enclosed at Annexure-A).

Sd-  
Child Development Project Officer  
Poshan project Gandhi Nagar.  
(Member secretary Selection Committee)

NO: CDPO/GN/ 234-42/2024 **DIP/J-2787/24**  
Dated: 09/07/2024



## EDITORIAL

JAMMU  
PILGRIMAGE

Jammu, a region steeped in history and spirituality, is renowned for its numerous pilgrim places that attract devotees from across India and beyond. From ancient temples to revered shrines, each site holds a unique significance in the cultural and religious tapestry of the region.

Located in the Trikuta Mountains, Vaishno Devi Temple is one of the most revered Hindu pilgrimage destinations in India. The shrine is dedicated to Goddess Vaishnavi, an incarnation of Goddess Parvati. Devotees undertake a strenuous trek of approximately 12 kilometers from Katra town to reach the temple, where they seek the blessings of the Goddess.

Situated in the heart of Jammu city, Raghunath Temple is one of the largest temple complexes in northern India. The temple is dedicated to Lord Rama and houses numerous shrines within its premises, each adorned with intricate carvings and paintings. It was built in the 19th century by Maharaja Gulab Singh and remains a significant pilgrimage site for Hindus.

Located on the banks of River Tawi in Jammu city, Peer Kho Cave Temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. The temple is believed to have been constructed over a natural cave where it is said that the sage Jamadagni meditated. Devotees visit to seek blessings and witness the natural beauty surrounding the temple.

Mahamaya Temple, situated near the Bahu Fort in Jammu, is dedicated to Goddess Mahamaya, an incarnation of Goddess Durga. The temple offers panoramic views of the Tawi River and the city of Jammu. It is a popular destination for pilgrims, especially during the Navratri festival.

Located in Reasi district, Shiv Khori is a cave shrine dedicated to Lord Shiva. The cave is adorned with naturally formed stalagmites and stalactites, resembling the Shivlinga. Devotees undertake a challenging trek through the mountains to reach the shrine and seek blessings of Lord Shiva.

Sudh Mahadev Temple, situated in Chenani Tehsil of Udhampur district, is dedicated to Lord Shiva. The temple complex includes a sacred pond known as Pap Nashni Bowli, which is believed to wash away sins of the devotees. The temple attracts pilgrims, especially during the annual Maha Shivaratri festival.

Located near the Mantalai Lake in Padder Valley of Kishtwar district, Mantalai Temple is dedicated to Goddess Parvati. The temple is revered as the place where Goddess Parvati was married to Lord Shiva. Pilgrims visit the temple to pay homage to the divine union and experience the serene beauty of the valley.

The Krimchi Temples, located in Udhampur district, are a group of ancient temples dedicated to Lord Shiva. These temples are known for their unique architecture, dating back to the 11th century. The complex includes several shrines surrounded by picturesque landscapes, making it a popular pilgrimage and tourist destination.

Purmandal, situated on the banks of River Devika in Samba district, is famous for its cluster of temples dedicated to various Hindu deities. The area is considered sacred due to the presence of numerous temples and the belief that River Devika is as holy as River Ganga. Pilgrims visit Purmandal to perform rituals and seek blessings.

Located near Karua Jheel in Reasi district, Baba Dhansar Temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. The temple is renowned for its picturesque waterfall and natural beauty. Devotees visit the temple to seek blessings and witness the cascading waterfall, which is considered sacred.

These pilgrim places in Jammu not only attract devotees seeking spiritual solace but also offer a glimpse into the rich cultural heritage and religious traditions of the region. Each site holds its own significance, steeped in mythological legends and historical importance, making Jammu a cherished destination for pilgrims from all walks of life. Whether trekking up the mountains to Vaishno Devi or exploring ancient cave shrines, the pilgrim places of Jammu offer a profound experience of devotion and reverence amidst natural beauty.

## Banning of books and 'cancelling' of authors: Where, when will it stop?

By: Farrukh Dhondy

For most of my short and happy life, the verb "to cancel" applied exclusively to events. But language moves on. Today people are "cancelled".

This shift came about when a person whose views were deemed objectionable by a potential audience, such as activist students at a university, had a speaking event "cancelled". The epithet then transferred to the person who was stopped from speaking.

Subsequently, the word wasn't restricted to the "cancelled" speakers. It began to be used for various forms of banning or even dismissal.

Some months ago, I attended a talk by the writer and critic Pankaj Mishra on the works of V.S. Naipaul. Nadira, Lady Naipaul, attended as one of the chief guests. After the lecture, in the question-and-answer session, it emerged that Sir Vidia Naipaul's Nobel Prize-winning work had been banned from several schools and colleges as some in those institutions, uncritically and stupidly, deemed his outspoken views and even insights in his writing "insulting" and what they would term "politically incorrect". In a conversation after the event, Nadira characterised the ban on his books as Vidia being "cancelled".

The writer J.K. Rowling, just before the July 4 general elec-

tion in Britain, issued a statement saying she wouldn't vote for the Labour Party as she profoundly disagreed with Sir Keir Starmer's expressed views on gender issues. Starmer had in the past, after assuming the leadership of the Labour Party, somewhat clumsily, criticised a female Labour MP for saying that only women could have a cervix.

Rowling has been an avid Labour supporter in the past, donating £1 million to the party in 2008. However, she has vociferously campaigned against trans-women, men who assert that they are really women, sharing toilets, changing rooms, sporting events and jails with those who were born women.

She has never ever said that trans-people should in any way be denied their rights as citizens, but has firmly asserted that, despite the law supported by the Labour Party that recognises trans-women as "women", one's gender is determined by your genes, even before sperm meets ovum in the (female) womb -- or maybe in a test tube or incubator or whatever advanced medical practice uses -- so men are men with penises and women are women with vaginas, and gender is not determined by one's assertion to the contrary.

JK has, as a consequence, suffered "cancellations". She and other women who share her

firm stance are called TERFs -- the acronym for Trans-Exclusionary Radical Feminists.

I suppose sharing her views on this issue I could be labelled a TERM. Obvious!

Work it out!

To be fair, Keir Starmer has said he respects J.K. Rowling's work and right to say what she does and he has, in the recent campaign which led to his winning the election, said that the Labour Party has fought hard for women's rights and seemed to say that he is in favour of excluding trans-women from certain women-only spaces. It's not exactly a U-turn, more an end to fumbled opinion.

I don't think one can label JK's reluctance to vote for a party led by Keir Starmer a "cancellation" -- though some might be in favour of extending the word to encompass even that.

Does the word apply to the murdering fatwa of Ayatollah Khomeini? Does it apply to the burning of books? (Incidentally, I am in favour of the mass burning of books as long as the arsonists and incendiaries buy hundreds -- millions, please! -- of copies to burn. Let the royalties and publicity keep coming?)

I must now, gentle reader, admit that I have never had the prominence of any thought, word or deed to merit being cancelled. The closest I came was with my first published book *East End At Your Feet*.

## Impact Unlimited: The Promise of Digital Learning

By: Vijay GarG

The computer was connected to the internet, and made visible and accessible to anyone who wanted to dabble with it. What this experiment triggered was a fantastic chain of events. Less-privileged children from the neighborhood curiously began to explore, click and learn to use what was a strange device for them.

They started using the Internet within a few hours. And within six months, they had taught themselves to operate the mouse, open and close programs, and download games, music and videos.

Thus began Dr. Mitra's extensive and successful experiments in the Minimally Invasive Education (MIE) method of education, also known as the 'Hole in the Wall.' I believe digital learning can be an immensely impactful 'hole in the wall' for today's generation.

Stimulating a Journey of Discovery toward Engaged Learning

Undoubtedly, digital education has opened the doors to incredible learning advantages for children. Students can learn at their pace, and the curriculum can be customized to suit their learning capabilities. And today, tools are using the latest technologies to allow students to develop their self-learning abilities.

For example, a teacher at the Cherokee County School District in the US used Minecraft Education (the immensely popular video game) in the classroom to pump up the engagement and enjoyment of learning.

Such an intelligent combination of digital tools with the in-school curriculum vastly expands the extent and efficiency of learning. Being more interactive, it encourages engagement, thus making children connect better with the learning content. And the best part is that it assesses students and gives feedback in real-time and transparently. This encourages and empowers children to take charge of their accountability to keep improving.

Winning with the Right Blend of Digital and Traditional Learning

Have you heard about the 'flipped classroom model'? It reimagines the learning experience and maximizes the effectiveness of face-to-face time with the smart use of digital learning materials. Students are provided these online learning resources through cloud-based platforms before each class. This frees teachers' time in class, and they can support students through engaging activities and discussions that add tremendous value to learning. Digital and in-person learning strongly reinforce each other in a blended model, and

the student is the winner.

For example, Slideshow is a digital tool that allows one to embed text, images, animation and video clips to create a seamless lesson flow. Quizizz is another exciting tool that transforms a slideshow into an interactive lesson or game. It makes learning fun for students and also manages the teacher's instructional time.

Today, various digital learning solutions and tools are available such as e-textbooks, Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR), badging, gamification, mobile learning, and open educational resources. The exciting news is that emerging Internet technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI) personalize a student's learning experience in a manner that inspires them to explore, discover, know and master -- which is the main goal of education.

ChatGPT that goes like this: "ChatGPT, the future of chat, that's a fact." Indeed, it has changed how knowledge can be acquired with speed and substance.

As much as ChatGPT has received rave reviews, it has also raised valid ethical concerns. Schools and educational institutions are rightly concerned about the originality of work as a measure of students' proficiency. ChatGPT can make it easy for students to plagiarize without being detected.

And here is the trick to

It was (is?) a book of short stories written after being commissioned by Martin Pick, a perceptive young editor at Macmillan publishing who approached me after having read my anonymously published anecdotes of teaching in a multi-ethnic school. These "stories" appeared in a radical newspaper called *Freedom News*, the publication of the British Black Panther Movement of which I was a member.

Martin tracked down the "author" of these pieces, saying there couldn't be very many teachers in London called Farrukh, the name he'd been told by the person who sold him the paper. He said he was convinced that an audience for "multi-cultural" stories about young British Asians and Afro-Caribbeans existed, but the writing didn't. Would I fill the gap? Is the Pope... (I've told you before... stop this nonsense --Ed)

The book was written and published and instantly adopted in several schools as a classroom text.

I'd quoted a line from a Rolling Stones' lyric with the "f" word in it -- quite innocently used by the Stones and myself. Martin called me at 7.30 one morning soon after its publication saying there was a demonstration outside a South London school demanding that the book be banned. It wasn't. I was invited on TV to defend it. The opposite of being cancelled.

(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational  
columnist Malout)



## Dr. Daisy Parihar pays obeisance at Shree Sharda Mata Mandir Anjole

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, July 13: Dr. Daisy Parihar, a renowned social worker her dream is that Sehogdhara should work for humanity and for underprivileged children.

She paid obeisance at the Sharda Mata Mandir Anjole today, where she prayed for peace, prosperity, and development for people of District Kishtwar and UT of J&K.

Dr. Parihar, who has been honored with the National Icon Award for her dedicated service, visited the temple as part of her ongoing commitment to community welfare and cultural preservation.

During her visit, Dr. Parihar engaged in meaningful interactions with members of the Sharda Mata Mandir Jagran Development Trust Anjole.

She had an in-depth conversation with the Trust's President, Deepak Sharma, and the



temple priest, Swami Raj Sharma, learning about the temple's rich history, its spiritual significance, and the miracles associated with it.

Other notable members present included Brij Lal Sharma, Suresh Sharma, Arjun Sharma, Suresh Sharma, Raja Sharma, Brij Lal, Satish Kumar, Sunny Sharma, Suresh Kumar, Sewa

Ram, Shadi Lal, Ashok Kumar, Bansi Lal, Mulakh Raj Sharma, Nath Ram Aryan, Jagdish Raj, Rajesh Kumar, Sanjeet Kumar, Suresh Kumar, Kalash Kumar, Kunj Lal Sharma, Babita Devi, Kanta Devi, Raksha Devi, Kritika Sharma, Raksha Sharma and Bushni Devi who all contributed to the discussions on various issues pertinent to the

temple's development and the broader community's needs.

Dr. Parihar emphasized the importance of preserving and enhancing cultural and spiritual sites like the Sharda Mata Mandir Sharda Nagar Anjole.

She assured the Trust members of her unwavering support and committed to providing all

possible assistance to further the development of the temple. Her commitment includes not only infrastructural support but also initiatives to promote the temple as a center of cultural heritage and community gathering.

"Temples like Sharda Mata Mandir are not just places of worship; they are the heart of our cultural and spiritual identity. It is our duty to ensure their preservation and development so they can continue to inspire and bring together future generations," said Dr. Parihar.

She expressed her admiration for the dedication of the Trust members in maintaining the temple and promoting its significance among devotees and the local community.

She said whatever we do we should do it with honesty and our Contribution towards the development of nation should be our priority.

## SDH Baderwah conducts five different laparoscopic surgeries

Top News Report

DODA, July 13: In its endeavours to transform healthcare in the District, the Sub District Hospital (SDH) Baderwah in District Doda during the week successfully performed five (05) different surgeries including Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy surgeries three cases, Limberg Flap for Pilonidal Sinus one case and one case of Spermatoceleomy for Epididymal Spermatocele.

As per details, the surgeries were conducted by Dr Subash Sharma (Surgeon Specialist), Dr Azma (Anaesthetist) assisted by the dedicated OT staff of SDH Baderwah.

The surgeries were done under the supervision of Block Medical Officer Baderwah Dr Mohd Ashraf and guidance of CMO Doda Dr Om Kumar.

Setting a benchmark to improve and provide better healthcare facilities to the people of Bader-



wah region, the CMO Doda Dr Om Kumar and BMO Baderwah Dr Mohd Ashraf congratulated the dedicated staff of Surgery Unit for successfully performing the different surgeries in a week time and expressed hope for similar groundbreaking surgeries in the future to reduce external referrals.

The operative team also expressed their thanks to CMO Doda and BMO Baderwah for their moral and logistic support and highly obliged to Administrative Secretary Health Dr Syed Abid Rasheed (IAS)

and Director Health Services Jammu Dr Rajeev Magotra for their time to time inspiration to start advanced laparoscopic procedures, in the interest of better patient care.

It is notable to mention here that Sub District Hospital Baderwah has achieved a feat of conducting dozens of different laparoscopic surgeries of patients in the last 2-3 months, which has reduced the sufferings of common people by providing this facility in their area as earlier patients had to go Doda, Jammu or Srinagar for such surgeries.

