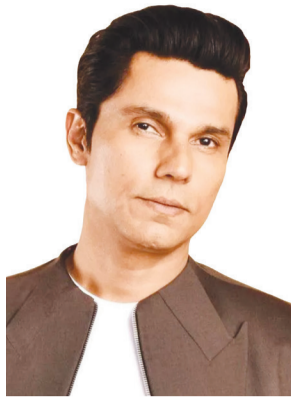


# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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**Estonia's Prime Minister Kaja Kallas steps down to become EU's top diplomat**



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## BRIEFLY

### Rusted Old Grenade found in Janipur

JAMMU, Jul 15 (Agencies) Police on Monday found a rusted Old grenade in Janipur area of Jammu district. Officials told that this morning, a rusted Grenade was found lying in parking area of High Court in Janipur. Soon, a team of Police reached to the spot and took the possession of rusted hand Grenade. Meanwhile, a case has been registered in this regard and investigation has been taken up.

### Omar's Wife Gets SC Notice Over Leader's Divorce Plea

NEW DELHI, Jul 15 (Agencies): The Supreme Court has issued a notice to former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's estranged wife Payal Abdullah over a divorce petition filed by him.

The National Conference leader had approached the top court against a Delhi High Court decision to reject his plea seeking divorce from his wife on the grounds of cruelty.

A bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Ahsanuddin Amanullah have sought Ms Abdullah's response on the petition within six weeks.

Appearing for Mr Abdullah, senior Advocate Kapil Sibal told the court that the couple's marriage was "dead" as they have been living separately for the past 15 years. He requested the top court's intervention under Article 142 of the Constitution, which has been invoked in the past to dissolve marriages.

In 2023, a bench of Justices Sanjeev Sachdeva and Vikas Mahajan upheld a 2016 family court order which had also refused to grant divorce to Mr Abdullah stating that the allegations of cruelty against Payal Abdullah were vague. The court had said Mr Abdullah could not prove his claims of "cruelty" or "desertion".

In its order, the High Court had said that it did not find any flaw in the order of the family court and agreed with its decision.

"We find no infirmity in the view taken by the family court that the allegations of cruelty were vague and unacceptable, that the appellant failed to prove any act which could be termed as an act of cruelty, be it physical or mental, towards him," the order had said

■ Turn to page 9

## Will take action against those misusing names of Badrinath, Kedarnath shrines: Temple panel chief

UTTARAKHAND, Jul 15 (Agencies) Amid protests against a temple named Kedarnath coming up in Delhi, the managing committee chief of the Badrinath and Kedarnath shrines in Uttarakhand said action will be taken against those misusing the name of the temples.

Shri Badrinath Kedarnath Temple Committee chairperson Ajendra Ajay on Monday said the Uttarakhand government has nothing to do with the temple coming up in Delhi. "No financial



assistance has been provided by the government either," he said.

This comes after Uttarakhand Chief Minister

Pushkar Singh Dhama laid the foundation of the new temple on July 10.

Ajay said the CM had attended the event on

the invitation of saints and public representatives but that did not mean that the government was connected to the temple in any manner.

Protests against the new temple have been ongoing in Rudrapur, Uttarakhand where one of the objections is to the news that a stone from the original temple will be taken for the building of the new one.

The temple committee had first put out a statement about taking action

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## Lakhanpur-Doda NH DPR ready; project to cut down distance by over 100 kms

JAMMU, Jul 15 (Agencies): Committed to making Jammu and Kashmir a developed region in years to come, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government has taken several steps, and as a part of this vision, the Lakhanpur-Doda highway will be made an all-weather connectivity for the overall progress of the region.

The connectivity as per the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the strategically important Lakhanpur-Basohli-Bani-Bhaderwah-Doda National

Highway is ready, according to which the distance on this route will be cut down by more than 100 kilometers.

The project will prove to be an important link to connect erstwhile Doda district (Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban) with the Jammu-Pathankot National Highway and the Delhi-Katra Expressway.

"As per the proposed DPR, the distance between Jammu-Pathankot national highway and Doda district will be reduced by over 100 kilometers," an official

said. Notably, the current distance from Lakhanpur to Doda via NH44 is about 260 kilometers and it will be reduced to about 140 kilometers with the completion of the strategic highway.

"Nearly one dozen tunnels are proposed on the highway," said an official, adding that several concerns were also submitted by the locals, which are also being taken into consideration.

"The proposal of the Balasundari Tunnel has also been included in the

■ Turn to page 9

## Security forces conduct search operations in Jammu, Doda, Reasi distts

JAMMU, Jul 15 (Agencies) : Security forces conducted search operations in Jammu, Doda and Reasi districts on Monday following information about some suspicious movements, officials said.

A joint operation by police and CRPF personnel was carried out at Lower Gharota, Thathi

and adjoining areas in the Akhnor sector of Jammu early on Monday after a villager reported suspicious movement of three persons in combat attire, the officials said.

However, nothing suspicious was found during the searches that lasted for more than two hours, they said.

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## One dead, over 50 ill after consuming 'prasad' during temple inauguration in Tripura

AGARTALA, Jul 15 (Agencies): A 59-year-old man died, and 51 others fell ill due to suspected food poisoning after consuming prasad (holy offering) at a Shiva temple inauguration ceremony in the North Tripura district, said the police on Monday.

The deceased was identified as Shailendra

Debnath, who was among the many attendees at the ceremony in one Arun Debnath's house at the Dewanpasa gram panchayat in Dharmnagar on Thursday, July 11.

After consuming the prasad, they started developing symptoms like fever, vomiting, loose motion and headache and were admitted to vari-

ous hospitals.

Shailendra was admitted to a local nursing home at Sakaibari, where he died on Saturday night.

The other victims of the suspected food poisoning were under treatment at the Dharmnagar district hospital, Sakaibari

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## Rs 1 cr property of drug peddler attached in Rajouri

JAMMU, Jul 15 (Agencies): The property of an alleged drug peddler worth over Rs 1 crore was attached in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, a police officer said. The residential house of Basid Ali was attached under Section 68(E)(F) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, he said.

The police officer said several FIRs have been registered against him under the NDPS Act in different police stations in Rajouri.

Additional Superintendent of Police Musadik Basu, who led the operation, said the property was attached as it was proven to be acquired through illegal proceeds of narcotics trade.

## Vilakshan questioned intentions of Central Govt to restore statehood

JAMMU, Jul 15 (Agencies): Vilakshan Singh President J&K National Panthers Party (Bhim) in a press note issued to the media has strongly condemned the move of the Central government whereby Central govt

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## Vikram Misri takes charge as new foreign secretary

NEW DELHI, Jul 15 (Agencies): Seasoned diplomat Vikram Misri, regarded as an expert on China, assumed charge as India's new foreign secretary on Monday. A 1989-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, Misri succeeded Vinay Kwatra. Misri assumed charge

of the key position at a time India is looking to navigate various foreign policy challenges, including its frosty ties with China following the lingering eastern Ladakh border row.

"Shri Vikram Misri assumed charge as Foreign Secretary today. #TeamMEA extends a

warm welcome to Foreign Secretary Misri and wishes him a successful tenure ahead," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on X.

Misri was serving as the deputy national security advisor in his previous assignment.

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## CII CEOs delegation visits Kashmir

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jul 15: The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Regional Council Members consisting of 44 CEOs from top companies of the Northern Region successfully concluded their two days visit to Srinagar during which they attended a Networking Dinner with Local CII Members, Government officials and



other industry members from Kashmir.

Some of the members also participated in a special Golf Session "Tee of Triumph" at Royal Springs Golf Course which was teed off by Advisor to LG

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar who also played the 4-ball game.

Next day a half-day session of CII Northern Regional Council was held at Hotel

■ Turn to page 9

# MBA MOTORS

## MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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## SC to consider setting up bench to hear pleas against passage of laws like Aadhar as money bills

NEW DELHI, Jul 15 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to consider a submission for setting up a constitution bench to hear pleas challenging the validity of passage of laws like the Aadhaar Act as money bills allegedly to bypass the Rajya Sabha.

A bench comprising Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud and justices J.B. Pardiwala and Manoj Misra was urged by senior advocate Kapil Sibal, who also heads the Supreme Court Bar Association, that the pleadings are complete and the petitions needed to be listed for hearing.

"I will take the call when I form the constitution benches," the CJI said. Earlier, the top court had said it would constitute a seven-judge bench to

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**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Sharda (Guddi)** W/o Vijay Kumar Sahani R/o Originally from Village Biyawa, Tangmatg (Baramulla) and presently at H.No. 189/C, Lane No. 4, Sec. 1, Durga Nagar who left for her heavenly abode on 11/7/2024 (Thursday).



Smt. Sharda (Guddi)

**10th Day Kriya** shall be performed at Muthi Ghat (Near Directorate of School Education) on 20/7/2024 (Saturday) at 8.00 pm.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Sh. Vijay Kumar Sahani (Husband)  
Sh. Mool Chand Sahani (Father-in-law)  
Smt. Santosh & Mohan Lal Kohli (Mother & Father)  
Smt. Dimpal & Deepal Sahani (Daughter-in-law & Son)  
Smt. Monika & Manoj Khara (Daughter & Son-in-law)

**DEEPLY REMEMBERED**

Sahani's, Kohli's, Lamba's, Mehta's, Najawan's, Khara's & Sethi Parivar  
Contact : 9596871942, 9149543430

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

It is with immense sadness and heavy hearts that we share the news of the passing of our beloved father **Shri Hirdey Nath Kilam (Shabji)** S/o Late Sh. M. N. Kilam R/o H.No.13 Lane no. 7, Anand Nagar, Patta Bohri, Jammu on 08/07/2024. He was a pillar of strength, a source of wisdom and a beacon of love in our lives. His loss leaves a void that can never be filled. His strength will continue to guide us and we will forever cherish the fond memories of our dear father, our hero.



Sh. Hirdey Nath Kilam  
Retd. ACF J&K Forest Dept.

The **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 17/07/2024 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education, Jammu.

**Assembly** will be held at Muthi Ghat at 8.30 AM.

**IN GRIEF:**

Wife- Smt. Kaushliya Peer (Veena Kilam)  
Son & Daughter-in-Law  
Sh. Sunil Kilam and Smt. Meenu Nehru Kilam  
Daughter and Son-in-Law  
Smt. Anju Kilam Trisal and Sh. Lalit Kumar  
Sister and Brother-in-Law  
Late Smt. Usha Dhar & Late Sh. K.L.Dhar  
Late Smt. Uma Thusoo & Late Sh. Rattan Lal Thusoo  
Smt. Shanta Raina & Late Sh. C.L.Raina

Sister-in-Law and Brother-in-Law  
Smt. Lalita Bhat and Sh. N. N. Bhat  
Grand Children:  
Paras, Ayush and Tushar  
All Nears & Dear's- Raina's,  
Nehru's, Peer's, Trisal's,  
Thusoo's  
9419201666, 9419185080,  
7298507871, 9419208413

**BARKHI**

Longing to see your infectious and healing smile, we keep courage knowing you are watching over us and sending us love every day from the heavens above.