## Encouragement to investment in J&K prime focus of Bank: Baldev Parkash Hotel Association delegation calls on MD cum CEO J&K Bank

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 13: Managing Director cum CEO J&K Bank Baldev Parkash while speaking to a joint delegation of Hotel & Restaurant Association, Katra (HRAK) and Federation of Hotels, Restaurants, Industries & Commerce of Jammu Region (FHRICJR) comprising of HRAK/FHRICJR President Rakesh Wazir, Manohar Lal Sharma, Shashi Thakur, Kartik Partap Singh wherein Bank's Executive Director Sudhir Gupta, General Manager (Credit) Ashutosh Sareen, General Manager & Divisional Head (Jammu) Sunit Kumar were also present, said that it is very important that more and more people may invest in the Union Territory of J&K, so that maximum employment is generated and the younger generation may get maximum work opportunities in the Union Territory itself and for that every effort including liberal financing and Tailor made schemes as requested would be provided to entrepreneurs.

He further said J&K

is already growing at a good growth rate and J&K Bank will try its level best to contribute in that growth as has been done in past also and every thing in this regard would be done.

Rakesh Wazir while speaking on the occasion said that the level of presence of J&K Bank can be judged from the fact that when we talk about banking in J&K, particularly in rural areas, people relevant it to J&K Bank only and J&K Bank has played its role magnificently well.

He said that the track record of Hotel Industry has remained like this that not even a single investment has been lost by the Bank which was invested in that industry and thus liberal financing of the Bank is required particularly in this sector.

He asked for empanelment of more valuers in its Panel and especially who value properties of more than 5.00 crore.

He even asked for increasing the moratoriums of the construction period of the loans of the entrepreneurs because most of the constructions

got delayed due to covid.

Kartik Partap Singh while speaking on the occasion said that Tailor made schemes which are the highlights of the Bank be continued in future as well with more energy and zeal and in addition to that initiatives under social responsibility, Publicity and branding of the bank be broadened further so that more and more people may come to know of the schemes of the Bank.

Baldev Parkash listened to each and every point of the delegation patiently and assured that sympathetic consideration will be given to each and every point and assured that Bank will leave no stone unturned for the development of the industry in the Union Territory and particularly the Tourism/Service Sector and although the system is very fast as far as financing and other activities of the bank are concerned but still directions down the line will be passed for expediting those further besides adding of new technologies and new schemes at regular intervals.

## We will continue to fight to ensure tradition of commemorating Martyrs' Day in Kashmir is restored: Mir

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 13: Police on Saturday barred Apni Party leaders from visiting the martyrs' graveyard in Naqashband Sahib Khawaja Bazar, Srinagar, to pay homage to the martyrs of 1931 on their 93rd anniversary. The leaders had planned to commemorate Martyrs' Day by offering Fateh Khwani and floral tributes at the graveyard today.

However, as soon as the party leaders, led by President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, left their Sheikh Bagh office to visit the martyrs' graveyard, police prevented them from proceeding. Later, the leaders held Fateh prayers on the road at Sheikh Bagh.

Speaking on the occasion, the party's General Secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir voiced his annoyance over the administration's decision to prevent him and his colleagues from visiting the martyrs' graveyard.

Mir said, "It is unfortunate that we were not allowed to visit the graveyard on the anniversary of these martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the democratic rights of the people. It is disheartening to see that the admin-

istration has ended the decades-long tradition of commemorating Martyrs' Day in Kashmir. On this day, there used to be an official function at the graveyard and a gazetted holiday in J&K on July 13 in their memory."

"We will continue to fight to ensure that the government respects public sentiment by restoring these traditional practices," he added.

Besides, the party Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, and General Secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir, the prominent party leaders who were present on the occasion included the party's Senior Vice President Ghulam Hassan Mir, Vice President Usman Majid, Vice President Zaffar Iqbal Manhas, the party's Chief Coordinator Abdul Majeed Padder, State Secretary and Chief Spokesperson Muntazir Mohiuddin, Media Advisor Farooq Andrabi, District President Kupwara Raja Manzoor, District President Srinagar Noor Mohammad Sheikh, District President Anantnag Abdul Rahim Rather, Senior Leaders Khalid Rathore, Mohammad Ashraf Palpuri, Najeeb Naqvi and scores of senior workers.

## DSS suggests effective measures against terrorism in Jammu region

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 13: The Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS), a venerable organization in Jammu and Kashmir, has issued a compelling appeal to Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, urging immediate action to fortify the grassroots institutions of Numberdars and Chowkidars in the region.

Led by Thakur Gulchain Singh Charak, President of the Sabha and former cabinet minister, the executive committee stresses that these institutions are pivotal for facilitating close and effective communication between the administration and the public, especially in rural areas.

This communication is crucial for timely reporting of both positive developments and negative activities such as smuggling, drug trafficking, and potential threats posed by anti-social and anti-national elements.

Expressing profound distress over recent terrorist activities, particularly in districts like Poonch, Rajouri, Reasi, Doda, and Kathua, which have claimed the lives of security personnel, army



personnel, civilians, and pilgrims, the Dogra Sadar Sabha emphasizes the need for a comprehensive review of the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Sabha called for an integrated and holistic approach to reassure the nationalist population of the government's vigilance, commitment, and effectiveness in combating terrorism.

The Sabha underscored the importance of safeguarding innocent and law-abiding citizens from harassment while acknowledging the challenges posed by terrorist strikes, which, they assert, could not occur without some form of internal support or complacency. They urge immediate and effective measures to address these challenges and restore public confidence.

In a resolution passed during their meeting, the Sabha insists that

maintaining sustainable peace, law, order, and security is the government's responsibility, necessitating a robust, multi-pronged strategy by both the central and UT administrations. They emphasize the critical juncture as the region prepares for upcoming elections, urging stringent measures to prevent any escalation of security threats.

Furthermore, the Dogra Sadar Sabha called for the Jammu division to be shifted back under the Nagrota Corps from the Western Command in Chandigarh, advocating for better-integrated control and dominance over the area.

Present during the press conference were Col. Karan Singh (Vice President), Prem Sagar Gupta (General Secretary), Gambhir Dev Singh Charak (Incharge Youth Wing), and Dr. Vidhya Sagar Sharma (Secretary).

## KPSS expresses concern over vulnerability of temples, religious sites in Kashmir

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 13: The Kashmiri Pandit Sangharsh Samiti (KPSS) has expressed deep concern over the vulnerability of temples and Asthapanas (religious sites) belonging to the Kashmiri Pandit community in Kashmir. They allege that these sites are under threat from mafias supported by a segment of the majority community, including influential figures like top lawyers and civil administration officials.

KPSS acknowledged and appreciated the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh for issuing significant directions aimed at reclaiming encroached temple lands. They view this as a landmark moment that could potentially reverse the damage done to reli-

gious sites of minorities in the Kashmir Valley.

Since initiating legal action in 2007, KPSS claimed to have steadfastly worked to protect minority religious places in the Kashmir Valley. They argue that the temple land mafia is driven by a radicalized mindset aiming to erase the Kashmiri Pandit identity from Kashmir. This agenda, they assert, is supported by elements within the majority community and orchestrated from across the border, with the intention of eliminating minority presence in the Valley.

KPSS urged the Indian government to address this issue seriously, highlighting that these same forces have been responsible for mass migrations and violence against minorities in Kashmir.

They accuse senior lawyers from the High Court and civil servants of colluding with these radical elements, describing them as puppets serving an agenda orchestrated from outside the country.

Despite multiple directives issued by the High Court, KPSS lamented that these have not been effectively implemented on the ground, casting doubt on the integrity of civil servants who they claim have been influenced by a radicalized mindset permeating majority society since the mass exodus of Kashmiri Pandits in 1989-90. They further allege collaboration between non-Kashmiri individuals, sometimes posing as saffron-clad figures, and the temple land mafia for personal gain.

In a plea to the High

Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, KPSS requested the formation of a committee under the court's authority to ensure the faithful implementation of all directives aimed at protecting Kashmiri Pandit religious heritage. They specifically seek the restoration of all endowment properties taken from temples and Asthapanas since January 1, 1989.

This statement from KPSS underscores the ongoing struggle to safeguard the cultural and religious legacy of Kashmiri Pandits amidst challenges posed by internal and external actors. It reflects their determination to seek legal remedies and institutional oversight to combat encroachments and ensure the preservation of their religious sites in the Kashmir Valley.

## Replace damaged power transformers to alleviate water scarcity for Zero Line Farmers: Tony urges MD JPDCL

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 13: Taranjit Singh Tony, General Secretary of J&K Pradesh Congress Committee and DDC Member Suchetgarh, has called for urgent action to address the severe power scarcity affecting farmers along the Zero Line due to damaged power infrastructure.

Leading a deputation of Border Kissan Forum, comprising of hundreds of farmers from Gharana, Suchetgarh, Sai, Gharani, Vidhipur Jattan, Meghwal, Chakroi and other Zero Line villages, Tony met with Vikas Kundal, Managing Director of JKPDCCL, to discuss the critical issue. Ashok Chibber, Executive Engineer, who had recently visited the Zero Line BOP Chhawani in Sae was also present.

Tony highlighted the dire situation faced by these farmers due to the damage of over 150 poles and several power transformers in the Zero



Line border villages. This extensive damage has led to a significant disruption in the power supply, exacerbating water scarcity in the region, he added.

The Senior Congress leader emphasized the urgent need for the replacement of these damaged power transformers to restore electricity and ensure an adequate water supply for agricultural activities.

"The farmers of the Zero Line villages are facing immense hardships due to the ongoing water scarcity. The damaged power infrastructure has further aggravated the situation, making it difficult for them

to irrigate their fields. It is imperative that the damaged transformers and poles are replaced on a priority basis to alleviate their suffering," he said.

During the meeting, Tony apprised the Managing Director Vikas Kundal of the ground realities faced by the farmers. He requested expedited action to replace the damaged power infrastructure, emphasizing the importance of a reliable electricity supply for agricultural activities and the overall well-being of the farming community.

The Managing Director assured the deputation of prompt action to address

their concerns on priority basis in the affected areas. He directed the concerned departments to expedite and complete the pending works of poles and transformers to ensure a steady power supply. He also sought the cooperation of DDC Member Tony to initiate a drive for electricity connections in the month of September.

Tony expressed hope that the necessary steps would be taken without delay to mitigate the hardships of the farming community and assured all possible support to the Managing Director for the upcoming drive.

The deputation consisted of former Sarpanch Sham Lal Bhagat, former Sarpanch Sarabjit Singh, former Panch Balwinder Choudhary, Ch. Bihari Lal, former Panch Madan Lal, former Panch Joginder Singh, former Panch Rajinder Kumar, Bawa Choudhary, Ramesh Choudhary, and several other farmers.



## Inspired by celebrities, not only men from the cities but also those in villages of the region are going for the undercut look. The dictum — the shorter the better — rules

When it comes to men's hair, the shorter the better as we see the undercut hair in men becoming a rage these days. The edgy, rebellious, cool and stylish undercut hairstyle is one of the most followed trends in men's hair for a while now and, looking at its popularity, it is here to stay. Not just men in the city, but in villages too youngsters are taking this retro-cool hairstyle, of course, adding their own vibe to it.

A resurgence of this retro-inspired hairstyle was seen post 2017-18, with Virat Kohli, Shahid Kapoor and Akshay Kumar sporting the sleek style, giving ample celebrity push and inspiration for many to follow. Since then, there has been no looking back as modern undercut with slight variations has become the latest fad, the most recent look served by the suave Ranbir Kapoor (for his look in the film Animal).

The variations include Virat Kohli-inspired quiff; the messy flat top or moffin top, which becomes a broccoli top if you have curly hair (more than the hair, the names amuse, right?); Mohawk style, making a retro comeback; then there's the back-tapered hair with side flick or undercut (if you remember Mr



Slick Leonardo Di Caprio in The Great Gatsby); another popular one is the tapered hair with fine undercuts, popularised by British heartthrobs Zayn Malik and David Beckham.

The 1980s buzz cut, an extreme cleaned out undercut variation that was initially popularised by Arnold Schwarzenegger, is also making a classic comeback. With celebrity men-grooming expert Aalim Hakim

introducing some free-spirited, cool variations like mullets, Mohawks and Caesar cut, the trend is here to stay.

A trip across the rural belt of Punjab reveals how young men in villages too have been keeping their mane-game strong. Like 36-year-old Inderbir Singh, from Batala, who sports a Karan Aujla-style undercut with moffin top. "Mostly, the undercut hairstyle became popular as it was

trendy and I saw many young people in my friends' circle taking it. So, I wanted to keep up with the trend," he shares. Inderbir works as a truck driver in Dubai and is here for a short vacation to meet his family.

Just like him, Satbir Singh, a 30-year-old, who runs a garment shop at Batala-Verka bypass, too, has been 'influenced' into keeping his hair short and trendy. "I saw many Punjabi singers doing it and it looks nice without spending much on styling and other products," he said. Although, he did not choose to dye his hair silver, he definitely plans to keep them short for a while. Padampreet Singh, 23-year-old from Heir, who works at a local petrol station and he has also experimented with hair colours.

"The youngsters, even older men for that matter, are going in for the cool edgy undercut, especially buzzcut, this season, as it suits our weather conditions and also looks trendy. This style has become popular as it requires minimal upkeep and looks great in professional as well as personal style game," shared Abhay Girdhar, a hair-stylist from Ludhiana.

## Akshay Kumar calls Garam Masala the toughest film of his career



Akshay Kumar is back in theatres this week with Sarfira. The drama film sees Akshay in an intense role, directed by Sudha Kongara. The actor has also acted in several comedy films, as well as dabbled in the action genre. In an interview with agency, when he was asked to name the toughest film of his career, Akshay said it was the 2005 release Garam Masala, directed by Priyadarshan. Check out why he said so.

Akshay began by saying, "Toughest? Honestly, the toughest was Garam Masala! I used to pant while doing it

because Priyan [Priyadarshan, the director] Sir used to take long, long shots. It was more like a play. Though it was... I am dating four women at one time, and they are all in that house only. It used to be so much... I found that to be one of the most difficult films to do."

He added, "Every time, I don't know how I will make you understand this, there is an expression change in each and every sentence... because you are in front of this girl and you are saying this, and suddenly she turns back, and then you look at another

girl, and then with her you have to be a different character. Because she expects something else from me. Then she goes and Paresh Rawal comes and he had a different dynamic. So he used to take all of this in one shot. There are many shots which are like 10 minutes long. I would find doing action, or dance easier than these things because this is real concentration-physical as well as mental."

Garam Masala starred John Abraham, Paresh Rawal, Rimi Sen, Neha Dhupia and Rajpal Yadav. The comedy film revolved around Akshay's character, Makarand 'Mac' Deendayal Chopatiya, who dates several women at the same time. Chaos ensues when his friend, Shyam 'Sam' Salgaonkar (Abraham) comes to know about his deeds. The film was released during Diwali in 2005.