Dr. Veena Gupta

**Barkhi** of our beloved **Dr. Veena Gupta** shall be performed at **Panch Mandir, Channi Himmat, Jammu on 16th July 2024, 11 AM - 1 PM.**

**Deeply Remembered & Missed by:**

Er. Naresh Kumar Gandotra (Husband)  
Brother & Sister-in-law  
Mr. Rakesh Gupta & Dr. Homia Aggrawal  
Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law  
Mrs. Sunila & Mr. Dev Nargotra  
Mrs. Chanda & Mr. J.K Mengi  
Mrs. Shobha Gandotra (Sister-in-law)  
Children & Grandchildren  
Pankhuri, Tushar, Salonee, Akshat, Shilpa, Chaitanya, Nitesh, Vidit & Yug

Ph: 94191-86810

**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 Khemashori Kaul, resident of S-64, Kamal Pushpa, Bandra Reclamation (West), Mumbai. The revered soul left for her heavenly abode on 9th of July, 2024 at Mumbai.



SMT. USHA GANJU

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:**  
Mrs. Mohan Ganju (Mother-in-law)  
Sh. Sunil Parvati Ganju (Husband)  
Rohini Dhar & Rajat Dhar (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
Santosh & Pooja Ganju (Sister & Brother-in-law)  
Vijay & Anu Ganju (Brother and Sister-in-law)  
Santosh & Namrata Ganju (Nephew & Daughter-in-law)  
Sheela Ganju (Niece)  
Rohini, Kaushik, Nisha & Anshu (Grandchildren)  
Taj Kishan & Sargu Kaul (Brother & Sister-in-law)  
Veena and Rajinder Kaul (Sister and Brother-in-law)  
Deeply missed by: R. D. Dhar family, K. K. Kaul and family, J. L. Kaul & family, D. S. Subramanian & family  
Contact: 9889999664, 982002927, 989248549, 704285308

**CHOUBARSI**

Choubarisi of our beloved **Late Sh. Rattan Chand Sharma (Retd. HD PHE)** S/o Late Sh. Daya Ram Sharma will be performed at our R/o B-15, Bharat Nagar, Talab Tillo on 16-07-2024. **Shej** will be performed at 12:00 Noon.



Late Sh. Rattan Chand Sharma

**DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY**

Smt. Swarn Kanta-Wife  
Daughter-in-Law & Son  
Smt. Pooja & Vishal Sharma  
Daughters & Son-in-Laws  
Rita Sharma & Deepak Sharma  
Meenakshi Sharma & Anuj Sharma  
Manisha Sharma & Ankush Sharma  
Sisters & Brother-in-Law  
Late Smt. Soma Devi & Sh. Vijay Sharma  
Smt. Tripta Sharma & Sh. Devraj Sharma  
Sister-in-Laws & Brothers  
Smt. Sheela Sharma & Sh. Madan Lal Sharma  
Smt. Chander Rakha & Sh. Suraj Parkash Sharma  
Smt. Mamta Sharma & Sh. Yash Paul Sharma  
Mob.: 9419195632, 9622215751

**10TH DAY/ KRIYA**

With immense grief and sorrow, we mournfully inform the sad demise of **Smt. Prem Lata Sharma** W/o Sh. Govind Ram Sharma R/o H.No 176, Phase 2nd, Housing Colony, Udhampur (J&K), who left for her heavenly abode on Sunday, 07-07-2024.



Smt. Prem Lata Sharma

**10TH DAY** shall be performed in the premises of Shiv Mandir, Housing Colony on Tuesday, 16-07-2024 at 11:30 AM.

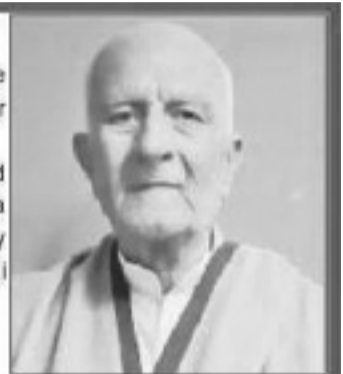
**KRIYA (KARM)** shall be performed on Wednesday, 17-07-2024 at Devika Ghat, Udhampur from 10:00 AM onwards.

**GRIEF STRICKENS:-**

Sh. Govind Ram Sharma (Husband)  
Daughter in law and Son  
Smt. Malika Goutam and Sh. Ambarish Pangotra (Pankaj)  
Daughters and Sons in law  
Smt. Sukanya Sharma and Sh. Rakesh Sharma  
Smt. Pritha Sharma and Sh. Manmohan Sharma  
Grand children  
Varshney, Vidisha, Aryahi, Devarsh, Souhaard and Kushaagra  
MOB. 9419698311, 9797477393

**SHADMOS AND MASWAR**

It has been 6 months since you left us to join the heavenly abode, but your essence has not left us for a second, you are being missed beyond belief.



Sh Sham Sunder Lal Bhat

The **SHADMOS AND MASWAR** of our beloved father **Sh Sham Sunder Lal Bhat** of Balhama Srinagar is being performed on 16th and 17th of July at House No. 7A Chinar Enclave Gurha Keran Barnal Bantala b road Jammu.

**Deeply missed and Remembered by**  
Pinkey and Kanaya Lal Razdan  
Nimi and Sanjay Kumar Bhat  
Lovely and Sanjay Kumar Raina and

**SAMAST BHAT, HANDOO AND PANDITA FAMILY**  
9870403987, 9682107569, 8713018589

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI & UTHALA**

With deep grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you of the sad and untimely demise of **Smt. Susham Bala Sharma (Retd. AGM J&K Bank)**, wife of the Late Shri Rajeev Bhushan Sharma, on 7th July 2024.



Smt. Susham Bala Sharma (Retd. AGM J&K Bank)

**Tenth Day Date:** 16th July 2024 (Tuesday) Time: 10:00 AM Venue: Our Residence.

**Kriya Date:** 17th July 2024 (Wednesday) Time: 12:00 Noon Venue: Our Residence.

**RASAM PAGRI & UTHALA Date:** 17th July 2024 (Wednesday) Time: 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM Venue: Panch Mandir, Channi Himmat, Jammu.

**DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:**

Shantanu & Shikha Sharma (Son & Daughter-in-law)  
Swati Sharma & Vivek Bangar (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
Ahaan Purohit (Grandson)  
RESIDENCE: H.NO. 50 PVT. SECTOR 4, CHANNI HIMMAT, JAMMU  
Contact: 9419134011, 9469746770

**10TH DAY/ KRIYA**

With immense grief and sorrow, we mournfully inform the sad demise of **Smt. Prem Lata Sharma** W/o Sh. Govind Ram Sharma R/o H.No 176, Phase 2nd, Housing Colony, Udhampur (J&K), who left for her heavenly abode on Sunday, 07-07-2024.



Smt. Prem Lata Sharma

**10TH DAY** shall be performed in the premises of Shiv Mandir, Housing Colony on Tuesday, 16-07-2024 at 11:30 AM.

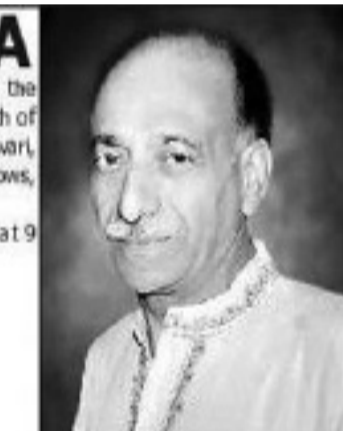
**KRIYA (KARM)** shall be performed on Wednesday, 17-07-2024 at Devika Ghat, Udhampur from 10:00 AM onwards.

**GRIEF STRICKENS:-**

Sh. Govind Ram Sharma (Husband)  
Daughter in law and Son  
Smt. Malika Goutam and Sh. Ambarish Pangotra (Pankaj)  
Daughters and Sons in law  
Smt. Sukanya Sharma and Sh. Rakesh Sharma  
Smt. Pritha Sharma and Sh. Manmohan Sharma  
Grand children  
Varshney, Vidisha, Aryahi, Devarsh, Souhaard and Kushaagra  
MOB. 9419698311, 9797477393

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and deep sorrow we regret to inform the untimely demise of **Sh. Mohan Krishen Kachroo**, on 10th of July, 2024 at Pune originally from (Bagdagi Kalyan Rainawari, Srinagar) presently resident of A2-702, Ganga Oslan Meadows, Thergoon, Chinchwad, Pune.



Sh. Mohan Krishen Kachroo

**10TH DAY KRIYA** shall be performed on 19th July, 2024 at 9 AM at Kriya Ghat, Morya Gosai Mandir, Thergoon, Pune.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Wife: Nirmal Kachroo  
Daughter and Son-in-Law : Neha & Drumil Kaul  
Son: Kartikay Kachroo  
Grandson: Harshwardhan Kaul  
Sister-in-law and Brothers:  
Vijaya Kachroo & Kanwal Nalin Kachroo  
Vijay Kachroo and Santosh Kumar Kachroo  
Sisters-in-law and Brothers-in-law:  
Shikha and Shoban Zutshi  
Ritu and Rahul Kaul  
Sujata and Subhash Kilim

CONTACT NO.: 7056497932, 7298228219, 9822660596

**10TH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **MISS PRIYANKA PURI** Daughter of Shri Raj Kumar Puri resident of House No. 132, Ward No. 4, Reasi on 08 July 2024.



MISS PRIYANKA PURI

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on 17 July 2024 (Wednesday) at 11 am at Sanatan Dharam Sabha Reasi.

**KRIYA** shall be performed on 20th July 2024 (Saturday) at 10:00 AM at our residence Ward No. 04, Ram gali, Reasi

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**

Smt. Rajni Puri & Sh. Raj Kumar Puri (Mother & Father)  
Raghav Puri (Brother)  
Tania Puri & Ankush Mengi (Sister & Brother-in-Law)  
9796603074

**OBITUARY & TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that our beloved **Shri Puran Lal Bindroo**, S/o Late Shyam Lal Bindroo, originally from Ramgath Baramulla, left for heavenly abode at Pune, Maharashtra on 08/07/2024.



Shri Puran Lal Bindroo

**Mourning** will be observed at H.No. 88, Lane No. 1, Lakkar Mand, Janipur, Jammu.

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 17/07/2024 at 08:30 AM at Muthi Ghat (Near Office of Director Education).

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Smt. Vijay Bindroo (Wife)  
Smt. Nisha B Naqalib & Rakesh Kumar Naqalib (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
Sh. Naveen Bindroo & Shefali Pardeshi (Son & Daughter-in-law)  
Sh. Virji Bindroo & Pinkey Bindroo (Brother & Bhabhi)  
Bua & Phuphas  
Contact No: +91 9022765630, +91 60053 81646, +91 9419383061, +91 7006 027 711

**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.



SMT ANJALI MISRI

**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

**CHOUBARSI**

IN LOVING MEMORY OF BRIG. VIKAS SAMYAL  
Forever loved and deeply missed. Our hearts still can't accept that you are not with us anymore. You are and always be the Strength, Pride and Inspiration for us. Remembering you with heavy heart and silent tears. We pray to the Almighty to grant eternal peace to your noble soul. We miss you profoundly.



BRIG. VIKAS SAMYIAL

**CHOUBARSI** of our beloved **Brig. Vikas Samyial** will be performed at 10am on 18th July 2024 at our residence 668-A, Gandhinagar, Jammu.

**FONDLY REMEMBERED BY:**

Mrs. Kamlesh & Comdt. Pritam S Samyial (Retd)  
Mrs. Priya & Brig. Hardev S Jamwal (Retd),  
Mokshita & Venkatesh, Sunaina & Mrigendra  
Mrs. Sapna & Gp. Capt. Vivek Samyial (Retd), Aryaman, Ayushman  
Mrs. Anu Samyial, Anusha, Ashleesta  
Mr. Digvijay S Samyial

**SAMYIAL FAMILY, ALL RELATIVES & FRIENDS**  
Contact: 9682196978, 7042136688.

**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.



Sh. Kunal Bhat/ Neepu

**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

**CMF Phone 1, CMF Buds Pro 2, and CMF Watch Pro 2 now on sale in India**

Top News Report  
JAMMU, July 15: Nothing sub-brand CMF has announced the sale commencement of the highly anticipated first smartphone CMF Phone 1 with a starting price of Rs 15,999 (including offers). This is the company's cheapest smartphone to date, and it is also the most repairable, with an easily replaceable back panel held together by stainless steel screws. Along with the phone, the affordable CMF Buds Pro 2 and CMF Watch Pro 2 which will be available for purchase through CMF's official website (cmf.tech) and retail partners. "CMF Phone 1, CMF Watch Pro 2, and CMF Buds Pro 2 showcase Nothing's unique approach to integrating creativity, practicality, and personalization through design," said Carl Pei, CEO of Nothing. "These products further mark our commitment to injecting fun into a boring industry, and I'm very excited to see the market feedback." Available in four colours Black, Light Green, Blue (India Only) and Orange, the CMF Phone 1 resembles any modern Android phone from the front, boasting a spacious 6.67-inch screen with a 120Hz refresh rate. It runs on the MediaTek Dimensity 7300 SoC, paired with up to 8 GB of RAM and up to 256 GB of internal storage. Additionally, the phone includes a TF card slot for expanding storage by up to 2 TB. The CMF Phone 1 features dual rear cameras, a 50 MP primary sensor and a portrait camera and a 16 MP front camera. It shoots up to 4K video with the main camera and 1080p with the selfie camera. Running Android-14 based Nothing OS 2.6, it promises at least two major OS updates. The CMF Watch Pro 2, the brand's second smartwatch, sports a 1.32-inch circular display in an aluminum alloy case with interchangeable bezels. It offers auto-brightness adjustment, an upgraded sleep detection algorithm, built-in multi-system GPS, and supports 120 sports modes, including auto-recognition of activities like running and cycling. It boasts up to 11 days of typical usage or days of heavy usage on a single charge and is compatible with Android and iOS devices. The Buds Pro 2 is said to be capable of delivering best-in-class audio quality with advanced features including active noise cancellation (ANC) up to 50dB, LDAC for high-resolution audio streaming, and a customisable smart dial on the case for volume adjustment and media playback control, configurable via the Nothing X app.

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## IIM Jammu hosts inaugural ceremony for leadership development program

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu inaugurated the Leadership/Management Development Program for Elected Representatives and Officials of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) of Jammu & Kashmir. The three-day program, held from July 15 to 17, 2024, aims to equip participants with advanced management and leadership skills essential for effective governance and administration. The inaugural ceremony, held at the Aryabhata Classroom, Ground Floor, Academic Block, commenced with



the lighting of the inaugural lamp at 9:00 AM, symbolizing the dispelling of ignorance and the ushering in of knowledge and wisdom. Participants

formally introduced themselves, fostering a sense of community and collaboration among the attendees. Present on the occa-

sion were Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, IAS, Secretary, Department of Rural Development and Local Self Government, J&K, (Online Mode),

Sham Lal, Director, Panchayati Raj, J&K, Sheetal Pandita, Deputy Secretary to Govt J & K, Dr. Manu Bansal, Program Director and Dr. Vedika Saxena, Program Director, IIM Jammu.

IIM Jammu remains committed to its vision of nurturing leadership and fostering excellence in management education. The Leadership/Management Development Program for Elected Representatives and Officials of PRIs of J&K is a testament to the institute's dedication to contributing to the socio-economic development of the region through capacity building and knowledge dissemination.

## Panun Kashmir addresses media on 50th foundation day



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Panun Kashmir convened a press conference in Jammu to mark its 50th Foundation Day and address pressing issues concerning the Hindu community in Kashmir. During the conference, leaders of Panun Kashmir expressed strong condemnation of the ongoing genocide targeting Hindus in the region.

They criticized the BJP government for what they perceive as a lack of proactive mea-

sures and biased treatment towards Kashmiri Pandits, despite the revocation of Article 370 and the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into Union Territories. Panun Kashmir accused the BJP leadership of using the plight of Kashmiri Hindu cleansing for political gains elsewhere in India while neglecting the community's actual welfare in Kashmir. They highlighted the systematic discrimination and alleged social profiling faced by Hindus in Kashmir, asserting that policies under BJP rule

have failed to adequately address their grievances or provide meaningful relief, especially amidst economic hardships and rising prices.

Panun Kashmir reiterated their demand for a Union Territory of Panun Kashmir, emphasizing it as essential for the permanent rehabilitation and security of Hindus in the region. The organization affirmed its commitment to advocating for the political rights and freedom of choice for Hindus in Kashmir, independent of any political party affiliation.

## Age of working in silos is over; era of synergy and collaboration is here: Dr Singh

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: "Start-ups require strong industry management linkage for their sustainability", said Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh here today. He said institutions like IIM have an important role to play in it.

Addressing the inaugural session of the Orientation Programme for the fresh batch of MBA students of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Jagti on the outskirts of Jammu city, Dr Jitendra Singh said, most of the successful start-up stories have been possible due to strong industry linkages. "For example, in the Aroma mission, the Government became an enabler by ensuring capacity building of those engaged in agri start-ups in lavender and facilitating the market access to spur sale of Himalayan products like lavender-made



perfumes and other products", he explained.

The Minister said, tapping the Himalayan bio-resources and unexplored minerals along coastal areas can make great value addition to India's economy and boost 'AtmaNirbharta'. "India's Coastal States and Himalayan States/UTs like J&K have a lot to offer to the country's future economy".

Talking about the aspirational generation, Dr Jitendra Singh said, it is better times happening under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said Start-Ups are booming, and, as a result, new opportunities are opening. "Tech-

nology has been a great leveller so that everybody from every region has an opportunity", he stated.

The Union Minister said the youth must harness the technology which has created a level-playing field, for societal good. Earlier, technology was a privilege of a few, he pointed out.

Dr Jitendra Singh called upon the students to gear themselves up in order to take the leadership role of India of 2047. "Youth will be the architects of a developed India when it completes the centenary of its Independence in 2027", he said, adding that the government is making tireless efforts

to equip its younger generation with new skills and training and world-class education to mould them into architects of a developed India. "NEP 2020 brought by Prime Minister Modi will contribute to this goal", he said.

On IIM-Jammu's progress, Dr Jitendra Singh said, that in just a few years of its establishment, it has risen to become one of the better ones among the new lot of such premiere institutions of higher learning in the country. "Beginning from infancy, when we were finding difficulty even to find faculty, it has come a long way in its small journey", the Minis-

ter said. "The establishment of IIM Jammu is a significant step towards realizing his dream of providing quality education and producing leaders who will drive the nation towards unprecedented growth and development to achieve the target of Viksit Bharat by 2047", he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh advocated for forging collaboration and synergy among institutions for greater benefit to their students. "The age of working in silos is over; the era of collaboration is here", the Minister declared, encouraging IIM-Jammu, AIIMS-Jammu, IIT-Jammu and Central University of Jammu to enter into partnership by inking MoUs on Research and Development and Artificial Intelligence.

Earlier upon his arrival, Dr Jitendra Singh took a tour of the state-of-the-art campus of IIM-Jammu alongside its Director Prof. B.S. Sahay and Director, AIIMS, Jammu, Dr Shakti Kumar Gupta. On the occasion, he planted a sapling.

## HPCL celebrates 50th Foundation Day with enhanced customer services and safety measures

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: In commemoration of its 50th Foundation Day, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) expressed gratitude to its patrons and stakeholders for their steadfast support over the past five decades. The occasion marks a significant milestone in HPCL's commitment to serving the nation with dedication and excellence.

As part of the celebrations, HPCL's Jammu LPG Region reiterated its commitment to enhancing Transparency, Safety, and Customer Experience through strategic initiatives.

HPCL emphasizes the necessity for customers to register their mobile numbers with HP Gas Distributors to facilitate seamless booking and delivery of LPG cylinders. The introduction of Deliv-



ery Authentication Codes (DAC) ensures transparency and security in the delivery process.

HPCL has implemented E-KYC processes to authenticate customers efficiently, ensuring that benefits are distributed accurately and promptly. This initiative aims to streamline refill delivery procedures, thereby enhancing overall transparency and customer satisfaction.

In line with its commitment to customer safety,

HPCL promotes free safety checks of LPG installations. This initiative includes evaluating and upgrading LPG safety measures, including the recommendation of durable and secure Suraksha Hoses to mitigate risks associated with non-standard hoses.

HPCL reaffirms its dedication to innovation and customer-centric solutions as it looks forward to continuing its legacy of excellence in the energy sector.

## Only NC can safeguard rights of youths, weaker sections: Abrol, Dr Vikas



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Provincial Joint Secretary JKNC, Ankush Abrol has castigated the UT administration of J&K for making the lives of people miserable with its host of anti-people policies and decisions.

While interacting with youth, Ankush Abrol said that we stand committed for secularism and social equality. He appealed to the youth of J&K to come forward and launch a movement for "Parivartan" and restoration of elected political dispensation in J&K which is being denied to people of J&K on different pretexts.

He said, "Inflation is skyrocketing as the price of all essential commodities has peaked in J&K. All the small and medium businesses have been destroyed and overall the economy is stuck somewhere as no new investments are made in J&K."

Now, they want to get rid of bureaucratic rule and waiting for the popularly elected government," Abrol further said. He maintained that bureaucratic rule is no substitute for the popularly elected government.

He also appealed to the govt. to fill all the vacant posts in all the departments of J&K administration on a fast track basis.

Also addressing, Dr Vikas Sharma Zonal Secretary and Coordinator Jammu District (Urban) reiterated the party's stand with respect to restoration of statehood with full powers to address the aspirations of people.