## Vanessa Hudgens Gets A Fresh Trim And 'Feelin Myself' Days After Birth Of Her First Baby

Following the birth of first baby, the High School Musical star Vanessa Hudgens is feeling "myself" and sharing her postpartum glow. The 35-year-old took to her Instagram to flaunt her new hair look after she and husband Cole Tucker welcomed their first baby.

In the caption, Hudgen wrote, "Fresh trim n blow out got me feelin myself lol." She shared a short video clip in which she flashes a smile and blows a kiss at the camera, showcasing her fresh new look. Her once super-long hair is now cut into a shorter, face-framing style with a center part and bouncy waves. The new mom is seen wearing a colorful floral-patterned top and a choker necklace adorned with a silver heart pendant.

This came after Hudgen confirmed through her Instagram Stories that she had given birth to a baby.

She shared on her Instagram, "We're disappointed that our family's privacy was disrespected and exploited during this very special time due to the greed of a long lens camera feeding the media. Despite all of that, mom, dad, and baby are happy and healthy."

As of now, the couple hasn't shared the birthdate, sex, or name of the child.

A week earlier, Hudgens and Tucker were photographed cuddling up on a date night in Beverly Hills. For the



outing, Hudgens wore a form-fitting green maxi dress that highlighted her growing belly. She completed her look with black heels, a matching bag, and a black blazer. Tucker opted for a casual ensemble, sporting black jeans, Vans, and a white T-shirt.

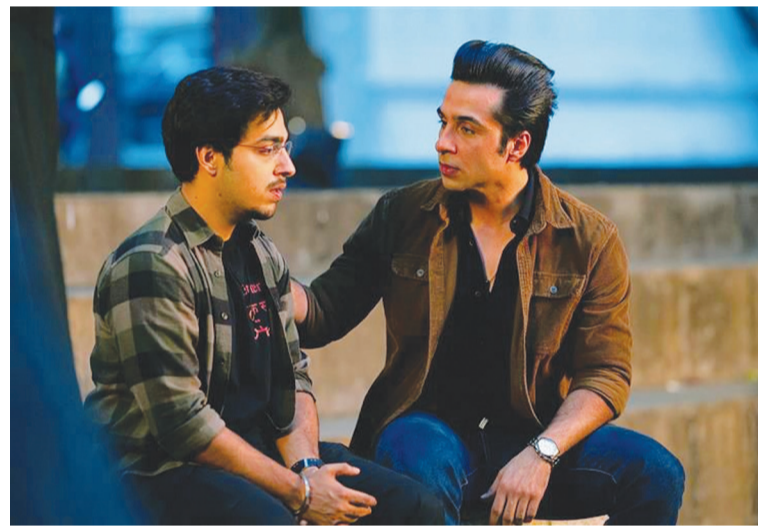
Hudgens shared her pregnancy at the Oscar in March 2024 when she walked the red carpet in a black long-sleeved, floor-length dress and her baby bump was on full display.

## Lakshya Kocchar, seen in the series Industry as a star kid, says nepotism is a reality that is here to stay and one must take it in stride

He is a humble bloke who is making steady progress in tinsel town, yet when Lakshya Kocchar, in measured words, presents his views on the industry and accepts nepotism as a ground reality that is here to stay, realisation dawns that he is here for the long haul. The Rocky Wadhvani of recently released Amazon mini TV series Industry, Lakshya, sure makes a lot of sense.

Playing the son of a producer, who has been catapulted into the industry, it's a question of identity for him. "My character, Rocky, is a product of nepotism, but wants to make a name for himself and so struggles with identity issues. He has got multiple breaks, unlike the struggling protagonist, a script-writer who can hardly break through the industry circles," he says about his role in Industry, a five-part series that also stars Gagan Arora, Chunky Panday, Ankita Goraya, Lakshya Kocchar and Asha Negi.

Ah, nepotism...the word sure rings a bell, more than one! "It is a fact one needs to accept,



so why complain? Nepotism exists in every field, but highlighted more here. One should trust one's talent and work hard; ultimately that will matter. It's a choice we make to be in this industry, so why crib? In fact, one should focus on working harder and harder, so that one fine day these debates on nepotism are erased from one's mind. Just forget the N-word. Denial mode nahi hona chahiye, no angst," he speaks his mind. Earlier, having made a mark

in Prime Video series Bambai Meri Jaan (2023) and the film Gold (2018), Lakshya believes he entered the industry well prepared. "I come from Bhopal, so pretty much knew would not have any backing in Mumbai. But armed with a course in filmmaking from the New York Film Academy, I first took up the role of assistant director to understand the tricks of the trade. Thankfully, all panned out well and here I am," he shares. Not without a fair share of

struggles, we assume? "That is a given. Being an outsider in the industry, it is always an uphill climb. I have given multiple auditions for roles before finally bagging them. But, like I said earlier, nothing replaces the power of hard work, not even your innate talent. So, in this industry where competition is rife be prepared to do the hard yards and take failure in your stride," he adds with much conviction.

Lakshya says his character in Industry was one that reflects the pulse of the times and strikes a chord with the audience immediately. "It all came so organically, unlike my role in Bambai Meri Jaan. The latter was a period drama, so the set up was different, where one had to adapt and adopt the ways of the underworld. This role was much more contemporary."

As the failed actor and writer come together at the end of Season 1 of Industry, Lakshya hopes the next outing of the series makes a mark too. Only time will tell!

## Cara Delevingne Opens Up About Sobriety Journey As She Recalls Getting Drunk At The Age Of 'Eight'

Cara Delevingne has opened up about her past struggles with substance abuse and how she finally has it under control. During an interview with agency, the model discussed her sobriety journey and admitted to the reporter that "she got drunk that day," revealing, "I was eight, what a crazy age to get drunk."

The 31-year-old also talked about the devastating fire that engulfed her Los Angeles home in March, causing the unique house's roof to collapse. She shared, "It sucks but everyone was safe and, like anything, if I'd not been sober I would still be reeling over that." Among the survivors were her cats who were rescued by the firefighters.

She continued, "It would still affect me really deeply. Of course,

it affected me, it's super sad. It never won't be. But I don't use it as a tool to keep myself sad."

During the interview, the model also spoke about how she constantly felt like going out admitting that she used to think "drugs and alcohol helped me cope." She said, "But they didn't, they kept me sad and super depressed. I feel like I've got my power back and I'm not being controlled by other things." However, Delevingne has made her peace with friends who are drinking while at parties, festivals, or other places.

Reflecting on her current sobriety, The Carnival Row star admitted she stayed up so late, but it was just as much fun. I never want my life to



change in that way." She also revealed that the paparazzi photos of her from the 2022 Burning Man festival

gave her a wake-up call and encouraged her to get sober. On that, she said about her role in Cabaret in London's

West End, "Listen, I signed up for this, this is my job, it's what I do. But without that would I be sober now? I would have never been Sally Bowles in the West End, I'm super proud of that."

Delevingne has been frequently vocal about her sobriety journey as she once told Vogue in 2023 about the 12-step program. She said, "This process obviously has its ups and downs, but I've started realizing so much. People want my story to be this after-school special where I just say, 'Oh look, I was an addict, and now I'm sober and that's it.' And it's not as simple as that. It doesn't happen overnight. Of course I want things to be instant — I think this generation especially, we want things to happen quickly — but I've had to dig deeper."

## Of love & struggles: Get set for the show Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua



Star Plus has ventured into unexplored territory with its new show, Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua, starring Aditi Tripathi (Deepika) and Akkshith Sakhija (Chirag) in the lead roles. Set against the backdrop of Rajasthan, Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua is a tale of Deepika and Chirag, and what unfolds in their lives when they fall in love.

The makers have dropped an intriguing first glimpse of the show, where Aditi is introduced along with Akkshith and Urvasi.

The promo showcases the struggles and hardships Deepika faces in her house, where she is ill-treated by her stepmother and stepsister. It is during this time that Chirag encounters Deepika at a blood donation camp and is impressed by her kindness.

It is later that Chirag's family proposes marriage for Jhanvi (Deepika's sister), but Chirag chooses Deepika over Jhanvi, which does not go well with both families.

It will be interesting to witness how the story unfolds and what happens next in Deepika and Chirag's lives.



## Lewd comment on Anshuman Singh's widow: Delhi Police register FIR against social media user

The suo motu complaint was filed by the National Commission for Women

NEW DELHI, Jul 13 (Agencies): Delhi Police's Intelligence Fusion and Strategic Operation (IFSO) cell has registered an FIR over an alleged lewd remark made on the widow of Kirti Chakra Captain Anshuman Singh on social media platform X, officials said on Saturday.

The National Commission for Women (NCW) on Monday took a suo motu cognisance and filed a complaint before Delhi Police regarding the matter.

According to a police officer, the FIR has been registered at the IFSO unit under relevant



sections of the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita act and Information Technology (IT) Act. The social media platform

has also been contacted to provide details about the handle that allegedly passed the lewd comment, he said.

In a letter issued on Monday, the NCW referenced specific legal provisions that the comment violates, including Section 79 of the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, 2023, which penalises acts intended to insult the modesty of a woman, and Section 67 of the IT Act, 2000, which deals with the punishment for publishing or transmitting obscene material in electronic form.

The commission also demanded a fair and timely investigation into the matter and requested a detailed action taken report (ATR) within three days

## 3 Dead, 14 Injured As Bus Carrying Pilgrims Hits Truck In Odisha



BARIPADA, Jul 13 (Agencies): Three persons were killed and 14 injured on Saturday after a bus in which they were travelling hit a truck from behind in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district, police said.

The accident took place around 5.30 am on National Highway 18 near Budikhmari Square under the

Betanati Police Station limits, when the bus with around 20 pilgrims on board rammed into the commercial vehicle, a senior officer said.

The bus was going towards Gaya from Hyderabad when the accident occurred.

"One of the victims has been identified as bus driver Uday Singh of Charninar area of

Hyderabad," the officer said.

The injured passengers were taken to Pandit Raghunath Murmu Medical College and Hospital, Baripada.

Additional District Medical Officer Bijay Kumar Das said the driver died on the spot while two others succumbed to their injuries while undergoing treatment.

Fourteen injured people are under treatment at the medical college, he said.

The truck driver escaped from the spot after the accident, the officer added.

## Three of family killed as truck hits two-wheeler in MP's Gwalior district

GWALIOR, Jul 13 (Agencies): Three persons of a family, including a sister-brother duo, were killed and a minor girl was injured when a truck hit a motorcycle in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district, police said on Saturday.

The victims were travelling on a two-wheeler when they met with the accident near Sikroda square on Jhansi Highway on Friday evening, an official said.

City Superintendent of Police (CSP) Hina Khan said that Karan Kushwaha, his sister Malti Kushwaha and her one-and-a-half-year-old son died at the scene after a



truck hit their bike.

Malti's 3-year-old daughter suffered injuries and is being treated at a hospital, the CSP said.

Enraged by the accident, the victims' family members and locals blocked the road.

Later, they were persuaded to allow vehicular movement on the carriageway, the official said.

The truck has been seized and efforts are underway to arrest the driver, who is on the run, the official added.

## Priyanka Gandhi slams BJP over 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas'; terms move 'negative politics'

NEW DELHI, Jul 12 (Agencies): In a scathing attack on the BJP, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Saturday said it comes as no surprise that those who opposed the Constitution and called for its abolition would indulge in the "negative politics" of marking 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas'.

Her remarks came a day after Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced that the government has decided to observe June 25, the day Emergency was declared in 1975, as 'Samvidhaan Hatya



Diwas' to commemorate the "massive contributions" of those who endured inhuman pains of the period.

Reacting to the development, Priyanka Gandhi said the great people of India have achieved Independence

and their Constitution by fighting a historic battle.

"Those who made the Constitution, those who have faith in the Constitution, will only protect the Constitution," she said in a post in Hindi on 'X'.

"Those who opposed

the implementation of the Constitution, formed a commission to review the Constitution, called for the abolition of the Constitution, repeatedly attacked the Constitution and the soul of democracy with their decisions and actions, they are indulging in the negative politics of marking 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas'. What is so surprising about this?" Gandhi said.

While the Congress has slammed the Centre's move as yet another "headline-grabbing exercise in hypocrisy" by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the top leadership

of the BJP defended the decision, saying it will remind people of the Congress' "dictatorial mindset".

In a counter to the 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas' (Day of Murder of Constitution) declaration, the main opposition party has said, "June 4 will go down in history as 'Modi Mukti Diwas'".

The Lok Sabha poll results, announced on June 4, saw the BJP with 240 seats falling short of the 272-majority mark.

However, the party-led NDA secured the mandate for a third straight term with 293 seats.

## Curb unchecked escalation of prices for construction materials: MP Khatana tells Admin

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jul 13: Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament Er. Gulam Ali Khatana has expressed deep concern over the unchecked escalation of prices for essential construction materials in Jammu and Kashmir. The MP highlighted a growing problem that threatens to undermine affordable housing initiatives and burden the average consumer.

Khatana specifically pointed out the exorbitant prices of sand and crushed stone, claiming that a "mafia" is charging up to four times the government-fixed rates for these materials. This price gouging, he argues, is causing significant distress among the general public and particularly affecting beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), a flagship housing scheme of the central government.

The MP emphasized the stark reality faced by PMAY beneficiaries, stating that it has become increasingly difficult for them to purchase construction materials within the financial assistance provided by the government. He noted that media reports are replete with instances of overcharging, indicating a widespread and systemic problem. Khatana called upon the Mining Depart-

ment and all Deputy Commissioners in the Union Territory to take immediate action to curb these practices. He stressed the importance of enforcing government-fixed rates and preventing exploitation by unscrupulous elements in the construction material supply chain.

Highlighting the significance of affordable housing in the national agenda, the MP referenced Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment to ensuring housing for all. He mentioned that on the first day of his third term, PM Shri Narendra Modi signed the first file related to PMAY beneficiaries, underscoring the scheme's priority and PM care for the citizens of our country. Khatana argued that it is now the administration's responsibility to ensure these services reach the masses without hindrance, and that unchecked overcharging for building materials is hampering the PMAY scheme's effectiveness. The MP's statement serves as a call to action for local authorities, particularly the Mining Department and Deputy Commissioners, to step up their efforts in preventing overcharging. He questioned why the public should face such problems when authorities have already fixed the rates for these materials.

In addition to addressing the construction material crisis, Khatana also touched upon the need to promote local wool production. He urged the UT administration to support families engaged in sheep farming, enabling them to get better returns for their hard work. The MP highlighted a specific challenge in the current policy framework, where land ownership is a prerequisite for availing benefits in the sheep farming sector. He argued that this requirement is counterintuitive, as those who own land are less likely to engage in sheep or goat rearing. Khatana called for a revision of the policy to make it more accessible to those traditionally involved in sheep farming. He emphasized the need to ease regulations so that people affiliated with this sector can easily avail themselves of government benefits.