He flayed the Govt for its hollow promises to bring "Ache Din" (good days) as mere basic facilities like water and power are still not fully available as per the requirement of the public.

He described such moves as desperate acts of diverting attention as

the BJP government has failed in generating employment and providing 'two crores' of jobs every year promised in successive elections since 2014.

Blaming the Centre govt for complete mess in J&K post August 5, 2019 when its special status was removed and it was downgraded to the level of Union Territory, he said, "Unemployment rate is the highest in J&K and there is lack of transparency in recruitment processes owing to which youth has turned pessimistic and suffering from depression. Their families are also under depressive state of mind and staring at a dark future."

"The administration is imposing tax after tax on the people but has failed to mitigate their sufferings which include rocketing prices of essential commodities", he added. He said that the National Conference will oppose all the anti-people policies of the government and will fight tooth and nail to bring justice.

Dr Vikas also urged the youth to support and strengthen NC in the forthcoming Assembly election.

Those who spoke on the occasion include, Arunpal Singh NCSU Provincial Working President, Vinod Kumar, Saqib Kichloo and others.

## Dr. Varinder Sharma honoured with "Doc You Rock" Award

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: In a grand ceremony hosted by FM channel 92.7 Big FM, Dr. Varinder Sharma, a distinguished consultant sonologist and proprietor of A-One Ultrasound Clinic, was honoured with the "Doc You Rock - Honouring



Doctors for Their Relentless Efforts and Compassionate Care" award. The event took place at Hotel Taj Vivanta and was graced by Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Romesh Kumar and renowned neurologist Dr. Sushil Razdan jointly presented the awards.

Dr. Varinder Sharma, besides being a practicing sonologist, is also an accomplished artist and a regular columnist who writes on multiple subjects. His dedication to both the medical field and the arts was celebrated during the ceremony, marking the first-ever doctors' award event organized in Jammu to honour the unsung heroes of healthcare who had immensely contributed in their respective

specialised fields.

The evening recognized the invaluable contributions of the medical fraternity, who serve humanity with humility and dedication. Dr. Varinder Sharma, mentored by Dr. Suresh, the father of Ultrasound in India, has made significant strides in the field of ultrasound

and has been a beacon of expertise and care in the community. Apart from his medical career, Dr. Sharma's passion for music and filmmaking was also acknowledged.

His short film won the Best Short Film award, and a popular Punjabi song he directed garnered over two billion views, showcasing his multifaceted talent. The memorable event highlighted the exceptional efforts of doctors who bring healing, hope, and happiness to their patients and Dr. Varinder Sharma's contributions stood out as a testament to his relentless pursuit of excellence in both medicine and the arts. Present on the occasion were RJ Vikrant and RJ Juhi.

## Delegation of Private Schools meets Chairperson FFRC



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 15: A delegation of private schools of Jammu division met with the Justice (Retd) Sunil Hali, Chairperson Fee Fixation and Regulation Committee (FFRC) JKUT here on Monday.

During the discussion authorized members of the private schools welcomed the order no. 05 FFRC of 2024 dated July 3, 2024 in which he has distributed the work to the officials working in Jammu and Kashmir wing separately for the quick disposal of files which are submitted by the private schools for the approval of their fee structure.

President of the association Ajay Gupta while showing a serious concern for the non disposal of the files which have

been laying pending and gathering dust for more than two years said to the Chairperson FFRC that all orders/notifications/circulars will have no relevance if the disposal of the files which are submitted in the department is not done in the time bound manner.

He initially demanded immediate disposal of all pending files which are laying in the department for more than two years instead of calling new files for the approval/regulation/enhancement of private schools.

The Chairperson Justice (Retd) Sunil Hali, (FFRC) showed his haplessness for the quick disposal of the files due to the non-cooperation of all those government officials who are the members of the Fee Fixation and Regulation Committee of JKUT.

He said approximately 200 files of different schools after proper verification and securitization have been kept on the table of Principal Secretary, School Education Department (Member Secretary) for approval but till date no decision has been taken for the disposal of the files.

Chairperson FFRC promised to the members to take-up their issues with Principal Secretary School Education Department (Member Secretary) in couple of days for the quick disposal of all files which are laying in his office for the disposal.

The entire discussion was held in presence of the Administrative Officer (FFRC) Nazir UI Hussain Shah and Gaurav Charak, Publicity Secretary, Private Schools Association Jammu & Kashmir.

## EDITORIAL

PRESERVE  
HERITAGE

Jammu and Kashmir, known for its breathtaking landscapes, diverse culture, and historical significance, boasts a rich heritage that has been shaped by various civilizations over millennia. The preservation of this heritage is not only crucial for maintaining the region's unique identity but also for promoting tourism and fostering a sense of pride among its inhabitants. The heritage of Jammu and Kashmir encompasses architectural marvels, traditional arts and crafts, music, dance, and literature, all of which need concerted efforts to be safeguarded for future generations.

One of the most prominent aspects of Jammu and Kashmir's heritage is its architectural legacy. The region is home to numerous historical monuments, including ancient temples, mosques, forts, and palaces. The Mughal gardens of Srinagar, such as Shalimar Bagh, Nishat Bagh, and Chashme Shahi, reflect the grandeur of Mughal architecture and horticulture. These gardens, along with the iconic Shankaracharya Temple and Jamia Masjid, require regular maintenance and restoration to preserve their structural integrity and aesthetic appeal.

Efforts to preserve these sites should involve a combination of government initiatives and community participation. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and the Jammu and Kashmir State Department of Archaeology and Museums play a pivotal role in conserving these monuments. Additionally, public awareness campaigns and educational programs can encourage local communities to take pride in their heritage and contribute to its preservation.

Jammu and Kashmir is renowned for its traditional arts and crafts, which are an integral part of its cultural heritage. Pashmina shawls, Kashmiri carpets, papier-mâché products, and woodwork are some of the exquisite crafts that have gained international acclaim. However, the artisans who create these masterpieces often face challenges such as lack of market access, inadequate financial support, and competition from machine-made products.

To safeguard these traditional crafts, it is essential to provide artisans with training, financial assistance, and access to broader markets. The government and non-governmental organizations can collaborate to establish craft villages and artisan hubs where craftsmen can showcase and sell their products. Promoting these crafts through exhibitions, fairs, and online platforms can also help in reaching a global audience.

The cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir is also reflected in its music, dance, and literature. The region has a rich tradition of Sufi music, folk songs, and classical dance forms like Rouf and Hafiza. Kashmiri literature, with its profound poetry and prose, has significantly contributed to Indian literary heritage.

Preserving these art forms requires nurturing the talent of young artists and providing them with platforms to perform and share their work. Cultural festivals, workshops, and academic programs dedicated to the study and promotion of these traditions can play a crucial role in this regard. The government can support these initiatives through grants and scholarships, ensuring that the region's cultural vibrancy is sustained.

The preservation of heritage is not solely the responsibility of governmental bodies and cultural organizations; it also requires active involvement from local communities. Educating the public about the importance of their heritage and how they can contribute to its preservation is vital. Schools and colleges can incorporate heritage education into their curricula, fostering a sense of pride and responsibility among young people.

Moreover, community-based tourism initiatives can help in preserving heritage while providing economic benefits to local populations. Homestays, guided tours, and cultural experiences led by local residents can offer tourists an authentic glimpse into the region's heritage while ensuring that the benefits of tourism are distributed equitably.

The heritage of Jammu and Kashmir is a treasure trove that needs to be preserved with utmost care and dedication. By combining government efforts with community participation, providing support to artisans, promoting traditional art forms, and educating the public, we can ensure that this rich legacy is passed on to future generations. Preservation of heritage is not just about protecting the past; it is about enriching the present and securing a culturally vibrant future for Jammu and Kashmir.

## Importance of physical exercise in a healthy life

By: Dr. Anurag Pathak

Exercise is basically any physical activity that we perform on a repetitive basis for relaxing our body and taking away all the mental stress. It is important to do regular exercise. When you do this on a daily basis, you become fit both physically and mentally. Moreover, not exercising daily can make a person susceptible to different diseases. Thus, just like eating food daily, we must also exercise daily. The importance of exercise essay will throw more light on it.

Exercising is most essential for proper health and fitness. Moreover, it is essential for every sphere of life. Especially today's youth need to exercise more than ever. It is because the junk food they consume every day can hamper their quality of life.

If you are not healthy, you cannot lead a happy life and won't be able to contribute to the expansion of society. Thus, one needs to exercise to beat all these problems. But, it is not just about the youth but also about every member of the society.

These days, physical activities take places in colleges more than often. The professionals are called to the campus for organizing physical exercises. Thus, it is a great opportunity for everyone

who wishes to do it.

Just like exercise is important for college kids, it is also essential for office workers. The desk job requires the person to sit at the desk for long hours without breaks. This gives rise to a very unhealthy lifestyle.

They get a limited amount of exercise as they just sit all day then come back home and sleep. Therefore, it is essential to exercise to adopt a healthy lifestyle that can also prevent any damaging diseases.

Exercise has a lot of benefits in today's world. First of all, it helps in maintaining your weight. Moreover, it also helps you reduce weight if you are overweight. It is because you burn calories when you exercise.

Further, it helps in developing your muscles. Thus, the rate of your body will increase which helps to burn calories. Moreover, it also helps in improving the oxygen level and blood flow of the body.

When you exercise daily, your brain cells will release frequently. This helps in producing cells in the hippocampus. Moreover, it is the part of the brain which helps to learn and control memory.

The concentration level in your body will improve which will ultimately lower the danger of disease like Alzheimer's. In addition, you can also reduce

the strain on your heart through exercise. Finally, it controls the blood sugar levels of your body so it helps to prevent or delay diabetes.

Physical activity is defined as "bodily movement that is produced by the contraction of skeletal muscles and that substantially increase the amount of energy expend".<sup>4</sup> According to Caspersen et al., the elements of physical activity are a) bodily movement via skeletal muscle; b) results in energy expenditure; c) Energy expenditure (kilocalories) varies continuously from low to high; and d) positively correlated with physical fitness. Physical activity including sports and exercise as well. Anyone involved in sports and exercise, they will use skeletal muscle and energy. There are many benefits if involved in sports and exercise. For example, it can be increase our healthy level and reduce the health problems.

Regular moderate intensity physical activity—such as walking, cycling, or participating in sports—has significant benefits for health. All young people should participate in physical activity of at least moderate intensity for at least 0.5 h per day. Physical activity not only reduces the risk of various non-communicable chronic diseases, but also is essential to enhance personal health. For instance,

it can reduce the risk of cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, colon and breast cancer, stroke, hypertension, type 2 diabetes mellitus, osteoporosis, obesity, colon cancer, breast cancer, cognitive impairment, anxiety, and depression. Moreover, adequate levels of physical activity will decrease the risk of a hip or vertebral fracture and help control weight. However, lack of physical activity is already one of the global issues. Lack of physical activity is now a global health hazard and is increasing rapidly in both developed and developing countries.