The MP addresses critical issues affecting both urban and rural populations in Jammu and Kashmir. By bringing attention to the inflated prices of construction materials and the challenges faced by the sheep farming community, Khatana has highlighted areas where immediate administrative intervention could significantly improve the lives of ordinary citizens and support key government initiatives.

## Training programme by ICAI's Peer Review Board hosted by J&K Branch

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 13: The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) Peer Review Board, in collaboration with the J&K Branch of NIRC of ICAI, successfully organized a One Day Training Programme.

This event marks a significant step towards enhancing the quality and reliability of chartered accountancy practices through peer review.

The training programme was graced by the presence of CA Charanjot Singh Nanda, Vice-President of ICAI, who served as the Chief Guest.

In his address, CA Nanda highlighted the

pivotal role of peer review in maintaining the highest standards of professional excellence and integrity within the profession.

The programme also featured CA (Dr.) Raj Chawla, Vice Chairman of the Peer Review Board, who emphasized the importance of adhering to best practices in peer review to ensure the credibility and accuracy of financial reporting.

Dr. Chawla's extensive experience and commitment to the profession provided valuable perspectives to all participants.

The seminar commenced with an inaugural address by CA Sourav Pargal Vice-Chairman, J&K Branch.

CA Jatin Malhotra, Member J&K Branch then took the stage, initiating the proceedings and guiding participants through the key aspects of the subject.

Adding to the depth of knowledge shared during the event were the guest speakers, CA Kamal Garg and CA Jatin Tagra.

Their sessions covered a wide range of topics pertinent to peer review, offering practical insights and expert guidance that will undoubtedly benefit the attendees in their professional endeavors.

CA Priya Seht, Secretary along with senior members and Several Chartered Accountants were also present in the training.

## Director Agriculture Jammu embarks on extensive tour of district Reasi

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 13: Director Agriculture Jammu, Arvinder Singh Reen, on Saturday undertook a comprehensive tour of District Reasi to attend both the Farmers Producer Organization (FPO) saturation drive programme and the programme on Agro Forestry.

The tour commenced with the Director attending a Farmers Producer Organization (FPO) saturation drive programme at Village Sirha, Block Panthal, District Reasi. The event focused on sensitizing FPO members about various schemes offered by the Agriculture Department and provided essential guidance on acquiring Seed, Fertilizer, and Pesticide licenses.

The programme aimed to empower FPOs by enhancing their understanding of government schemes tailored to support agricultural productivity and sustainability. Through interactive sessions and practical demonstrations, FPO members were equipped with the necessary knowledge and resources to navigate licensing procedures effectively. Addressing the gathering, the Director underscored the department's commitment to bolstering the agricultural sector through strategic initiatives and partnerships with FPOs. He emphasized the importance of collaboration in achieving

agricultural growth and encouraged active participation from all stakeholders.

Participants expressed their appreciation for the informative session, noting its relevance in streamlining operational processes and fostering sustainable agricultural practices within the community.

Following this, Director A.S. Reen participated in the Agro Forestry programme "Har Medh par Pedh" organized by Assistant Agrostologist Jammu under the Sub Mission on Agro Forestry at Village Kun Kanyala, Panthal, District Reasi. This initiative highlighted the promotion of Agro Forestry by distributing various types of plants among farmers. The programme seeks to encourage sustainable farming practices and biodiversity conservation in the region.

Expressing his commitment to agricultural development, Director Reen emphasized the importance of integrating modern agricultural techniques with traditional practices to boost productivity and income for farmers. He underscored the Agriculture Department's ongoing efforts to support farmers through innovative schemes and initiatives. Participants lauded the Director's proactive engagement and expressed optimism about the transformative impact of these initiatives on the agricultural landscape of District Reasi.

## J&K Transport Welfare Association extends gratitude for resolution of E-Challaning issue

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jul 13: The All J&K Transport Welfare Association expressed gratitude towards the Lieutenant Governor of J&K UT, Manoj Sinha, and his administrative team for their remarkable efforts in resolving pressing issues faced by transporters and the public.

Led by Ajit Singh, Chairman, along with Vijay Singh Chib, President, and various union presidents and civil society leaders from across J&K UT, in a press conference, highlighted the successful resolution of the contentious E-Challaning issue.

The association



acknowledged that the primary issue affecting over 8000 vehicles, including the suspension of driving licenses, permits, and registrations, was effectively addressed following persistent efforts and advocacy.

Ajit Singh and his team mobilized a significant campaign, garnering support from civil societies and political leaders, including Devender

Singh Rana from the BJP.

After extensive dialogues and meetings, including one chaired by the Divisional Commissioner Jammu, a comprehensive resolution was achieved.

The Divisional Commissioner facilitated discussions involving key officials such as the Secretary - Transport, Transport Commissioner, Joint Trans-

port Commissioner, and RTO Jammu. As a result, all suspended licenses, permits, and registrations are set to be regularized starting from July 15, 2024.

In his statement, Ajit Singh expressed heartfelt appreciation for the proactive intervention of Manoj Sinha, whose understanding and swift action reflected genuine concern for the livelihoods affected.

The association commended the transparency and clear communication maintained throughout the process, providing much-needed reassurance to those impacted.

The press conference concluded with a

pledge of continued collaboration and gratitude towards all involved parties, emphasizing confidence in the administration's capability under the leadership of Manoj Sinha.

The event was attended by prominent leaders and members of the transport welfare association, underscoring solidarity and unity in addressing critical issues affecting the community.

The successful resolution stands as a testament to effective governance and collaborative efforts in overcoming challenges, ensuring sustainable progress and welfare in Jammu and Kashmir UT.



## Conservative group behind Project 2025 floats conspiracy idea that Joe Biden could retain power by force

**Donald Trump and his supporters point to his four criminal cases to suggest that Democrats have weaponised the justice system**

WASHINGTON, Jul 13 (Agencies): A conservative think tank that is planning for a complete overhaul of the federal government in the event of a Republican presidential win is suggesting that President Joe Biden might try to hold the White House "by force" if he loses the November election.

The Heritage Foundation's warning — which goes against President Biden's own public statements — appeared in a report that the group said resulted from a role-playing exercise gaming out potential scenarios before and after the 2024 election.

"The lawlessness of the Biden Administration — at the border, in staffing considerations, and in routine defiance of court rulings — makes clear that the current president and his administration not only possesses the means, but perhaps also the intent, to circumvent constitutional limits and disregard the will of the voters should they demand a new president," the report reads.

The report, issued just ahead of the Republican National Convention and four months from the presidential election, shows how conservative groups supportive of former President Donald Trump are trying to turn the tables on the narrative of which candidate represents the greatest threat to the country's democratic traditions.

Biden has dedicated a handful of speeches to laying out the case against Trump, while Trump and his supporters have pointed to his four criminal cases to suggest that Democrats have weaponised the justice system against their chief political opponent.

The Heritage Foundation and other pro-Trump groups have continued to promote the same false claims of election fraud



that fuelled Trump's attempts to stay in office despite his 2020 loss to Biden.

Those efforts culminated in the violent January 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol, when rioters sought to stop the peaceful transfer of power.

During a news conference to discuss the report, the authors warned about the upcoming election, employing a technique Trump has used throughout his political career to cast doubt on the validity of an election in case he loses.

"As things stand right now, there is a zero per cent chance of a free and fair election in the United States of America," Mike Howell, executive director of the foundation's Oversight Project, said.

The report alarmed experts who pointed out that there's been no indication Biden intends to hold onto the presidency if he loses.

"This is gaslighting. It is dangerous in fanning flames that could lead to potential violence," said Rick Hasen, an election law expert and professor at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Biden has said he will accept the election results.

"Like President Biden has previously committed, he will

accept the will of the American people," his press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said in May. "That is a commitment from the president." The Biden campaign denounced the claim and noted that the group is the same one pushing Project 2025, a nearly 1,000-page blueprint for dismantling many parts of the federal government and making far-reaching changes that include rolling back protections for the LGBTQ community and infusing Christianity more deeply into society. It said the group was "laying the groundwork to try and steal another election".

"This document is nothing more than an attempt to justify their efforts to suppress the vote, undermine the election, and ultimately another January 6," said James Singer, a spokesperson for the campaign.

Trump has stopped short of making a commitment to accept the results, saying in CNN's recent presidential debate that he would do so "if it's a fair and legal and good election".

The Heritage Foundation report details the results of two role-playing exercises it says were conducted by a bipartisan group of participants who it declined to name, saying it kept them secret for safety reasons.

It lists several key lessons and findings, largely centred around potential left-wing efforts to interfere with the election.

It instructs the public to "reflexively disbelieve and challenge the intelligence community's allegations regarding Trump, foreign interference, and Republican efforts to legally win the White House".

Hasen said those recommendations seem aimed at sowing doubt about institutions that "help protect election integrity and give voters truthful information they need to evaluate evidence before them".

The report was created as part of a collaboration dubbed the "Transition Integrity Project", which Heritage says formed in January in response to Biden's "weaponisation of government" and "record of violating norms and constitutional limitations on executive power".

The authors took inspiration from a different group by the same name that ran an exercise in 2020 anticipating that Trump would likely contest that year's election results. Howell said he felt that group's efforts were ideologically biased while his own project was bipartisan.

Rosa Brooks, one of the organisers of the 2020 exercise, said of the new report that she would have "welcomed a good faith assessment of the vulnerabilities, but this isn't it".

She said she has criticisms of Biden, but "I don't have the slightest concern that he will refuse to accept the results of the election".

The report's release comes a week after Heritage Foundation President Kevin Roberts said on Steve Bannon's 'War Room' podcast that the country is in the midst of a "second American Revolution" that will be bloodless "if the left allows it to be".

## Taiwan on alert over 'waves' of missile tests in north China

TAIPEI, Jul 13 (Agencies): Taiwan's defence ministry said on Saturday it was monitoring "waves" of missile tests taking place in China's far northern region of Inner Mongolia and that its air defence forces were on alert.

Democratically governed Taiwan, which China views as its own territory, keeps a close watch on all Chinese military activities given Beijing's regular activities around the island, but only rarely releases details of what it sees taking place inside China.

The ministry said that from 4 a.m. (2000 GMT on Friday) it had detected "multiple waves of test launches" by China's Rocket Force in an area of Inner Mongolia 2,000 km (1,200 miles) from Taiwan. Taiwan's forces are continuously monitoring developments and the air defence forces are on alert, the ministry said, without giving details.

China's defence ministry did not

answer calls seeking comment outside of office hours. The Rocket Force is in charge of China's conventional and nuclear missile arsenal.

In August 2022, China fired missiles into the waters around Taiwan during war games to express anger at a visit to Taipei by then-Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi. Taiwan operates powerful radar stations on some of the peaks of its central mountain range that can look far into China, according to security sources. China detests Taiwan President Lai Ching-te, who took office in May, calling him a "separatist", and has increased its military pressure including war games since his inauguration.

Lai has repeatedly offered talks with China but been rebuffed. He rejects Beijing's sovereignty claims, saying only Taiwan's people can decide their future.

## China targets soft porn, vulgar trends on internet to protect children

BEIJING, Jul 13 (Agencies): China on Saturday announced a new crackdown on its tightly controlled internet, taking aim at video apps and social media platforms to purge content deemed harmful to children.

The ruling Communist Party strictly regulates the domestic web, censoring content deemed vulgar, ostentatious or politically subversive.

It has periodically clamped down on specific sectors, from online influencers to gaming and shopping platforms.

In a statement on Saturday, the country's internet watchdog said it was launching a two-month "Clear and Bright" campaign "to effectively strengthen the protection of minors on the internet and create a healthier, safer online environment". The move will "rectify prominent problems" related to short-video and livestreaming platforms, social media sites, online shopping platforms, app stores, smart devices for children and online controls for minors, the statement by the Cyberspace Administration of China said.

It targets diverse behaviours such as broadcasting videos that appear to glorify school bullying, adding "violent and gory" content to classic children's car-

toons and songs, and generating profits from underage "internet celebrity kids".

It also aims to eradicate "softly pornographic" and sexually suggestive products from e-commerce platforms, as well as information that draws children into "harmful friendships" or "transmits harmful values... (through) maliciously fabricated online jargon and vulgar buzzwords".

"We must pay close attention to new manifestations of problems specific to minors... and jointly uphold a good online ecology," the statement said.

The latest crackdown comes as Chinese children begin their summer school holiday, and follows several similar campaigns in recent years.

Censors blocked multiple well-known influencers after another "Clear and Bright" campaign was launched in April against "ostentatious personas... (who) deliberately display extravagant lifestyles filled with money".

The government has also severely curtailed the amount of time that children under 18 can play online games, and has previously trained its sights on e-commerce platforms selling products it deems undesirable, such as software that skirts official internet controls.

## Rescuers recover body of Indian from 2 buses swept away in mudslide in Nepal

KATHMANDU, Jul 13 (Agencies): Rescuers in Nepal on Saturday recovered the body of a 40-year-old Indian national, the first from two buses that were swept by a mudslide into a rain-swollen river with more than 50 passengers.

The two buses carrying 54 passengers, including seven Indians, went missing in the Trishuli River in the landslides at the Simlata area along the Narayanghat-Mugling road in Chitwan district on Friday. Three people swam to safety later.

The first body from the buses has been recovered from 50 km away from the accident site. The deceased was identified as Rishi Pal Shahi from India, police said.

The body was found half covered by sand in the Narayani River of Chitwan district, police said, adding that he was carrying an Indian ID.

Other missing Indian nationals are earlier identified as Santosh Thakur, Surendra Sah, Adit Miyaan, Sunil, Shahnawaj Alam, and Ansari.

Rescuers assisted by divers from Nepal's security forces on Saturday resumed the search for the missing persons.

Earlier, it was reported that there were more than 60 people on board the two buses.

The Nepali Army, Nepal Police and armed police personnel along with deep divers are being mobilised to resume the search operation, according to



the Nepal Police.

The Armed Police Force (APF) deployed a water drone to find the missing buses in the Trishuli River, MyRepublica news portal reported.

DSP Shailendra Thapa, co-spokesperson of APF, said that a search operation has been resumed by using a sonar camera through pipeline inspection.

There were 24 people including seven Indian nationals on board a bus heading towards Kathmandu from Birgunj and another bus heading to Gaur from Kathmandu was carrying 30 local people. The two buses fell into the river as the landslide accompanied by muddy water, triggered by heavy rain, swept them away.

More than 500 security personnel are involved in the search operations, according to the police official.

The search operation was stopped on Friday evening as it was not possible to work during the night with high water current coupled with muddy water, the police official said.

The search operation resumed at 8 am Saturday.