Physical activity is any activity that consumes physical energy, including walking, walking up and down the stairs, doing housework, etc. I am here just to share about only physical activity, not necessarily sports. Sports training are a planned, structured, and repetitive activity. We just need to go through physical activity to put our bodies at a healthy level. Sometimes people will misunderstand the difference between sports and physical activity, when the person talking about "sports", it will be associated with many different levels of training, it will be very tiring and difficult.

Dr. Anurag Pathak  
Lucknow

## Career opportunities in Commerce Stream

By: Vijay GarG

Commerce stream has a sea of options and opportunities for those who want to make their career and achieve their goals in life. Students who are studying under this stream have an intellectual look towards the outside world. This career is full of hard challenges and practical facts. It provides numerous career options in the life of students. Most of the students opt for this stream because they all want to put their step forward in Business and follow its strategies. At present Commerce is becoming very relevant and popular among all the students that are the major reason, due to which various countries are bringing up excellent career-related opportunities to this stream.

On the other hand, the most respectable and useful career option in this stream is Chartered Accountant and MBA position holders. Well, Commerce is like a new way of modern life or a new direction for students to lead their lives in the best possible way. It is the most operative, functional and systematic part of the business.

Students who wish to choose commerce as subject stream they should involve themselves completely and constantly & also have interest in subjects like Economics, Accountancy, Finance, Bookkeeping, Secretarial practice, Business mathematics, Commerce, etc. Commerce as a subject and as a matter of fact has been gaining fast gaining importance as a career choice in India.

It has been observed that Commerce stream is gaining popularity at a rapid speed. It also provides many career opportunities for students like Chartered Accountant, Investment in banking sectors, Insurance field, Stock market level etc. After completing graduation from Commerce stream like B.Com/M.Com, students should positively start thinking of enrolling themselves completely for the various professional courses under important streams such as - CA, CWA, CFA or MBA in Finance etc.

As we all know that at present the economy of our country is moving

at a very slow pace with no clear-cut moves and directions but in spite of this fact Career in commerce stream is still considered as a "stream of choice" by students at a large medium. It has been proved as a plus point for career opportunities which are available in our country in finance stream such as - CA, CWA or Company Secretary from the respective institutes like ICAI, ICSI, ICWAI.

Career Options for Students in Commerce Stream

Under this stream, students have to study these subjects like - Economics, Mathematics, Accountancy, Book Keeping, Commerce, International or Foreign Trade etc. There are also a number of competitive examinations which is to be taken after school such as:-

- C.S. Foundation course
- C.A. Foundation course
- ICWA. Foundation course
- Business Studies
- Hotel Management
- National Defence Academy
- Fashion Technology
- LAW Entrance exam

Commerce also creates markets for the surplus products. It does not only widens up international markets now-days but quite the fact it is also equally useful in accelerating the process of exchange in domestic markets. It is truly conducted that Commerce plays a great and tremendous role in the economic development of a country.

Another important fact which is conducted is that Transport, Advertisement, Finance, Insurance, Warehousing, and Salesmanship are the major commercial tools which are almost essential for the promotion of trade. In this stream, the most important and active thought is that which require never-ending efforts to adopt economic activities for changing existing conditions in the most useful and positive manner.

Commerce stream opens up a variety of options after 10+2 stage. Some examples are as follows - company secretary-ship, chartered accountancy, cost accountancy, business management, computers. Although chartered accountancy, cost accountancy or company secretary-ship course can be taken up after 10 + 2 (after successfully com-

pleting the Foundation Courses). It may, therefore, be wise to obtain the basic B.Com degree first with Computers so that you can achieve your goal and make your career. Whatever stream you may select, you should put in your best efforts, which would surely lead to the path of success and make your life more meaningful.

By obtaining high marks in the qualifying exams will put you in a comparatively better position to get into the course of choice after the 10 + 2 level and which will definitely lead your career at a high level. On the other hand, students who are interested in working with numbers, analyzing numeric data and who really aspire to grasp a career in financial-economical and business world are ideally compatible and suitable for commerce stream.

Chartered Accountancy is amongst one of the widely accepted accounting profession in the corporate world that not only offers private practice opportunities to a qualified chartered accountant but it also opens up the opportunity to take up a job with a profile of choice of our own. Such flexibility helps a CA student to plan his/her career options in a more structured way as the profession gives a chance to evaluate his/her interest areas and accordingly take up the job in the related field or else he has also the option to commence his own Practice in the accounting, taxation and other related areas.

To begin with, a student needs to enrol with The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India - ICAI for appearing in the first level i.e. the Common Proficiency Test also known as CPT test after 10 class. Students can, however, appear for the CPT examination only after they appeared for their Senior Secondary Examination - (10+2).

To facilitate students at large the Good and recognized Institutes makes every attempt to make sure that the CA exams - all levels (CPT - PCC - Final) are being conducted in all major cities across India which includes Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Bangalore, Pune, Hyderabad, Patna, Indore and at various other cities and towns across India. A detailed listing of

all centres for the CA examinations can be obtained directly from the website of ICAI or by contacting the Institute.

Subjects Studied Under Commerce Stream

Business Economics: This would cover concepts like the laws of demand and supply, the law of returns, elasticity, the theory of pricing under different market forms etc.

Financial Accounting: This subject would deal with the preparation of profit and loss statements, balance sheets and final accounts of a company, knowledge of Indian and international accounting standards, calculation of depreciation and valuation of shares and goodwill of a company.

Cost Accounting: This would include process, job and contract costing, costing of overheads, standard, and variance costing and budgetary control. Income tax: This would encompass the nature and basis of the charge of income tax, tax planning, tax deduction, incomes not taxable etc.

Auditing: This would deal with vouching, valuation and verification of transactions, assets, and liabilities. It will also include studying the auditing of different organizations like clubs, hospitals, and charitable concerns.

Business Finance: This would include in its scope financial analysis as a diagnostic tool, the management of working capital and its components as well as capital structure leverages.

Business Law: This subject would discuss the different laws in India relating to, among others, the Companies Act and the Consumer Protection Act. Marketing: This subject would deal with products, pricing methods, promotion, channels of distribution, logistics etc.

Business Communication: This subject focuses on the art of business correspondence --business letter writing, memo writing, notices etc.

(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational  
columnist Malout)

## Over 3.25 Lakh youth trained through HDFC Bank Parivartan's skill development programmes

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: On World Youth Skills Day, HDFC Bank Parivartan is proud to celebrate a significant milestone, having engaged over 325,000 youth across India through its various skilling programmes. Skill development and livelihood enhancement is a key focus area of the bank's Parivartan programme, its umbrella brand for all CSR initiatives. The bank is currently working on over 100 projects in the area of Skill Development across different states, covering multiple sectors including IT/ITeS, retail, healthcare, manufacturing and agriculture.

Nusrat Pathan, Head of CSR at HDFC bank,



stated, "At HDFC Bank, we believe that empowering our youth with the right skills is crucial for the socio-economic development of our nation. Our Parivartan training programmes are designed not only to provide vocational skills linked with market demands, but also to instil confidence and ambition in young minds. By collaborating with esteemed partners and focusing on sectors with high growth potential, we are committed to bridging the skills gap

and creating a robust and inclusive workforce for the future. Our mission is to ensure that every young individual we reach has the opportunity to thrive and contribute to India's dynamic economy."

Instituted in 2014 by the United Nations General Assembly on 15th July, World Youth Skills Day celebrates the strategic importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work, and entrepreneurship, as well as for addressing

global challenges and advancing sustainable development.

Skilling is a global demand, and investing in skill development remains pivotal since as per the United Nations, the number of young people aged 15-24 globally comprises 1.2 billion individuals. This demographic is projected to rise to 1.3 billion by 2030, representing 16 per cent of the world's population. India occupies a unique position, with over 50 per cent of the total population below 25 years of age. However, recent data from the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), Sector Skill Council, or other qualified non-government agencies; and offer targeted training to prepare youth for successful careers and entrepreneurial ventures in key industries.

agriculture, and renewable energy, underscoring a critical need to skill, up-skill, and right-skill the country's youth.

HDFC Bank Parivartan's youth training programmes address these needs by equipping young people with essential skills, knowledge, and competencies to thrive in today's dynamic job market. These training programmes come with certifications from the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), Sector Skill Council, or other qualified non-government agencies; and offer targeted training to prepare youth for successful careers and entrepreneurial ventures in key industries.

## Realme unveils 13 Pro Series 5G: Monet-Inspired design and AI-Powered Camera set to debut on July 30

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Realme, known as the top choice among Indian youth for smartphones, has announced the upcoming launch of its realme 13 Pro Series 5G in India on July 30, 2024. This new series introduces a stunning Monet-inspired aesthetic design and features the first AI Professional Camera Phone from realme.

Partnering with the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), realme has crafted the realme 13 Pro Series 5G, comprising models like the realme 13 Pro 5G and realme 13 Pro+ 5G. Available in vibrant Monet Gold, Monet Purple, and

Emerald Green colors, these devices reflect the artistic influence of Monet's famous paintings "Haystacks" and "Water Lilies". The use of Miracle Shining Glass enhances the visual appeal, replicating the light and shadow effects found in Monet's artworks.

Setting new standards in the smartphone industry, the realme 13 Pro Series 5G integrates advanced technology and artistic inspiration. Developed in collaboration with Sony, this series features dual Sony sensors — the Sony LYT-701 and LYT-600 — enabling DSLR-like functionality such as high dynamic range photos, clear night

shots, optical zoom, and digital SuperZoom. The AI Ultra Clarity and AI HyperRAW Algorithm further enhance image clarity and dynamic range, promising unparalleled photography experiences.

Realme's innovative approach with the 13 Pro Series 5G aims to redefine smartphone capabilities and aesthetics. The launch event on July 30, 2024, will mark a significant milestone in the evolution of smartphone technology. Stay updated on further details and announcements via realme's official website, Flipkart, and social media channels including Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube.

## Govt's grand claims fall flat as public suffering persists across sectors: Chib Hari Singh urges people to support Congress Party in ensuing Assembly elections in J&K



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: The government at the Centre has attained expertise in making big claims but on ground its performance is dismal with people suffering on all counts as civic edifice, healthcare, education, employment, tourism, businesses are all passing through an abysmal phase.

This was stated by Uday Bhanu Chib, General Secretary of Indian Youth Congress while addressing a public meeting in Jammu North Assembly segment here today. Hari Singh Chib, Vice President J&K Pradesh Congress Committee was also present.

Addressing the gathering, Uday Chib said that the people of the country have made a big mistake by voting to power the BJP and the need of the time is to root it out as soon as possible to ensure good governance in the country. He said that BJP cannot offer anything except big hollow promises like bringing back black money, eradicating corruption, teaching a lesson to China and Pakistan, etc.

Uday said that the people of J&K are fed-up

with a series of lies and false promises made by the BJP leadership in the Union Territory. He asserted that the people of the country are struggling with rising inflation and the youths are finding it difficult to get jobs. The Prime Minister is not even talking about the problems being faced by farmers and workers, he added. "Inflation has affected people at all levels. Even a cup of tea is now beyond the reach of the common citizens. The Centre has not taken any firm steps to control skyrocketing prices," he added.