"All possible locations will be searched and

we will put all our best efforts into search and rescue," he said.

Nepal is one of the world's most vulnerable countries to the climate crisis and has witnessed multiple extreme weather events over the past decade and a half.

Evidence suggests that maximum temperatures in Nepal are rising faster, at 0.056 degrees Celsius a year, compared to the global average rise of 0.03 degrees Celsius a year. The Kathmandu Post newspaper reported.

Experts say extreme weather events—excessive rainfall in a short period, continuous rains for several days after the monsoon, dry spells, droughts, below-average precipitation, and above-normal winter temperatures—have become more frequent in Nepal.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority estimates that 1.81 million people and 412,000 households will be affected by monsoon this year. Of them, 83,000 households will be directly impacted, and 18,000 families will require rescue due to monsoon-related disasters.

## Man arrested in UK over human remains found in dumped suitcases

LONDON, Jul 13 (Agencies): British police said Saturday they have arrested a man in connection with the deaths of two men whose remains were found in two suitcases in southwest England.

The Metropolitan Police said armed officers detained a

24-year-old suspect at a train station in Bristol early Saturday.

Police also said more human remains were found at an address in Shepherd's Bush, west London, the previous day, believed to be connected to those found in the suitcases dumped near the Clifton Sus-

pension Bridge in Bristol on Wednesday.

The suspect "will be taken to London for questioning later today," police said in a statement. "Extensive enquiries are ongoing, however at this stage police are not looking for anyone else in connection with the inci-

dent."

Police officers were called to the iconic bridge at around midnight Wednesday, 10 minutes after receiving reports of a man behaving strangely. But the man, who had traveled there by taxi, was already gone. Police said the taxi had been

seized and its driver was helping officers with the investigation.

The victims have not yet been formally identified but both are believed to be adults. One autopsy was deemed "inconclusive," while a second post-mortem examination remains ongoing.

## Fire breaks out at Russian oil depot as Russia and Ukraine exchange drone attacks



KYIV, Jul 13 (Agencies): An oil depot caught fire in Russia's southwestern Rostov region Saturday following a Ukrainian drone attack in the early hours, local officials said, in the latest long-range strike by Kyiv's forces on a border region.

Ukraine has in recent months stepped up aerial assaults on Russian soil, targeting refineries and oil terminals in an effort to slow down the Kremlin's war machine. Moscow's army is pressing hard along the front line in eastern Ukraine, where a shortage of troops and

ammunition in the third year of war has made defenders vulnerable.

Rostov regional Gov. Vasily Golubev said a drone attack had caused a blaze spanning 200 square meters (2,100 square feet), but there were no casualties. Some five hours after he reported the fire on Telegram, Golubev said the fire had been extinguished.

In addition to two drones being intercepted over the Rostov region, Russian air defense systems overnight destroyed two drones over the country's western Kursk

and Belgorod regions, the Russian Ministry of Defense said Saturday.

Ukraine's air defenses, meanwhile, intercepted four of the five drones launched by Russia overnight, the Ukrainian Air Force said Saturday morning. Mykola Oleschuk, commander of Ukraine's Air Forces, said the fifth drone left Ukrainian airspace in the direction of Belarus.

In other developments, Vadym Filashkin, the Ukrainian governor of the partly occupied eastern Donetsk region, said Saturday that Russian attacks on Friday had killed six people and wounded a further 22.

Oleksandr Prokudin, governor of the Kherson region that is also partly occupied, said Saturday that one person had been killed and six wounded as a result of Russian shelling over the previous day.

## UN Agency For Palestinians Says It Has Funds For Only 2 More Months

UNITED NATIONS, Jul 13 (Agencies): The head of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees said that it had enough funds to continue operating through September, following a pledging conference for the embattled body where UN chief Antonio Guterres pleaded for help from donors.

"We have worked tirelessly with partners to restore confidence in the agency," UNRWA chief Philippe Lazarini said, after several nations withheld funding following Israeli allegations in January that a number of UNRWA's employees participated in the October 7 attack by Hamas.

Lazarini said new pledges of funds would help ensure emergency operations until September.

Guterres had pleaded with donors to fund the embattled UN agency, warning that Palestinians would lose a "critical lifeline" without UNRWA.

"Let me be clear -- there is no alternative to UNRWA," he said.

"Just when we thought it couldn't get any worse in Gaza -- somehow, appallingly, civilians are being pushed into ever deeper circles of hell," Guterres added.

According to Guterres, 195 UNRWA staff members have been killed in the war, the highest death toll for staff in UN history.

The US Congress has barred further funding for UNRWA. President Joe Biden's administration has instead directed funding for Palestinian civilians to other bodies while saying that UNRWA is uniquely equipped to distribute aid.

The war started with Hamas's October attack on southern Israel, which resulted in the deaths of 1,195 people, mostly civilians, according to an agency tally based on Israeli figures. Israel responded with a military offensive that has killed at least 38,345 people in Gaza, also mostly civilians, according to the health ministry in Hamas-ruled Gaza.



# Meeting held to assess Jal Jeevan Mission implementation in Leh District

## Top News Report

LEH, July 13: The Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Leh, Tashi Gyalson, convened a meeting to review the status and progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) across various sub-divisions in the Leh district at the DC Conference Hall Leh.

Councillors from different constituencies provided a detailed update on the ongoing work under the JJM in all sub-divisions of the district and the progress achieved so far.

CEC Gyalson engaged with Councillors from different constituencies, inquiring about the functionality of JJM in their areas. Councillors raised concerns regarding the operation and maintenance of JJM, citing major issues such as manpower shortages, the removal of taps, and the use of extended rubber pipes to divert tap water for irrigation, plantation and construction.

The councillors also stressed the importance of implementing regulations on water usage to prevent non-judicious use of potable water. Councillors also highlighted issues such as the shortfall of human resources to supervise and monitor the work, and the need for permission to execute restoration and repair works during emergencies under existing schemes.

CEC Gyalson urged the concerned officials to address these challenges promptly to ensure that the mission's objectives are not compromised.

He further instructed the



councillors to revisit the JJM sites in their subdivisions and come forward with actionable recommendations. It further emphasized the need for early completion of pending work and directed officials to resolve common issues at the ground level in collaboration with concerned public representatives.

He stressed the importance of ensuring that the mandate of JJM, which aims to provide quality and safe drinking water to every household, is upheld. Additionally, CEC Gyalson instructed the Third Party Inspecting Agency (TPIA) to ensure

the quality of work being executed on the ground. Xen PHE K. Mumtaz apprised CEC Gyalson about the various assets created under the JJM and highlighted the department's efforts in providing safe and potable drinking water to every household in the Leh district despite the challenges posed by Ladakh's tough geographical terrain.

Deputy Commissioner/CEO Santosh Sukhadeve noted that the water supply is functional in many regions and highlighted the importance of making the JJM scheme more effective.

He acknowledged the significant work done by the departments despite manpower constraints. He also highlighted the success of the scheme in the Zaskar region and reiterated the importance of public awareness to ensure the scheme benefits everyone.

All grievances and issues raised were noted, and the places where work is delayed, impacting overall progress, were identified for immediate action.

The meeting concluded with a call for continued collaboration among all departments to ensure regular and quality water

supply to the public under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chairman, LAHDC, Tsering Angchuk; Executive councillor Tashi Namgyal Yakzee; DC/CEO Santosh Sukhadeve; HC Basgo, Tsering Nurboo; HC Igo, Sonam Thardos; HC, Kungyam, Thinles Nurboo; HC Thiksay Stanzin Chosfai; HC Chushul, Konchok Stanzin; HC Phyang, Tundup Nurbu; HC Saspol, Smanla Dorje Nurboo; HC Khaltsi Lobzang Sherab; HC Chuchot Mirza Hussain; HC Tegar, Regzin Lundup; HC Hunder, Kunzang Lotus; HC Skurbuchan Lundup Dorjai; HC Temisgam Tashi Tundup; HC, Sakti, Rigzin Tsering; Nominated Councillors Dr. Yangchan Dolma and Phuntsog Nurboo; ADDC, Leh, Sonam Nurboo; CPO Tsewang Gyalson; Superintending Engineers PHE, Xen PHE; Xen, PDD, All AEEs and Junior Engineers from PHE, Representative from Third Party Inspection Agency, Representative from ISA and others.

# Shiksha Niketan School hosts comprehensive Orientation Programme

## Top News Report

JAMMU, July 13: Shiksha Niketan Higher Secondary School, Jeevan Nagar, hosted a comprehensive Orientation Programme that brought together participants from various wings of Shiksha Niketan schools, including Pushp Vatika, Shiksha Niketan Gandhi Nagar, and its own Primary, Middle, High, and Higher Secondary Wings.

The Orientation Programme was divided into two segments, each focusing on significant topics. The first segment centered around Artificial Intelligence (AI), led by Harshita, Head of the Computer Department at Noida and a Resource Person from APEDU Publications. She highlighted AI as the intelligence exhibited by machines, enabling them to comprehend, learn, and perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence.

Emphasizing its rel-

evance in education, she discussed how AI can enhance learning experiences, improve instructional effectiveness, and provide personalized education.

The session was interactive, engaging participants from different wings and concluded with a thought-provoking speech by Rishiek Mengi, Director of Pushp Vatika.

The second segment focused on a "Rejuvenation and Relishing Programme," initiated by Shafali, a Government Teacher from Delhi and also a Resource Person from APEDU Publications.

She discussed methods to rejuvenate and enhance the classroom environment, including the concept of setting smart goals for teaching and promoting mindfulness among educators.

The session included dynamic interactions through a question-and-answer segment and practical activities to underscore the pivotal role of teachers in

fostering a conducive learning atmosphere.

The event commenced with traditional rituals like lamp lighting and Shiv Vandana, attended by dignitaries, guests, and in-charges from the school's various wings. Welcome bouquets were presented to all guests as a gesture of respect and appreciation.

The entire programme was skillfully anchored by Asha Basotra and Poonam Khajuria from the Primary wing, ensuring smooth transitions between sessions and activities.

The programme concluded with a closing speech by Rameshwer Mengi, the school's principal, who highlighted the evolving landscape of education and the increasing importance of continuous training for both students and teachers.

He praised the Primary Wing Teachers for their exemplary management of the event, underscoring their dedication and organizational skills.

# Ex-Servicemen League Doda organizes rally in Baderwah

## Top News Report

BHADERWAH, July 13: The Ex-Servicemen League Doda, along with locals, organized a rally in Baderwah to honor and pay tribute to the security personnel who lost their lives in recent encounters in Kulgam and Kathua districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

Led by its District President, Raj Singh Charak, the Ex-Servicemen League expressed deep condolences

to the families of the martyred personnel and saluted their supreme sacrifice in defense of the nation's sovereignty.

The tribute ceremony took place at Seri Bazar Park in Baderwah, drawing participation from ex-servicemen, senior citizens, and members of the local community.

Participants mourned the loss of the soldiers who fell victim to terrorist attacks orchestrated, as they stated, by elements supported by Pakistan.

In addition to Raj Singh Charak and other members of the Ex-Servicemen League Doda, Neeraj Singh Manhas, a BJP leader, also paid floral tributes to the martyrs of Kulgam and Kathua. The gathering raised slogans condemning terrorism as the gravest threat to society and called for its eradication.

Raj Singh Charak, in his address, emphasized the bravery of the soldiers and called for decisive action against

terrorism at its roots. He accused Pakistan of orchestrating these attacks to disrupt the peaceful environment in Jammu and Kashmir.

Neeraj Singh Manhas expressed solidarity with the families of the fallen soldiers and asserted that the Modi Government is committed to rooting out terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir. He commended the security forces for their role in maintaining peace and stability in the region, while criticizing

elements working against peace.

The event was attended by SHO Baderwah Sandeep Parihar, Ex Hav Nirmal Singh, and others who joined in paying respects to the martyrs.

The rally underscored the community's strong support for the armed forces and their determination to stand united against terrorism, reaffirming that the sacrifices of these brave soldiers will forever be honored and remembered by the nation.

## FROM PAGE 1

# INDIA bloc heads for landslide victory in key polls in 13 Assembly seats

Kumar Ghosh by a margin of 50,077 votes in the Raiganj assembly seat, Mukut Nami Adhikari defeated BJP's Manoj Kumar Biswas by 74,485 votes in Ranaghat Dakshin and Madhuparna Thakur defeated BJP's Binay Kumar Biswas by 74,251 votes in Bagda.

In the Maniktala seat in the state, TMC's Supti Pandey ahead of BJP's Kalyan Choubey by 47, 827 votes, according to the EC.

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's wife and Congress candidate Kamlesh Tahkur defeated BJP's Hoshiyar Singh by a margin of 9,399 votes to win the Dehra assembly seat. In Nalagarh, Congress' Hardeep Singh Bawa won against BJP's KL Thakur by 25,618 votes.

The BJP won the Hamirpur seat with its candidate Ashish Sharma polling 27,041 votes against Congress' Pushpinder Verma 25,470 votes, the website showed. The Congress' candidates for the Badrinath and Manglaur bypolls — Lakshat Singh Butola and Qazi Nizamuddin — in Uttarakhand were leading in both seats, according to the poll panel.

BJP's Rajendra Bhandari was trailing by 5,224 votes in Badrinath, while in Manglaur, BJP's Kartar Singh Bhadana was at second spot and BSP's Ubaidur Rahman at third.

In Madhya Pradesh's Amarwar seat, BJP's Kamslesh Pratap Shahi was leading by 3,252 votes against Congress' Dheeran Shah Invti, while in Bihar, JD(U)'s Kaladhar Prasad Mandal was trailing by 8,204 votes against Independent candidate Shankar Singh in Rupauli, the EC website showed.

# Two dead, 25 injured as bus plunges into gorge in Doda

assistance being provided. My sincere condolences to the bereaved families, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh post on X.

# Tehsildar suspended for issuing transfer orders without approval in Baramulla

the competent authority. In this regard,

Tehsildar Baramulla is hereby placed under suspension and shall remain attached in the office of the undersigned. Further, the order No. TB/N/58-63 dated: 10.07.2024 issued by Tehsildar Baramulla is hereby rescinded," reads an order issued by the District Magistrate Baramulla.

"Moreover, Mr. Mohammad Hussain Mir, Tehsildar Kreeeri shall hold the charge of Tehsildar Baramulla in addition to his own duties till further order," the order further reads.

# Resident Doctors hail new leave policy for medical professionals in J&K

measure, ensuring that medical training and responsibilities are not compromised, maintained the Resident Doctors.

Stating that these leave policies would help in maintaining high standards of medical education and training, the Resident Doctors reiterated that the decision reflects the government's commitment towards upholding high standards of medical training and at the same time a deep understanding of the demands and challenges faced by medical professionals.

"It is a testament to the government's commitment towards improving the working conditions and overall well-being of those who dedicate their lives to the healthcare sector," the Resident Doctors stated, adding that they are confident that this order will significantly enhance morale, reduce burnout and would lead to better healthcare services in the UT.

# 70 per cent of Jammu Kashmir Gram Panchayats lack internet access

across India. Of these, Uttar Pradesh had the maximum connectivity in its rural areas with over 47,000 internet-equipped gram panchayats, followed by Maharashtra during the measured period.

In J&K, a crucial meeting of the 5th State Broadband Committee constituted to oversee the broadband mission, was held last month under Chief Secretary J&K, Atal Dulloo, who emphasised fixing timelines for the completion of each of the components as the union was reportedly lacking in the implementation.

Dulloo also asked for carrying out the joint survey by the Rural Development Department (RDD) and BSNL to assess the readiness of all the panchayats for the installation of Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) and the functionality of VSATs, provided earlier.

According to official data, under the Amended BharatNet Program (Phase III), the central government has approved will

cover all the remaining GPs and Block Headquarters.

# J&K political parties oppose Centre's move to give more powers to Lt Gov

decision would "disempower" the people of Jammu and Kashmir, the Congress termed it as the "murder of democracy" and the Apni Party urged all parties to shun differences and unitedly protest against the move.

NC Vice President Omar Abdullah said the people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve better than a "powerless, rubber stamp" chief minister who will have to beg the Lieutenant Governor to get a peon appointed.

The former chief minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, however, said the move was "another indicator that elections are around the corner in J&K".

"This is why a firm commitment laying out the timeline for restoration of full, undiluted statehood for J&K is a prerequisite for these elections. The people of J&K deserve better than powerless, rubber stamp CM who will have to beg the LG to get his/her peon appointed," the NC vice president said.

NC chief spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq termed the decision "a blatant misuse of power" by the BJP-led government at the Centre to "disempower" the people.

"It is aimed only at weakening the democratic voice of the people of J-K. The Central government's preference of granting powers to an unelected lieutenant governor instead of an elected government is a clear attempt to undermine the future of a democratically elected government in J-K," he said.

Sadiq said the order shows how non-serious Delhi is to empower the people of J-K. "We were promised by none less than the Prime Minister and the Home Minister of India that the statehood would be restored, this order nullifies all of that. This is sad-denning," he added.

PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti's daughter and her media advisor, Iltija Mufti, said the order seeks to disempower the powers of an elected government in Jammu and Kashmir.

"At a time when there's been considerable speculation about GOI holding elections in J&K this new MHA order & farmaan widening the already unbridled powers of an unelected LG make a few things abundantly clear," Iltija Mufti said in a post on X.

She said the order makes it clear that assembly elections will be conducted this year itself, and that the Centre "is well aware if & when state elections are held

in J&K a non-BJP government will be elected".

"The order seeks to disempower the powers of the next J&K state government only because BJP doesn't want to cede control or lose its iron grip over Kashmir. Statehood is out of the question. An elected government in J&K will be reduced to a municipality," she added.

Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) president Vikar Rasool Wani termed the move a "murder of democracy".

"The murder of democracy in Jammu and Kashmir is evident before the restoration of proper democracy and statehood. MHA gave more powers, including the Police, Law and order, and the transfer of officers etc have been vested in the LG," Wani said on X.

Apni Party chief Altaf Bukhari appealed to Jammu and Kashmir's political parties to shun differences and unitedly raise voices against the Centre's move.

"This new decision aims at making the state hollow in which no powers will be left for an elected government... The people of Jammu and Kashmir do not support this," Bukhari said at a press conference here.

Bukhari, a former minister, said if the Centre wants to create a "powerless assembly" in Jammu and Kashmir, it will not be acceptable.

"If they want the chief minister to be a toothless tiger and befool the people, then I do not think this will solve any of the issues confronting the people of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

The Apni Party chief said this is not an issue that affects any one political party.

"We appeal to all parties to shun political differences and come together on this issue. If we cannot stand united today, then we will never be. We should ensure that the statehood that we get is not hollow and has all powers to serve people," he said. "We have to be united to serve the interests of the people," Bukhari said.

The Centre has vested more powers in the Lt Governor of Jammu and Kashmir for taking decisions on police, officers of all-India services such as the IAS and the IPS, and giving sanctions for prosecution in various cases.

Decisions regarding the appointment of advocate general and other law officers, besides matters related to the anti-corruption bureau, will also be taken by the Lt Governor.

The Union home ministry amended the rules under the Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, which was enacted for the bifurcation of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir into Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh while abrogating Article 370.

# Amid forecast of rains, temp settles below normal in J&K parts

In Kokernag, the mercury settled at 25.8 degree Celsius while in Gulmarg, a famous ski-resort, the mercury settled at 22.2 degree Celsius.

The details however, reveal that except for Kupwara and Gulmarg, the mercury settled below normal in rest parts of the Valley today.

The three stations in Jammu division including Jammu, Katra and Baderwah, have also recorded below normal temperatures today.

In Jammu, the mercury settled at 34.0 degree Celsius while Katra and Baderwah recorded 30.4 degree Celsius and 27.2 degree Celsius respectively.

As per the details, Banihal and Batote recorded a maximum temperature of 28.8 degree Celsius and 28.1 degree Celsius respectively.

Meanwhile, the weatherman here has predicted a brief spell of rain for the next few days.

Director Meteorological department, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, told KNO from July 13 to July 15, a brief spell of rain and thunder-shower is expected at scattered places while a brief spell of rain and thundershower is expected at isolated places on July 16 and July 17.

From July 18 to July 20, the MeT Director said that a brief spell of rain and thundershower is expected at scattered places.

# Govt bans installation of temporary tents for night stay in Gurez

Dated:-28-05-2024 subject to the condition that they will not litter the place and keep the site neat and clean. It has however been observed that the tourists/visitors installing tents overnight leave the trash and Garbage at the camping site which has impacted the environment of this Sub-division and can lead to outbreak of disease," a reads the order of SDM Gurez, a copy of which lies with Greater Kashmir.

"Keeping in view the above and due to the escalating threat to our delicate ecosystem and environment, it has become imperative to implement immediate measures to protect these vulnerable areas. As such it is hereby ordered there shall be complete ban on installation of Temporary tents by tourists/visitors for personal use w.e.f Monday i.e. 15-07-2024," it reads.

"However the tents rented out by locals to the tourists shall continue subject to the condition that they will keep the site neat and clean and pay sanitation fee to the Rural Sanitation Department for collection of waste" it reads further.



## NC committed to uphold democracy, restore fundamental rights of people in J&K: Rattan Lal

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 13: J&K National Conference on Saturday paid glowing tributes to the martyrs of 1931 in a function held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan Jammu.

On the occasion, Ajay Sadhotra, General Secretary JKNC and former Minister, Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President, Sheikh Bashir Ahmed along with other party workers remembered the martyrs of 1931. Speaking on the occasion, Ajay Sadhotra emphasized the significance of July 13 as a pivotal day in history, symbolizing people's urge for democracy and creating a society based on social justice, harmony and equality.

Remembering martyrs, the former minister said that the best way of paying tributes to them was to strengthen democracy and secularism in Jammu and Kashmir, which showed the shining example of pluralistic ethos during the most testing times of the history.

Rattan Lal Gupta in his address, said that 1931 was the turning point for Sheikh Abdullah in his



political history.

"That was the time when the people galvanized around Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah who stood like a rock for Hindu, Muslim and Sikh unity. July 13, 1931 was a crucial moment in the life of Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Abdullah as well as for the people of J&K State, symbolizing a shift from passivity to action. The day represented a struggle between the oppressed and the oppressors, a fight for freedom. On this day, a dying martyr had expressed to Sher-e-Kashmir that he had fulfilled his duty and it was now his responsibility to move forward," he said, adding that this cherished slogan of the towering leader has been the guiding force for National Conference which it has been pursuing with a sense of commitment.

The Provincial President

said "Today, we find ourselves confronting a same situation where people are unjustly deprived of their fundamental rights, particularly after the unconstitutional abrogation of Article 370. However, in our pursuit to restore justice and democracy, the National Conference remains steadfast."

Rattan Lal Gupta asserted that National Conference under the stewardship of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, is relentlessly fighting for the restoration of the fundamental rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The party firmly believes in upholding the principles of democracy and ensuring that every citizen enjoys the freedoms and liberties enshrined in the Constitution," he said.

Rattan Lal said the struggle for the rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir is not a

short-term battle; it is a long-term commitment. "The Party will continue to work tirelessly to bring an end to the prevailing situation and ensure that the voices of the people are heard and respected," he added.

Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Provincial Secretary Jammu Province said that the best tribute to the martyrs is to take pledge to uphold the principles of democracy. He said that National Conference has all along strived for strengthening democracy at all the levels to have optimum participation of people in decision making and shaping their own destiny.

Another NC leader said that the National Conference, known for its unwavering dedication to the welfare of the people, aims to create an environment where justice prevails, and the rights of every individual are safeguarded. The party stands united in its advocacy for the restoration of Article 370 and the reinstatement of the rights that were unjustly taken away.

He called upon the people of Jammu and Kashmir to stand strong and united, joining hands

with the party in its mission. Together, they can pave the way for a brighter future, where democracy prevails and fundamental rights are upheld, he added.

Among those who were present include Bimla Luthra former MLA and State Vice President women wing, Satwant Kour Dogra Provincial President Women wing Jammu, Pardeep Bail Provincial Secretary Jammu, Surjeet Singh Sasan Joint Secretary, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, Abdul Gani Teli Chairman OBC Cell, Vijay Laxami Datta Sr leader, Ragbir Singh Manhas District President Jammu Rural A, Rakesh Singh Raka, Rita Gupta, Dilshad Malik, Ashok Attri Vice Presidents Central Zone, Master Aslam Secretary Central Zone, Chander Udhay Singh, Rashida Begum, Waris Gill President Christian Cell, S. Tejinder Singh District President Jammu Urban YNC, Jatin Bhat, Dr. Ramesh Singh Slathia, Raj Kour, Balwant Singh, Devi Dyal Jogi, Raja Naveed, Jatinder Kumar, S. Prithpal Singh, S. Aya Singh, Manhor Singh, Devinder Singh, Ch. Reayaz Ahmed and M. K Rana.

## Rijju inaugurates Bhoomi Pujan Ceremony of Traditional Arts Academic Block of CIBS Leh

Top News Report

LEH, July 13: Minister for Minority Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs Kiren Rijju in the presence of Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson, Advisor to Lt. Governor, UT Ladakh, Dr Pawan Kotwal and Vice Chancellor, Prof. Rajesh Ranjan inaugurated the Bhoomi Pujan Ceremony of Traditional Arts Academic Block of CIBS, Leh on Saturday at CIBS, Choglamzar, Leh.

The ceremony commenced with monks performing the solemnization of land seeking blessings for a safe and successful project of the upcoming construction of Traditional Arts Academic blocks.

The ceremony also featured an exhibition showcasing Thangka Paintings, different spiritual texts and the statues of Avalokiteshvara. Vice-Chancellor, CIBS, Leh Prof. Rajesh Ranjan delivered the welcome speech. In his address, he expressed gratitude to the Union Minister, Rijju for his assistance in funding the Traditional



Arts Academic Block.

He told that CIBS has sent four proposals under Buddhist Development Plan out of which three got approved.

He also thanked CEC for his support in the newly renovated auditorium of CIBS.

Emphasizing the ancient roots of Buddhism, Union Minister, Kiren Rijju assured full assistance for the development and the preservation of the Buddhist Community and its culture. He further informed that under the Ministry of Minority, 85.34 crore have been allocated to CIBS for the preserva-

tion of Buddhist Culture.

Deputy Chairman, Tsering Angchuk; Commissioner/Secretary, Higher Education, Padma Angmo; ADG, Leh, Dr. S.D. Singh Jamwal, Deputy Commissioner, Santosh Sukhadeve; SSP, Leh, Shruti Arora; President Ladakh Buddhist Association, Tsering Dorje Lakrook; Former Member of Parliament, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, Founder of MIMC Ven Bhikkhu Sanghasena; President, All Ladakh Gonpa Association; dignitaries, faculty, staffs and students of CIBS were also present during the ceremony.

## Apni Party calls for unity among all political entities to protect J&K's rights

Urges all parties to set aside political differences for larger interests of J&K and its people

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 13: Expressing deep concern over the central government's move to amend the J&K Reorganization Act, 2019, to give additional powers to the Lieutenant Governor (LG), Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari has called for unity among all regional political parties.

He emphasised the need to collectively advocate for the restoration of J&K's statehood with all the powers it held before August 5, 2019.

He expressed his concern over the amendment, and said, "Amending the J&K Reorganization Act to increase LG's powers would eventually weaken the State, diminish the Assembly's authority, and undermine the elected government in the future."

Pertinently, the Ministry of Home Affairs has amended the J&K Reorganization Act, 2019, granting the lieutenant governor increased powers over the transfers and postings of all-India service officers, police, and the appointment of judicial officers. This amendment will eventually diminish the powers of the J&K Assembly and the elected government.

Addressing a press conference at the party headquarters in Srinagar, Bukhari urged all regional parties to join hands to ensure that J&K has an assembly and its elected government with the full range of powers it previously held.

Bukhari said, "This is something alarming, and J&K's political parties cannot afford to remain silent on this amendment. We need to unite and advocate for the rights of J&K and its people. Therefore, Apni Party, as a smaller and newer political entity, requests all regional political parties to set aside our political differences and join hands to ensure the restoration of rights to Jammu and Kashmir. We cannot afford a weak

assembly and a powerless elected government. To effectively address pressing public issues and grievances, J&K needs a strong assembly and a capable government, regardless of who is elected. It is high time that we collectively raise our voice. This is imperative; it's now or never."

He further said, "We do not demand anything extraordinary; we simply ask to be granted what we are entitled to under the constitution of the country. Why shouldn't J&K have an assembly and government with the same powers enjoyed by every other state? This is our right, and I urge all parties to unite in reclaiming this right."

"Post-August 2019, Apni Party engaged with government leaders in Delhi to secure the restoration of exclusive rights for the people of J&K over agricultural land and jobs. Although we were ridiculed, accused, and even abused at that time for going to Delhi and meeting the leaders, the fact is that we successfully ensured the protection of lands and jobs for the people in J&K. However, this time it is imperative that all political parties unite to ensure the reinstatement of our assembly and statehood with the same powers we previously held," he added.