Hari Singh Chib, Vice President JKPC, said that the present government of Jammu and Kashmir has miserably failed to ensure delivery of basic amenities like availability of ration, frequent supply of power and water. He termed it unfortunate that people were being subjected to immense suffering for want of basic amenities like power and water in absence of a popular government in Jammu and Kashmir. He also criticised the central government for giving more powers like Delhi LG thus weakening Democratic rights of the public.

He said that due to lack of vision and wrong policies of the government, people of J&K are facing a crisis-like situation with each segment of society feeling abject neglect.

Hari Singh Chib asked people of Jammu North constituency to unite and strengthen the hands of Congress leadership in the ensuing Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir as only the Congress can fulfil the aspiration of the general public.

Meeting was organised by Rajinder Singh and former Tehsildar Kamal Singh.

Among those who were present include Som Nath Sharma Block President Pata Paloura, Parshotam Singh, Bishamber Dass, Romesh Singh, Ghar Singh, Hans Raj Hans, Panch Rajinder Kumar, Brij Kumar, Ravi Kumar, Pummy manhas, Jung Bahadur Singh, Kaka Ram, Tarun vaid, Bua Ditta, Rajash Wali, Bansi Lal, Vidya Sagar, Ram Lal, Isshar Dass Digra, Kuldeep Bhagat, Shiv Dev Singh, Rattan Lal sangral, Kali Dass, Kulbinder Singh, Hans Raj, Kailash Singh, Harbans Lal, Capt Ragbir Singh, Captain Shiv Dev Singh and others.

## Shiksha Niketan shines in 11th class results

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Shiksha Niketan proudly unveiled the results of its 11th class for the academic year 2023-2024, marking another year of academic excellence and student achievement.

Renowned for its commitment to nurturing young minds and preparing them for future challenges, Shiksha Niketan offers a robust curriculum that emphasizes intellectual growth, critical thinking, and practical skills across Science, Commerce, and Humanities streams.

A total of 709 students appeared for the 11th class examinations, with an impressive 39 students securing positions of distinction.

Notably, 80 students scored above 95%, while 157 achieved marks in



the 90% range and 287 attained 85%. In total, 549 students earned distinctions, underscoring the overall high academic standards at Shiksha Niketan.

The top achievers in the Union Territory were celebrated for their exceptional performances:

Janhvi Sharma topped the Commerce stream

with an outstanding 99%; Jagrity secured the second position in the Science stream with 98.8%; Tanishka Sabharwal closely followed with 98.4% in Commerce; Sunidhi Sharma and Nishita Sharma both achieved 98.2% in the Arts stream, sharing the second position; Aniket Kundal excelled in

the Science stream with 98.6%, securing the third position; Milan Chadgal, Chanpreet Kour, Driшти Raina, and Niharika Mahajan also stood out with 98.4% and 98% in Science and Commerce streams, respectively, securing the fourth positions.

The celebration of these achievements

was marked by a festive atmosphere, with parents of the top students invited to join in the joyous occasion.

The school management, along with dedicated faculty members, expressed their pride and congratulated the students for their hard work and dedication.

Principal Rameshwar Mengi personally honored the parents with bouquets and offered words of encouragement, motivating the students to continue striving for excellence in their future endeavours.

The media coverage of the event highlighted the students' remarkable efforts and the supportive environment provided by Shiksha Niketan, further cementing its reputation as a leading institution for academic and holistic development in Jammu.

## Plantation Drive carried out at SKUAST-Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: In a significant move towards enhancing the natural beauty and promoting a green environment, SKUAST-Jammu is set to initiate a mega plantation drive in the coming monsoon season at its Main Campus, Chatha. The initiative is being spearheaded under the able guidance of the Prof. B.N.Tripathi, Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu.

The inaugural event saw the esteemed presence of Prof. S.K. Gupta, Director of Research, as the chief guest. Prof. Gupta emphasized the importance of planting ornamental plants to beautify the university campus.

The event was graced



by Prof. Parshant Bakshi, Head, Fruit Science and Incharge of the Centre for Organic and Natural Farming, who along with his staff and students, initiated the drive by planting 80 Royal palm plants.

Prof. R.K. Pandey, Head of Floriculture and an expert in the field, served as the Convener

of this plantation drive. The initiative, held at the Centre for Organic and Natural Farming, marked the beginning of a concerted effort to adorn the Centre with ornamental trees and shrubs.

Prof. Parshant Bakshi elaborated on the role of plants in the current climate scenario, highlighting their contributions to

cooler air, positive ambiance, and shade. He urged all students and staff members to adopt and care for these plants until they are fully established. In an innovative approach, students are encouraged to take a picture with their adopted plant and submit it with their final thesis submission.

The event saw active participation from various faculty members, including Dr. Sudhir Singh, Prof., Dr. A.P. Rai, and Dr. Balbir Dhotra Professor (s) of Soil Science, at CONF, Dr. M.C Dwivedi, Professor, Agronomy, Sadiq Ahmed, Niraj Manhas, and FCLAs, Rahul, Vijay Choudhary, Garu Ram, Deepak Kumar, Sunil Kumar, among students from the Organic Farming

and Fruit Science Divisions, including Satyam Thakur, Prayekshi, Lobzang, Sidhant, Arti Devi, Megha, Mohsin, Ashima, and Prachi, also enthusiastically joined the green initiative.

This plantation drive aims to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the Centre and foster a greener environment, reflecting SKUAST-Jammu's commitment to sustainable and eco-friendly practices.

Prof. Bakshi's ongoing efforts in promoting horticulture are noteworthy, having already planted 12,500 fruit plants with his students and well-wishers since 2016 under the 'Save Horticulture' initiative. He continues to encourage planting fruit plants on birthdays or special occasions.

## BJP is shying away from elections due to public resentment: Rajesh

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) J&K UT general secretary and media head Rajesh Gupta today described the concept as the key to retrieving back the glorious ethos of inclusive Jammu and Kashmir to its pristine glory again by adopting the policies of BSP and to strengthening it. He said BSP is spreading its roots in Jammu and Kashmir.

BSP leader in a statement today lambasted BJP saying that tall promises of development, employment,



progress and prosperity of the region were made with the people who were mesmerized with several other seductive slogans. Gupta said that the BSP is a way forward to

respect the urges and aspirations of all the regions and sub-regions of Jammu and Kashmir with none being discriminated against or dominated politically, socially, and economically. Each one, irrespective of region, religion or caste, must have equal rights regarding resources and governance.

Gupta added that for months, the anticipation of assembly elections had infused a sense of hope and optimism among the people of J&K and the prospect of a democratically elected government was seen

as a beacon of stability. However, this fragile optimism seems to be having shattered as a series of coordinated, terror attacks struck key areas in Jammu region. The deadly attacks targeted multiple locations.

"To cover up their failures further, BJP is shying away from elections as the clouds of worry have surrounded them," he continued.

BSP leader said that BSP alone could fulfill the aspirations of the public at large and steer the erstwhile State out of the morass of poverty, underdevelopment.

## Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Parachar Sewa samiti's Bhandara enters Day 16

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: On June 30, 2024, the Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti, Jammu and Kashmir commenced its annual Bhandara for the Baba Amarnathji Yatris at the Railway Station in Jammu.

This event, marked by enthusiasm and dedication, aims to serve pure and healthy meals to pilgrims and devotees who travel from across the country to seek blessings at the sacred shrine of Baba Amarnath.

The Samiti, driven by its mission of public ser-

vice, has been steadfast in organizing the Langar, ensuring continuous provision of nutritious meals to all visitors. Today, on the 16th day of the Bhandara, Kewal Krishan Sharma inaugurated the day's proceedings in the presence of Sunil Sharma, the National Coordinator of the Samiti. Narinder Dass Maharaj commended the tireless efforts of the Samiti's volunteers in arranging meals for pilgrims arriving from various states of India and abroad.

Sunil Sharma, the National Coordinator, highlighted that a large

number of yatris had partaken in the meals provided on this 16th day. He expressed gratitude towards the volunteers for their dedicated service, guided by the teachings of Bhrahmgyani Guruji, ensuring that pilgrims receive hygienic, delicious, and spiritually uplifting "sattvic" meals throughout their stay. The Samiti has made special arrangements for pilgrims observing fasts on occasions like Ekadashi and other important festival dates, distinguishing their service from other transit camps in Jammu.

Raman Sharma detailed that under

the leadership of Sunil Sharma and supported by Vishal Sharma, Amrit Bhivani, Ajay Kumar, and Raman Kumar, a dedicated team has been formed to serve the yatris diligently day and night.

Among those present at today's Bhandara were Ramesh Sharma, Ajay Bhalla, Swatantar Bakshi, Vikram Sharma, Raja Mankotia, Anil Kumar, Tarachand, and many others, underscoring the collective effort and community spirit that defines the Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti's service during the Baba Amarnathji Yatra.

## Ambani-Merchant wedding: A bespoke fairy tale

Cannes red carpet looked pale in comparison as the Anant Ambani & Radhika Merchant wedding gala bedazzled the world for days

We thought the Ambani-Merchant wedding would be over with the pheras, but we were wrong! The wedding was promptly followed by Shubh Ashirwad and a reception, the grand finale. As we, the uninvited lot, were forced to witness the Big Fat Ambani Wedding through Insta-feeds of every public figure we followed across the globe, we absorbed each bit of information — fashion, jewellery and make-up that the bride and the groom sported!

Radhika Merchant's hand-picked outfits for her extended-wedding were all head-turners. Talking of D-day, Radhika exuded elegance in an Abu Jani-Sandeep Khosla for the pheras with Anant Ambani. Her ensemble is Abu-Sandeep's interpretation of Gujarati tradition of brides wearing red and white. In Gujarati language it's called Panetar.

Radhika's heirloom jewellery was the talking point too. She wore a choker, polki earrings, mang tika, and haath phool that were previously worn by her sister Anjali Merchant for her wedding in 2020.

Without taking away the attention from the antique pieces, she redefined jewellery fashion by choosing a central necklace of diamonds and emerald designed by Nisha Mehta, which seamlessly blended to result in a stunning over-all look.

For Abu-Sandeep the complete wedding ceremony look of Radhika was 'a fairytale come to life'. They wrote on Instagram, "The ivory zardozi cut-work ensemble consists of a trailing ghagra layered with a second detachable trail, a five-meter head veil and a tissue shoulder dupatta...The outfit is complete with a fully embroidered red shoulder dupatta that uplifts the silhouette with its maximal drama."

Radhika didn't forget to pay homage to another celebrity designer Manish Malhotra on



her wedding day. For her Vidaai, she chose MM's custom-made lehenga in sindoori red colour.