Talking about some grave issues that people in J&K are suffering with, Bukhari said, "People in Jammu and Kashmir are grappling with and suffering from grave issues that need to be resolved. A significant number of young people are behind bars and need to be released so they can return to their normal lives with their families. Police verification reports for thousands of passport seekers and job aspirants are being withheld, causing immense suffering for these individuals. Unemployment and a lack of opportunities are increasing here. All these and other similar issues need to be addressed. That is why we require

an elected government with full powers, regardless of which party is elected or who is chosen by the people to lead. We cannot afford a powerless chief minister here. Therefore, Apni Party humbly requests all regional political forces to come together to ensure statehood and a government with full powers."

Talking about the MP elected for the Baramulla seat, Engineer Rashid, Bukhari said, "It is unfortunate that an elected representative, who was given a mandate by the five lakh people in the Baramulla constituency, continues to be behind bars. This is a complete injustice to the people. Jointly, we can raise this issue as well."

During the press conference, Bukhari was flanked by his senior party colleagues, including Senior Vice President Ghulam Hassan Mir, Vice President Usman Majid, Vice President Zaffar Iqbal Manhas, General Secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir, Provincial President Mohammad Ashraf Mir, party's Chief Coordinator Abdul Majeed Padder, State Secretary and Chief Spokesperson Muntazir Mohiuddin, Media Advisor Farooq Andrabi, District President Kupwara Raja Manzoor, District President Srinagar Noor Mohammad Sheikh, District President Anantnag Abdul Rahim Rather, and others.

## BJP Tourism Cell JKUT meets Director, Joint Director Tourism Dept, highlights pilgrims places in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 13: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Tourism cell JKUT convenor Ravi Bakshi led a delegation to meet Director Vivekanand Rai and joint Director Mrs Sunaina Sharma Mehta of the tourism department in their office Jammu to highlight the issue faced by the tourists in the ongoing movement.

District Convenor Aditya Gupta, Co-Convenor Charan Preet Singh Bagga and Ravi Kant from Udhampur, members of the UT tourism cell BJP also accompanied Ravi Bakshi, who has been active since the last few years to make the journey and stay of tourists convenient in various destinations.

Ravi Bakshi said that tourism is the largest and



fast-growing industry in the JKUT. It gives the opportunity to people to understand the culture, civilization and religion aspects of the visitors.

Jammu is a focal point for pilgrims going to Mata Vaishno Devi, all the routes leading to Kashmir, Poonch, Doda and Ladakh start from Jammu City, so the tourist spots in Jammu may be granted due consideration to attract the pilgrims by advertisement in all respective fields of

media, said Bakshi.

Ravi Bakshi insisted that the tourism planning is required for Jammu region considering the needs of people planning for trip and using those resources to determine the best programs and activities for their trip, tourism planning is intended for local residents and businesses for the location, as well as tourists who travel there.

Bakshi shared that the District tourism cell teams of Jammu, Samba,

Kathua, Udhampur personally visited some of the spots themselves which can be weighty for visitors and an arrangement for smooth connectivity may be made by the tourism department.

The other spots are such as world's highest railway bridge is constructed in Jammu, Gandola in Maha Maya Mandir with Bahu Fort, Bagh e Bahu with Bawe wali Mata, Ranbireswar temple, Raghunath Mandir with Mubarak Mandi, Parmandal which is known as Chhota Kashi mark an attraction for tourists. Natha top, Patnitop, Nandini wildlife sanctuary, Mansar lake, Surinsar lake, Akhnoor Fort, Tawi Herbal Garden, More Garh Fort and wet land at the border area where foreign birds are observed.

Doda, Kishtwar,

Ramban and Kathua district have so many beautiful spots which can serve as destinations for tourists. The hilly terrains surrounding Ramnagar, Basantgarh, Dudu, Latti, Sudhmaha Dev and Mantalai with picturesque beauty, natural water streams, and mesmerizing topography can provide tourists with an alternative place of visit. Beside this the economy of the residents and backward areas will be boosted.

JKUT BJP Tourism Cell submitted some tourist spots to the Director tourism for planning to explore Jammu as favourite tourist destination, which will provide the many people of Jammu to earn livelihood in this season as the region is expecting more than 17 million tourists.

## 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas will be perfect tribute to planned murder of Democracy, Constitution by then Congress Govt'

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 13: 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas' will be a perfect tribute to the planned murder of Democracy and the Constitution by the then Congress government led by Indira Gandhi. It will also be a token of respect to all the sufferers of the atrocities and the crusaders against the dictatorship of the Congress government, said Adv. Chander Mohan Sharma, senior



leader BJP. Shraminder Kumar, Sat Paul Rathore, and Rajinder Kumar Gupta also accompanied Adv Chander Mohan Sharma,

while he addressed a Press Conference at party headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Chander Mohan Sharma, while addressing the media persons, hailed the decision of Government of India to observe June 25 of every year as 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas'.

"Home Minister Amit Shah said in a statement that by observing this day the country will pay tributes to all those persons who were jailed for no fault of theirs, to all those who suffered atrocities, all those individuals who were forcibly subjected to sterilization. Illegal demolition of houses and localities and forcible termination of Government employees from service", said Chander Mohan Sharma.

It was the day when an

Emergency was declared in the year 1975, by the then Indira Gandhi Government. By making the 42nd amendment to the constitution of India the judiciary was rendered teeth less. Judges of Higher Judiciary were superseded. The top brass of the army was also superseded. The tenure of democratic fora was extended to 6 years from 5 years. Congress government had committed a historical sin by imposing an uncalled-for emergency just to save the seat of power in the Centre and also to save Indira Gandhi from being unseated on account of the verdict of the Allahabad High Court, said Sharma.

Total 12 lakhs political activists were jailed under MISA and DIR, in different states including J&K State which was being ruled by Sheikh Abdullah. Nightmare continued till March 21 1977 when Indira led Congress Government lost the General elections and Janata Party after being victorious formed the Govt in the Center releasing all political pris-

oners thereafter, said Sharma.

All the released prisoners and crusaders against the dictatorship of Indira Gandhi were honoured publicly at different places.

Allahabad High Court had declared these persons as Loktantra Senanis and directed Govt to provide them a similar status like freedom fighters. "Many of the state Governments provided them with similar status and also granted handsome honorarium. These states are UP, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, etc. We also demand similar status and honorarium for Loktantra Senanis and their families in Jammu & Kashmir", said Sharma.

Sharma added that they being the first-hand witnesses and sufferers of atrocities, violations of the constitution and undemocratic despotism governance of the Congress Party and National Conference offer their services to BJP JKUT to inform voters of these undemocratic forces.

## Bukhari condoles demise of Shahid Baksh

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 13: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Saturday, led a team of his senior party colleagues to pay a condolence visit to the family of Shahid Baksh, who passed away on Wednesday. The deceased was the son of the late Choudhary Allah Baksh, a former DIG of Kashmir.

According to a party press note, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, along

with his senior party colleagues, including the party's Senior Vice President Ghulam Hassan Mir, Vice President Usman Majid, General Secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir, Chief Coordinator Abdul Majeed Padder, State Secretary and Chief Spokesperson Muntazir Mohiuddin, District President Srinagar Noor Mohammad Sheikh, District President Anantnag Abdul Rahim Rather, and others.

extend condolences over the passing of Shahid Baksh. The leaders met the bereaved family members and expressed their heartfelt condolences for their irreparable loss.

On this occasion, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari said, "I extend my heartfelt condolences to the family of Shahid Sahib. May Almighty give them the strength to bear the pain of this irreparable loss, and may Allah rest the departed soul in eternal peace."



## On this day in 2002, Sourav Ganguly took off shirt to celebrate NatWest final win

NEW DELHI, Jul 13 (Agencies): It has been two decades since Sourav Ganguly pulled off the iconic celebration to mark India's triumph at the NatWest Final in 2002. Today, we celebrate the heroes who made it possible. From Ganguly's captaincy to Rahul Dravid's composure and the heroics of Yuvraj Singh, Mohammed Kaif and Harbhajan Singh. The victory at Lord's marked a significant milestone in Indian cricket, showcasing the team's growing confidence and ability to perform under pressure. The win was a tribute to Ganguly's leadership and the team's collective effort.

The triumph in the NatWest Final in 2002 remains one of India's most memorable victories in international cricket, and Ganguly's celebration continues to inspire generations of cricket fans. On July 13, 2002, India pulled off a stunning 2-wicket victory in the NatWest Series final against England at Lord's Cricket Ground. Chasing a



daunting target of 326, Indian opener Ganguly and Virender Sehwag provided a solid foundation with a 102-run stand. However, wickets tumbled thereafter, leaving India in a precarious position at 146/5. However, a brilliant partnership between Yuvraj Singh and Mohammad Kaif turned the tide in India's favour. The duo added 121 runs, with Yuvraj scoring a majestic 69 and Kaif remaining unbeaten on 87.

The drama continued as

wickets fell at regular intervals. Needing 12 runs from the last 4 overs, the tension was palpable. Harbhajan Singh's 15 off just 8 balls brought India within touching distance. With 2 runs needed off the final ball, Rahul Dravid, the epitome of calmness, nudged the ball past the fielder, sending the Indian dressing room and a sizeable Indian contingent in the crowd into a frenzy. Ganguly's shirt-waving celebration was more than just a spontaneous expres-

sion of joy. It was a statement of defiance, a response to the criticism and scepticism India faced during the series.

22 years to the iconic celebration

How was the NatWest win significant? Sourav Ganguly, the Indian captain who had marshalled his troops brilliantly throughout the tournament, became the symbol of India's victory. In a moment that captured the nation's imagination, he took off his jersey and waved it in defiance at the Lord's balcony, a gesture that reverberated across India. This act signified India's newfound aggression and self-belief.

The 2002 NatWest Trophy win was more than just a victory; it was a watershed moment for Indian cricket. It marked the arrival of a new, aggressive India, one that wouldn't be cowed by tradition or reputation. The team, under Ganguly's leadership, ushered in a new era of dominance in world cricket.

## Punjab's players driving India



AMRITSAR, Jul 13 (Agencies): Punjab's hockey players continue to hold sway over the national men's team with eight being drafted into the 16-member team for the Paris Olympics.

Of the eight, four are from Amritsar — skipper Harmanpreet Singh, Jarmarpreet Singh, Gurjant Singh and Shamsheer Singh — while four from Jalandhar — former captain Manpreet Singh, Mandeep Singh, Sukhjeet Singh and vice-captain Hardik Singh.

Two more Punjab

players are among three alternate athletes — Jugraj Singh from Amritsar and goalkeeper Krishan Pathak from Kapurthala.

Harmanpreet's father Sarbjit Singh, who hails from Timmowal village, said his family was extremely proud that the drag-flicker would get to captain the Indian team in the Olympics.

Shamsheer's father Hardev Singh said that the entire border village of Attari was proud of the fact that two of its sons, including Jugraj, were in the Olympics-

bound squad.

Hardev recalled that Shamsheer never missed a practice session, and his dedication took him to the Surjit Academy in Jalandhar.

Shamsheer was trained in his formative years at the Maharaja Ranjit Singh Academy, run in Amritsar by veteran hockey players including Olympian Balwinder Singh Shammi. Shammi, who played in the 1986 and 1990 World Cups, said he expected the team to excel in Paris.

## Captain Harmanpreet hails team's mindset as Women's Asia Cup nears

NEW DELHI, Jul 13 (Agencies): The Indian women's team is entering every match with an unquenchable thirst for victory and there will be no deviation from that path during the highly-anticipated Asia Cup match against Pakistan later this month, reckoned captain Harmanpreet Kaur.

The Indian women are high on confidence after beating South Africa in a three-match ODI series and in the one-off Test while drawing the T20I series 1-1 recently at home.

"The kind of approach we have right now, every day whenever we are going to play the matches, we are giving equal importance to all matches," Kaur told a TV channel.

"We all are very greedy to win every game, and that is something we feel should be in a team, and this is what everyone in the team is feeling," she added.

India's next assignment is the Women's Asia Cup, set to begin on July 19 in Sri Lanka, with Kaur and Co. opening their campaign against familiar foes Pakistan at Dambulla.



Kaur said it is her responsibility as a leader to calm her team during such pressure games.

"When you play against Pakistan, there is a different atmosphere in both the countries. Both the countries want their team to win. As a player, there is a lot of pressure for us. But as a leader, it is my responsibility to make my team feel light in that environment, so that they don't think that we are playing against

Pakistan or it's a pressure game," she said.

Middle-order batter Jemimah Rodrigues said the team is enthusiastic about its chances at the Asia Cup.

"The enthusiasm is really high, and that's always been the scene. It's a nice feeling, but more than that, it's very inspiring to know that every time we walk out on the field, we know we have the support of every single person backing us," she said.

## 'In Pain' Kapil Dev Writes To BCCI, Ready To Donate Pension For Ailing Anshuman Gaekwad

NEW DELHI, Jul 13 (Agencies): India's World Cup-winning captain Kapil Dev has requested the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to lend financial support to former teammate Anshuman Gaekwad, who is battling blood cancer. Gaekwad, 71, has been undergoing treatment for the past year at King's College Hospital in London. Kapil revealed that his former teammates such as Mohinder Amarnath, Sunil Gavaskar, Sandeep Patil, Dilip Vengsarkar, Madan Lal, Ravi Shastri and Kirti Azad are doing their best to generate funds for Gai-



kwad's treatment. Kapil said he is confident that the BCCI will look into the matter and provide financial assistance to the former India head coach Gaekwad.

"It is a sad and very depressing. I am in pain because I have played alongside Anshu and can't bear to see him in

this state. No one should suffer. I know the Board will take care of him. We are not compelling anyone. Any help for Anshu will have to come from your heart. He took blows on his face and chest when standing up to some of the ferocious fast bowlers. Now is the time for us to stand up

for him. I am sure our cricket fans will not fail him. They should pray for his recovery," Kapil Dev told Sportstar.

The legendary all-rounder, however, rued the lack of a system where former players are assisted in cases like Anshuman's. Kapil also insisted that he is ready to give up his pension if the situation doesn't improve.

"Unfortunately, we don't have a system. It is great to see this generation of players make good money. It is good to see the support staff members also being paid well. In our time, the Board did not have the money. Today, it has

and should take care of the senior players from the past. But where do they send their contributions? If a Trust is formed, they can put their money there. But we don't have a system. There should be a Trust. I think BCCI can do that. They do look after the players, former and present. We are ready to contribute by donating our pension amount if the family allows us to," he added.

Gaekwad's cricketing legacy is notable. He played 40 Tests and 15 ODIs for India between 1975 and 1987, and later served as India's head coach in two separate stints.

## Can India Withdraw From ICC Champions Trophy? This Happens If They Do

NEW DELHI, Jul 13 (Agencies): The ICC Champions Trophy, to be held in Pakistan next year, has entered a familiar phase where the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has reportedly refused to travel to the country for the tournament. In their scheduled draft, Pakistan had kept Lahore as the only venue for the Indian team, hoping to quash security fears and get the Indian board's nod for the tournament. But that doesn't seem to be the case as the BCCI said to have shared the likes of Dubai and Sri Lanka as venues for their matches in a hybrid model.

Though a formal discussion on the BCCI's proposal hasn't been held yet, the Pakistan

Cricket Board (PCB) might not have many options but to agree to the Indian board's demands. But, in a case they remain hell-bent on hosting all of the matches in Pakistan, the Indian team can decide to pull out of the tournament over security concerns, as getting the government's nod is quite unlikely.

If the Indian team does pull out of the Champions Trophy, Sri Lanka will go through in their place, having finished 9th in the 2023 ODI World Cup standings.

Last year, Pakistan had the hosting rights for the Asia Cup 2023 but the Indian government did not give approval to the team to travel and their matches were shifted to

Sri Lanka.

The Indian cricket team has not played in Pakistan since the Asia Cup in 2008 and the two sides play each other only at ICC or ACC events.

In their last meeting in the T20 World Cup 2024 last month, India defeated Pakistan by six runs in the group stage and went on to lift their second title.

The ICC Champions Trophy 2025 will be the first major international cricket tournament hosted solely by Pakistan. Previously, Pakistan had co-hosted the 1996 Cricket World Cup with India and Sri Lanka and before that co-hosted the Reliance Cup with India in 1987.

## Jhulan Goswami joins Trinbago Knight Riders as mentor ahead of women's CPL

NEW DELHI, Jul 13 (Agencies): Former India cricketer Jhulan Goswami has joined Trinbago Knight Riders as their mentor ahead of the women's Caribbean Premier League 2024. Goswami retired from all formats of cricket in 2022 as India's leading wicket-taker in women's internationals. Her illustrious international career spanned 20 years; Goswami bagged 355 wickets across formats for India before her retirement. She is currently the bowling coach and mentor of MI in the Women's Premier League. This will be her first stint as a mentor in an overseas T20 league.

"It's an honour to join such a quality franchise," Goswami said in a statement shared by Knight Riders. "Knight Riders have done so well in India and around the world, and to join TKR Women at the WCPL is a pleasure. Thanks to KKR management for thinking about me as a mentor and I'm really looking forward to this tour-

name."

Goswami will provide guidance to the franchise, which will be captained by all-rounder Deandra Dottin. Under her leadership, the TKR women emerged victorious in the inaugural season in 2021.

The conversation about me joining TKR started with Mr. Venky Mysore (CEO of Knight Riders group)," Goswami said. "As a management head, the way he takes care of everyone is amazing. I felt really honoured by the way both Shah Rukh Khan and Venky sir welcomed me and spoke to me when we met in Kolkata during the IPL."

"Jhulan Goswami is an absolute legend of the game, and we are very happy to have her on board as the mentor of the TKR Women's team. We strongly believe that under Jhulan's mentorship, the team will reach greater heights. It's a fantastic opportunity for the youngsters to pick Jhulan's brains and learn from her experiences to



become better cricketers themselves. We would like to wish her all the best, and look forward to seeing her in the TKR setup soon," Mysore said.

The Knight Riders bolstered their squad with international stars, Jemimah Rodrigues, Meg Lanning Shikha Pandey and Jess Jonassen.

## PCB retain Muhammad Yousuf and Asad Shafiq in revamped selection panel

ISLAMABAD, Jul 13 (Agencies): The Pakistan Cricket Board retained former players Muhammad Yousuf and Asad Shafiq in the revamped selection committee. This decision came after the recent re-organisation within the selection panel after the T20 World Cup 2024 loss. Yousuf and Shafiq were part of the previous selection committee which picked Pakistan's squad for the T20 World Cup. Yousuf and Shafiq will be involved in picking the squad for the upcoming series against Bangladesh as well. PCB got rid of Wahab Riaz and Abdul Razaq from the selection committee.

Yousuf was the batting coach of the Pakistan team, while Wahab served as senior team manager on tours of Ireland, England and in the T20 World Cup 2024. As per the new development, the PCB has nominated assistant team coach Azhar Mahmood and four of its board members as the non-voting members of the com-



mittee. These include the advisor to the PCB chairman Bilal Afzal, Manager of Analytics and team strategy, Hassan Cheema, director of high-performance Nadeem Khan and director of international cricket Usman Wahla. The new committee will include captains and head coaches of both the red and white-ball teams. All the members, including Yousuf and Shafiq, will hold the voting rights and have decision-making authority.

Riaz and Razaq sacked

Meanwhile, Wahab Riaz and Abdul Razaq were sacked from the Pakistan Cricket Board selection committee. The fallout from Pakistan's dismal show in T20 World Cup 2024 saw Riaz and Razaq losing their place as national selectors. Both Riaz and Razaq were part of the seven-member selection committee that picked the squad for the marquee tournament. An internal PCB enquiry is believed to have found discrepancies in many of the committee's decisions.

PCB selection committee revamped

The revamped committee will be responsible for selecting the squad for the two-match Test series against Bangladesh, which is part of the World Test Championship 2023-25 cycle. Bangladesh will face Pakistan in Rawalpindi, with the first match starting from August 21, followed by the 2nd Test match from August 30.



# Future of J&K youth in limbo due to rampant unemployment under BJP regime: Rattan Lal

Criticizes Govt for failing to create job opportunities & fill vacant post in different Govt depts

Top News Report

JAMMU July 13: Provincial President J&K National Conference, Adv Rattan Lal Gupta said the youth of the J&K have been completely demoralised by unemployment and claimed their future is in "limbo" under the present dispensation.

The senior NC leader was speaking while addressing a meeting of Youth Wing of National Conference (NC) at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu. The meeting was convened under the chairmanship of Tejinder Pal Singh, District President JKYNC Jammu Urban in which Rattan Lal Gupta was the Chief Guest.

At the beginning of the meeting, Tejinder Pal Singh threw light on the challenges being faced by the youth due to the anti-youth policies adopted by the ruling government at the Centre/J&K. He highlighted that unemployment in Jammu and Kashmir is at its peak. Over the past decade, the youth have faced numerous issues, including unemployment, recruitment scams, a rise in drug peddling, and ad-



hocism in government departments.

Addressing the party workers, Rattan Lal Gupta said that under the BJP's regime, the youth of Jammu and Kashmir have been left in a state of despair and demoralization due to rampant unemployment. He criticized the government for its failure to provide adequate employment opportunities and for neglecting the needs and aspirations of the young population. The policies implemented by the current administration have not only failed to generate jobs but have also led to a significant increase in joblessness, Rattan Lal drew attention to the alarming number of vacant posts across various government departments, he added.

The senior NC leader pointed out that the youth of this Union Ter-

ritory have been the worst affected by multiple recruitment scams under the current administration. Notably, the cancellation of FAA, fire emergency services, SI exams, and several other recruitment exams has created uncertainty about the future. He criticized the LG Government for failing to ensure fair, transparent, and timely exams and recruitment processes, leading to a bleak future for the youth.

Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Pardeep Bali Provincial Secretaries Jammu said that the government's failure to raise 2 Border Battalion and neglect the locals in power projects which severely affecting the unemployed youth of Jammu region. They highlighted that despite signing MoUs worth over Rs 85,000 crores, there have been no tangible results

on the ground, exacerbating the problems faced by the youth. They questioned the government on the future of the youth in Jammu and Kashmir if recruitment and regularization continue to be mismanaged and chaotic. Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell and Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone called on the people of Jammu and Kashmir to strengthen the hands of Dr. Farooq Abdullah by supporting the National Conference in the upcoming Assembly elections for the brighter future of their children.

The District President Jammu Urban YNC Tejinder Singh urged the youth brigade of the Party to stay visible in the public eye and inform the youth of J&K about the misdeeds of the current administration. He

emphasized that it is time for the people as well as youth of J&K to respond to the BJP's anti-people and anti-youth actions by supporting the National Conference in the upcoming political battle in J&K, aiming to end the BJP's misrule. It is for the first time in the history of J&K that above 300 porters are engage by the army from out the UT which is unjustified because there are already lacs of unemployment youth in UT. Among those who were present include Bimla Luthra former MLA and State Vice President Women wing, Satwant Kour Dogra Provincial President Jammu Province, Jatin Bhat, Ch. Reyaz Ahmed, Zamir Quersh, Nitish Gowsami Provincial Secretaries YNC Jammu, Jasin Malik Joint Secretary YNC Jammu, Amit Sharma District Joint Secretary YNC Jammu Urban, Rakshit Sharma, Manjeet Singh Ward president 44, Nikhil Bharti, Gourav Bhagat Ward President 33, Vikas Mehra Ward President 43, Rishab Sharma Ward President 50, Tejpal Singh ward President 58.

# Sports meet organized for youth development in Jammu North Assembly Segment

Sports necessary to nurture physical, mental well-being of youth, says Uday



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 13: A vibrant sports meet was successfully organized in the Jammu North Assembly Segment, bringing together students and their parents for a day of enthusiastic participation and competition. The event aimed to promote physical fitness and teamwork among the youth, as well as to encourage a healthy balance between academics and extracurricular activities.

On the occasion, Uday Bhanu Chib, General Secretary of the Indian Youth Congress, graced the event as the Chief Guest.

In his address, Uday Chib emphasized the importance of active participation in sports alongside academic pursuits. He highlighted that in today's competitive world, it is crucial

for young individuals to develop versatility, which can significantly enhance their prospects.

"Participation in sports and extracurricular activities is essential for the holistic development of students," he stated. "In the present competitive world, young people must attain versatility that alone can place them in good stead. Given the openings and opportunities available in the fast-changing world, the sky's the limit for the young to scale," he added, encouraging students to seize every opportunity for growth.

Chib also stressed the need for a balanced approach, urging students to maintain a reasonable balance between their academic responsibilities and extracurricular interests. He called on teachers and parents to work closely together

to support the overall development of children, fostering an environment where students can thrive both academically and physically.

The sports meet featured a variety of events, showcasing the talents and enthusiasm of the young participants. The presence of parents added to the event's charm, as they cheered on their children and even participated in some activities, fostering a sense of community and mutual support.

The event concluded with a felicitation ceremony, where students were recognized for their achievements and sportsmanship. The success of the sports meet has set a positive precedent for future events, aiming to nurture the physical and mental well-being of the youth in Jammu North Assembly Segment.

# Promote fortified wheat, rice, salt & oil; Advisor Dr Kotwal chairs meeting on Safe Food & Healthy Diets

Top News Report

LEH, July 13: The State Level Advisory Committee meeting on Safe Food and Healthy Diets was chaired by Advisor Ladakh Dr. Pawan Kotwal at Civil Secretariat.

Commissioner Secretary Health and Medical Education Dr. Vasanthakumar Namasivayam apprised the chair of the works under process and those being taken up to create a healthy and safe food environment in Ladakh.

The meeting discussed at length the kinds of food items that have been tested and the advisor expressed his satisfaction over the results which were found to be as per set standards. He further urged the department to ensure picking up more random samples at frequent intervals so that people consume substandard and harmful items at no cost.

Considering the practice of drying vegetables and other items to be consumed especially during the winter months, the committee members suggested testing dried food items too, so that their safety can be ensured for the people.

Advisor Ladakh highlighted the need to keep a serious check on the distribution of fortified wheat and rice and directed the team to take random samples frequently and to take necessary action against the distributors who don't comply with the given guidelines. He further added that fortified salts must also be ensured, especially in schools and at Anganwadi centres.

Introducing fortified oils in the market was also discussed, where Advisor Dr Kotwal added that the authenticity of the fortification-certified brands available in the market must be tested from time to time.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary SED Sanjeev Khirwar, ADGP Ladakh Dr. S.D. Singh Jammu, Commissioner Secretary Social & Tribal Welfare Padma Angmo, Secretary FCS/CA Yetindara M. Maralkar, and other concerned officers.

# Cattle Theft: Movement Kalki's Gau Seva Samiti seeks action

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 13: Movement Kalki's Gau Seva Samiti raised the issue of cattle thefts from Gaushalas in the city of temples.

The latest incident involves the disappearance of 37 cattle from the Shakti Nagar Gaushala.

Addressing a press conference here on Saturday, Samiti members said according to a report from the Animal Husbandry Department, these cattle are missing.

Kaushal Sharma, spokesperson for Samiti, emphasized the urgent need for an investigation to determine whether the cattle were stolen or sold.

He highlighted that the Gaushala is located in an area under Section 145, raising questions about who had access to the premises and necessitating a thorough investigation and action against those involved.



Sharma also expressed concern about how outsiders are settling on government lands in Jammu and called for strict measures to ensure such incidents do not recur.

He mentioned that discussions with administrative officials have yielded assurances that appropriate actions will be taken against those found guilty.

Sumit Singh, another committee member, stressed the importance of promptly recovering the missing cattle and submitting a compre-

hensive report to avoid any communal tensions in Jammu.

He advocated for granting national animal status to cows and implementing stringent laws against cattle traffickers, including the confiscation of their properties and vehicles and denial of government jobs to their children to prevent future offenses against cows.

Other members present at the conference included Kaushal Sharma, Sumit Singh, Karan Sharma and Sanjeev Dubey.

# Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti Released Amarnath Yatra calendar

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 13: The Amarnath Yatra Bhandara calendar of Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti was unveiled during a modest yet meaningful ceremony on the eve of the Amarnath Yatra. The event was graced by Shri Shri 1008 Mahant Ram Sunder Dass ji Maharaj, the 15th pithadishwar of Baba Lal Dayal ji of Dyanpur, along with Sunil Sharma, the National Coordinator of Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti, who were the Guests of Honour.

Mahant Ram Sunder Dass Maharaj commended the efforts of the samiti in providing meals for yatis from various parts of the



country over an extended period, following the teachings and guidance of Bhrahmyani Guruji.

All the saints present appreciated the samiti's initiative in organizing

Bhandara (community kitchen) for the Amarnath Yatis, emphasizing that the release of the calendar marked a significant step in the service of pilgrims.

Sunil Sharma, the Nation-

al Coordinator, highlighted the cultural philosophy of Dogra Culture, "Athithi Devo Bhava" (the Guest is God), emphasizing that such efforts by the samiti would foster unity and a spirit of social service in society.

He also announced that the Amarnath Yatra Bhandara would commence from June 30, 2024, ensuring pure, healthy, nutritious, and hygienic meals for pilgrims, with special arrangements during fasting days.

Raman Sharma, the spokesman of the Samiti, disclosed that under the leadership of Sunil Sharma and assisted by Vishal Sharma, Amrit Bhivani, Ajay Kumar, and Raman Kumar, a dedicated team

had been formed to serve the Yatis day and night in the best possible manner.

Others present at the event included Madan Mohan, Ramesh Sharma, Swatantar Bakshi, Ajay Kumar, and Vikram Sharma.

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