Radhika's Shubh Ashirwad look made quite a statement. She wore an artistic lehenga and fresh lotuses in her hair. Producer and stylist Rhea Kapoor's brain-child, the look combined art and fashion which Rhea believes go hand-in-hand. Brought to life by couturists Abu Jani and Sandeep Khosla, it was inspired the hand-paintings of Delhi-based artist and sculptor Jaysri Burman.

Taking to Instagram, Rhea wrote, "To bring Jaysri's paintings to life, the lehenga's 12 panels are hand-painted on a special Italian canvas. Featuring Jaysri's quintessential mythical aesthetic, the garment celebrates Anant's union with Radhika through deeply meaningful imagery... the craftsmanship features meticulous hand embroidery of real gold zardozi. A glittering sea of sequins shines over the most intricate spaces of Jaysri's art. It is paired with a blouse hand embroidered entirely in resham by master craftsmen at Abu Jani Sandeep Khosla."

Rhea didn't forget to add artist Jaysri's comments in the description. "Abu, Sandeep are artists. The only difference is that their medium is couture while mine is canvas. Both Rhea

and Abu Sandeep gave me total creative freedom and understood my essence as an artist. I found my brush dancing all over the canvas. My only hope now is that it inspires a smile on Radhika's face and maybe someday, we'll even see it hanging on her wall," wrote Jaysri.

Groom in pure gold Abu Jani-Sandeep Khosla also styled the glorious groom for the wedding day. For the baraat, Anant opted for a rust orange sherwani with a red border. It is completely hand embroidered in an intricate trellis pattern that displays small birds within its structure. For the lagan ceremony, Abu-Sandeep styled Anant in an entirely gold sherwani in pure kanjivaram woven with shades of real silver and silver dipped in gold.

Whereas for the jaimala ceremony, Anant wore a Sabyasachi. He accessorised it with a regal necklace and a diamond brooch featuring a panther crouched on an emerald weighing a massive 720 carats. Anant's choice of outfits reflected his love for animals. One of those stand-out ensembles was Rahul Mishra's pink kurta with a printed jacket with flora and fauna motifs.

Dewy & dreamy For the D-day, Radhika bridal make-up was in sync with her ensemble. Keeping it rosy and

fresh, she used minimal contouring and blush with hint of mascara on the lashes. She completed the look with winged eyeliner, tiny red bindi and red lipstick. For the hairdo, she did a low bun.

For Vidaai, she added fresh white flower in the bun. While maintaining minimal-make-up, Radhika added kajal to give away kohl eyed look and changed into brown shade for lips during Vidaai ceremony. Her Shubh Ashirwad hair-do also sported fresh lotuses.

Watch out Anant is known for his love for watches and to mark the celebration, he gifted grooms-men, including Ranveer Singh, Salman Khan and Shah Rukh Khan 18K Gold Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Perpetual Calendar 'Premiere' edition watch.

This customised luxury watch's estimated worth is between Rs 1.5 to 3 crore. There are only 25 pieces of the same in the world. Ranveer Singh even posted a close-up picture of the rose gold watch on his Instagram. According to an Instagram handle @theindianwatchconnoisseur, the luxury watch is 9.5 mm thick and features a 41 mm 18K pink gold case and a sapphire crystal back. The dial is pink gold and has a Grande Tapisserie pattern.

Regal presence

Among the guests, Deepika Padukone's regal entrance in a red Torani Anarkali created some timeless memories. As her husband Ranveer Singh commented, 'Mother is mothering', it's hard to miss her pregnancy glow and pure elegance which left quite an impression at the wedding where everybody brought in the their best fashion game. Apart from Deepika's attire, her statement neckpiece, antique bazuband, initiated a conversation. Steeped in history, her bazuband is connected to Maharaja Ranjit Singh's family.

## Malika Monroe Nearly Quit Acting After Bad Experiences



God Is A Bullet movie star, actress and professional kiteboarder Maika Monroe is getting candid about her time as an actress and how certain moments in the past nearly deterred her from working in the field.

The 31-year-old Long-legs star revealed in an interview with The Hollywood Reporter that she almost quit acting after a few poor experiences, feeling overworked in the earlier days of her career.

Maika Monroe revealed that she was in a phase where she took every job, completing seven films back to back.

These experiences were a mix of good

and bad. Feeling disillusioned with her career path, she found the job and industry strange and dark, leading her to take a break as they no longer felt good to her.

Monroe rekindled her passion for acting with the 2018 comedy horror film Villains, directed by Dan Berk and Robert Olsen. She collaborated with them again in the 2022 horror movie Significant Other, starring alongside Jake Lacy.

Monroe explained that the industry can be mentally tough, so she stepped back before returning. Now, she is having incredible experiences with movies people connect with. Being patient and picky

has been key for her.

During the interview, Monroe remembered meeting with director-writer Osgood Oz Perkins for a role in the 2024 horror movie Long-legs. She left the meeting feeling positive, but her team later informed her that Perkins wasn't sure if she was suitable for the role.

"I felt strongly about playing this role," Monroe said, noting that sometimes when you receive a script, you just know it's something you must do.

"I discussed it with my team and was determined to secure the role. I sent in a tape with scenes from the script, which ultimately got me the job," she continued.

Now, Monroe stars in the movie as FBI agent Lee Harker opposite Nicolas Cage, who plays the titular serial killer. According to the official synopsis, the film follows Lee as she uncovers occult clues to stop his terrifying killing spree.

CinemaCon awardee Monroe is well-regarded in the horror genre. She gained recognition for her role in the 2014 cult classic It Follows and is set to reprise it in the upcoming sequel.

In 2015, Monroe reflected on her experience starring in her first horror film during an interview with PEOPLE.

She described the process as challenging, particularly with the emotional and physical demands of the role. Despite the difficulties, Monroe appreciated the opportunity to work alongside a supportive and talented team.

## Meagan Good Says She Was Called The N-Word Several Times While Growing Up

Meagan Good, star of Divorce in the Black, talked about the racism she faced as a kid and how it made her want to act. From being the only Black family in her neighborhood to finding solace and confidence in front of the camera, the 42-year-old actress shares her early experiences. As she shares her journey from childhood commercials to Eve's Bayou, Good talks about supporting the next generation.

Having started her Hollywood career as a child, the Divorce in the Black star recalls how she came to work in show business.

"In the neighborhood I grew up in, until I was about maybe 10 or 11, there was one other Black family, and then it was maybe the end of junior high where more people of color started coming into the neighborhood," recalls Good. "But I experienced a lot of racism, being called the N-word more times than you could imagine."

For Good, acting was like joining the dance team, being a cheerleader, or playing sports. She realized she wouldn't feel safe in those spaces. When Good was a kid, her mom introduced her to acting as a hobby, and she quickly realized she loved it.

In the interview, Meagan Good revealed she loved being in front of the camera from a young age, calling herself "very overconfident." However, she admitted to having a "pick-me" mindset, wanting others to see her heart.

After her parents split when she was four and her sister was six, Good believes this influenced her desire to be noticed. She had already done over 60 national commercials for brands like Barbie and Cheerios by the time she was 14. Though she had a lot of experience, she never felt like casting directors trusted her, despite her dramatic abilities. "Just pick me. Just give me a chance. I'll show you. I can do it," she recalled thinking.

At 10, Good read for the role of Eve in Eve's Bayou. She remembers calling Kasi Lemmons every year to ask if the movie would be made soon, as they were still looking for funding. After the project moved forward, Good says she



became too old for the Eve role, which ended up going to Jurnee Smollett. Still, Good was cast as Cissy.

The actress talked about how validated she felt, recalling her thoughts, "Okay, I finally got a chance and I finally got picked." It was important for her to be surrounded by people who supported her, she said, "They pour into you, really see you, and want you to win. That always stuck with me."

Good is now protecting up-and-coming actresses as they make their way through the industry. She pledged to protect rising stars like Ryan Destiny, Lexi Underwood, and Paige Hurd, acknowledging the industry's challenges. The importance of supporting and uplifting these young actresses, making sure they know how valuable they are, was stressed.

She'd tell her 14-year-old self to stop striving for perfection, reminding her that she's perfect in God's eyes already. Plus, "I would also say, 'Girl, it ain't that serious. Calm down, relax. Protect your spirit a little bit more.'" BTW, Amazon Prime Video is now streaming Divorce in the Black.

## Selena Gomez Once Rejected High School Musical 3 Role & Said "I Want To Be Taken Seriously As An Actress"

Selena Gomez, who rose to prominence with the 2008 Disney Show Wizards Of Waverly Place, once passed on High School Musical 3. Selena Gomez has established herself as a powerhouse who doesn't just own chart-topping songs but has also starred in acclaimed movies and shows.

Before turning into one of the most followed stars in the world, with over 400 million followers on Instagram, Gomez got her start in the industry through Mickey Mouse's eared network, Disney.

In 2002, Selena Gomez starred as Gianna on "Barney



and Friends" until 2004 alongside Demi Lovato. She then appeared on "The Suite Life of Zack and Cody" and "Hannah Montana" before landing her own television show "Wizards of Waverly Place."

The show put Gomez on the map and set her up for future success as a singer and actress. During this time, Gomez was reportedly offered a role in High School Musical 3 alongside Zac Efron and Venessa Hudgens. However, Gomez reportedly passed on the role because she wanted "to be taken seriously as an actress."

Selena Gomez explained her deci-

sion to pass on the role to Daily News: "High School Musical 3" is cute, and I think it would be a great opportunity for someone else."

Gomez explained after years of being known as a Disney actress, she wanted to distance herself from the studio and be taken seriously as a performer. She said, "I didn't want to do it. I plan to take other roles in acting that are challenging for me. After Disney, I want to be taken seriously as an actress for many years."

Seemingly, Gomez made the right decision as her career skyrocketed after leaving the Disney show.

## Randeep reveals he didn't know Bollywood parties were meant for 'networking'

Randeep Hooda holds a very close-knit list of priorities in life: films, family, and furry friends. The actor started in the industry almost 24 years ago and has been focused on things that truly deserve importance. Asked about Bollywood parties, Hooda admitted that he never actually knew they were meant for something other than actually 'partying'.

For the unversed, there's a quite popular notion that star parties are usually networking events where many meet, interact, and crack opportunities for themselves in the future. Randeep, while speaking on Bharti TV, has now shared how he perceived these parties in the past.

Randeep said that he parties hard, but only with his friends and at home. He revealed that, at the beginning of his career, he would attend a lot of such parties. He shared that he used to go there just for partying and never



had any idea what he said to whom.

The Sarbjit actor said that it was much later he understood that the purpose of those parties was entirely different. According to

him, one is simply supposed to hold a drink, exchange pleasantries, and just know about who is working on which project. Hooda further understood that Bollywood parties are just networking parties and not real parties because "you party with your real friends who you're comfortable with."

In an earlier interview with agency, Randeep had admitted that he went to parties simply to enjoy himself and not to make connections where sometimes he would party a little too much. Hooda said, "I wish I knew how to play the game when I was younger. But it doesn't come naturally to me."

On the work front, Randeep was last seen in Swatantra Veer Savarkar which was a movie based on the life of Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. The movie fell into a sea of controversy leading to its box office failure but earned Hooda appreciation for his performance.

## PM Modi congratulates KP Sharma Oli on appointment as Nepal's Prime Minister

NEW DELHI, Jul 15 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday congratulated Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli for being appointed as Nepal's Prime Minister for the third time.

"Congratulations @ksharmaoli on your appointment as the Prime Minister of Nepal. Look forward to working closely to further strengthen the deep bonds of friendship between our two countries and to further expand our mutually beneficial cooperation for the progress and prosperity of our peoples," PM Modi shared his wishes in a post on



X. KP Oli, 72, was appointed to the top post after Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda lost the vote of confidence in the House of Representatives July 12. Oli staked his claim to become the next Prime Minister with the backing of Nepali Congress (NC) President Sher Bahadur Deuba and submitted

the signatures of 165 House of Representatives (HoR) members -- 77 from his party and 88 from the NC. Nepal's President Ram Chandra Paudel appointed Oli as the new Prime Minister. Oli will lead the Communist Party of Nepal-United Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML)-Nepali Congress coalition government.

## Heavy rains continue to lash Western coast, holiday declared for educational institutions

Heavy monsoon showers, with the accompaniment of strong winds, have been reported across the country for the last two days.

NEW DELHI, Jul 15 (Agencies): Incessant heavy rains and gusty winds continued to lash several parts of the western coast of India, prompting authorities to declare a holiday for educational institutions in several districts of multiple states on Monday.

"The monsoon is shifting downward from today. We are issuing a red alert for coastal Karnataka, Kerala, and Konkani Goa for the coming days. There may be more than 20 cm of rain there. Delhi-NCR will receive light rain in the coming days. There is no alert for Delhi," IMD scientist Dr Naresh Kumar told agency.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicted a thunderstorm with heavy rainfall and gusty wind speeds reaching 40 kmph at one or two places in Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam districts of Kerala in the coming hours.

The weathermen also predicted moderate rainfall at one or two places in the Alappuzha and Ernakulam districts of the state.

Heavy monsoon showers, with the accompaniment of strong winds, have been reported across the state for the last two days.

It caused widespread havoc, including the uprooting of trees, minor landslides, intense water-logging and partial damage to houses, authorities said.

In view of the incessant rains, the district authorities of Thrissur, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Kannur, Kasaragod, Ernakulam and Wayanad have declared a holiday for educational institutions.

Shutters at various dams were raised in the wake of a continuous heavy downpour.

The district administration in Pathanamthitta urged people living in the catchment area of



Moozhayar Dam to be extra vigil as its shutters are likely to be raised.

The Kerala Disaster Management Authority warned that water-logging on major roads and poor visibility of vehicles may lead to traffic congestion.

Flooding in many parts of low-lying areas and river banks and the uprooting of trees may cause damage related to the power sector, the KSDMA added.

The IMD has already issued a red alert for Monday in northern Malappuram, Kannur, and Kasaragod districts and placed Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad, Kozhikode, and Wayanad districts under an orange alert.

A red alert indicates heavy to extremely heavy rain of over 20 cm in 24 hours, while an orange alert means very heavy rain of 11 cm to 20 cm.

Karnataka is likely to witness active to vigorous rainfall till July 16, according to Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC).

Meanwhile, Uttara Kannada district deputy commissioner (DC) Laxmipriya has declared a holiday for all schools and PU colleges in Karwar, Ankola, Kumta, Honnavar, Bhatkal, Sirsi, Siddapur, Yellapur, Dandeli and Joida taluks on Monday, citing 'red alert' issued by India Meteorological Department (IMD).

A red alert indicates heavy to extremely heavy rain of over 20 cm in 24 hours.

According to the IMD, Castle Rock in Uttara Kannada received the highest rainfall on Sunday, with 220 mm.

The weather department has issued a heavy rain and red alert from 1 pm on July 14 to 8.30 pm on July 16 in Uttara Kannada district.

The vigorous monsoon conditions over Karnataka was due to the existing off-shore trough along the Maharashtra-north Kerala coast as well as the cyclonic circulation over west-central Bay of Bengal, off coastal Andhra Pradesh, which is channelling more moisture into Karnataka, said KSNDMC.

The rains are likely over coastal Karnataka, Malnad districts and parts of interior Karnataka till July 16.

Weather experts have predicted that dams on the Kaveri and Krishna basins in the state are likely to get massive inflows in the coming week.

The Central Water Commission has issued an inflow forecast for six dams and barrages in Karnataka, where inflows are equal or exceed the specified threshold limit.

Kabini reservoir is put on red alert with storage levels increasing above 85 per cent. The water level in all six dams and bar-

rages are likely to be regulated by the authorities when deemed necessary to avoid downstream flooding and upstream submergence.

The Goa Education Department on Sunday had declared holiday for schools up to Class 12 on Monday (July 15) citing heavy rains in the coastal state.

The India Meteorological Department issued a red alert in Goa for Monday amid heavy downpours lashing the state for the past three days.

Due to heavy showers and the red alert sounded by the IMD, all schools from Std I to Std XII across Goa will remain shut on Monday, State Education Director Shailesh Zingde told reporters.

The holiday has been declared for the safety of students, he added.

According to IMD Pernem in North Goa had received 210 mm of rainfall in a day, which it described as "extremely heavy".

India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued alerts across various districts in Maharashtra. A red alert has been issued for Ratnagiri district, indicating extremely heavy rainfall expected in the area. Orange alerts have been issued for several districts including Raigad, Sindhudurg, Pune, Satara, Kolhapur, Parbhani, Hingoli, Amravati, Wardha, and Yavatmal, signaling heavy to very heavy rainfall. Additionally, Mumbai, Thane, Palghar, and Dhule have been issued a yellow alert.

Rain also lashed parts of Delhi on Monday morning, with the minimum temperature settling at 29 degrees Celsius, 1.8 notches above the season's average.

The relative humidity at 8.30 am stood at 76 per cent.

The maximum temperature on Sunday was recorded as 37.1 degree Celsius, two notches above the season's average.

## 6 killed as speeding truck rams bus on Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway



ANAND, Jul 15 (Agencies): Six persons were killed and more than six others injured after a speeding truck rammed into a stationary bus on the Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway near Anand town in Gujarat early Monday morning, police said.

The accident took

place near Chikhodra village in Anand district at around 4.30 am when the private luxury bus, which was on way towards Ahmedabad, had pulled over on the roadside after one of its tyres burst, an official from Anand Rural police station said.

While the tyre was

being changed, the bus passengers alighted and some of them were waiting in front of the vehicle when a speeding truck hit the bus from behind, the official said.

Five people died on the spot while one succumbed to injuries in a hospital, he said, adding the bus driver was among the deceased.

According to the police, the deceased included three women and as many men and they were yet to be identified.

The injured persons were admitted to hospital, the official said.

## Missing for 46 hours, Kerala sanitation worker found dead in canal

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, Jul 15 (Agencies): The body of a sanitation worker, who had gone missing on July 13, was found in a canal in Kerala's capital city, Thiruvananthapuram, on Monday morning.

Identified as Joy, the sanitation worker was swept away while cleaning the Amayizhanchan canal on Saturday.

Following his missing information, a team of the Indian Navy, the local police, the fire brigade, and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) launched a massive search and rescue operation on Monday morning to trace the sanitation worker.

His decomposed body was spotted in the canal on the Pazhavangadi-Thakaraparambu-Vanchiyoor road by other corporation sanitation workers,



who immediately informed the police and the ward councillor. The canal in which the body was found was a kilometre away from the sewage canal where Joy had last been seen.

His body was later sent to a hospital for further examination.

CHIEF MINISTER EXPRESS-ES GRIEF

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan expressed condolences over the death of the sanitation worker.

In a statement, the Chief Minister said, "Joy's body, which was missing since Saturday, was found this morning near Thakaraparambu-Vanchiyoor. I convey my deepest condolenc-

es and grief over Joy's tragic death. I share the grief of the family members."

"The rescue operation was coordinated by bringing together various departments. All government agencies worked together and took all possible humanly measures to ensure the success of the operation. The help of technology, including gen robotics, was also used for the rescue operation," Vijayan said.

He also said in the highly complex rescue operation, the Fire Force, their scuba diving team, National Disaster Response Force, Police, Navy's expert team, and sanitation workers joined hands and worked tirelessly.

"We express our heartfelt gratitude to all of them for their service," the Chief Minister said.

## Jharkhand: Four dead, five injured after bus comes in contact with overhead high-tension wire

RANCHI, Jul 15 (Agencies): Four people were killed while five others got seriously injured as a bus they were travelling in for a marriage ceremony, came into contact with an overhead high-tension wire under the Tamar police station area late in the night on Sunday.

Overloaded with 'baratees' (wedding guests), the bus had started from Baruhatu village under Kuchai police station in Seraikela-Kharsawan district for Chogagutu village in Tamar, about 60 km from the state capital Ranchi.

According to locals,

more than 90 people were travelling in the bus.

"Since all the seats inside the bus were occupied, some people climbed on the roof of the bus," said a local villager, requesting anonymity. The bus came into contact with the overhead high-tension wire before entering the village, he added.

According to the villagers, the accident took place when the wedding procession was about to enter Chogagutu village in Tamar on Sunday night.

The wedding guests sitting on the roof top came into contact with

the high-tension wire and four of them were killed in the incident, they said.

Among those who lost their lives were minors who had been seated on the rooftop of the bus. Soon after the electrocution incident, the bus was evacuated, and the injured were rushed to a local health centre, from where the seriously injured were referred to RIMS.

Those who got killed include Dinesh Singh Munda (36) and Jiten Singh Munda (12) while the identity of the remaining deceased persons is yet to be ascertained.

## Excise policy case: Delhi court extends Manish Sisodia's judicial custody till July 22

NEW DELHI, Jul 15 (Agencies): A Delhi court on Monday extended the judicial custody of AAP leader and former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia in a corruption case related to the alleged excise policy scam.

Special judge for CBI and ED Kaveri Baweja extended the custody of Sisodia till July 22 after he was produced before the court through video conference on the expiry of his judicial custody.

The court on April 30 dismissed the bail pleas



of Sisodia in corruption and money laundering cases lodged by the CBI and the ED in relation to the alleged Delhi excise policy scam.

The court had reserved the order after hearing arguments from the CBI and ED as well as the counsel appearing for Sisodia.

## Two children found dead in water-filled pit in Patna, kin stage protest

Patna SSP Rajeev Mishra refuted 'unverified reports' circulating in the media claiming the children's limbs were bound, their chests bore stab wounds, and their eyes had been gouged.

PATNA, Jul 15 (Agencies): Bodies of two children were recovered from a water-filled pit here on Monday morning, police said, adding that their identities have not been disclosed yet.

Patna SSP Rajeev Mishra said the parents in their complaint to Gardani Bagh police station said the kids were last seen around 11am on Sunday.

Talking to reporters, Patna SSP Rajeev Mishra said, "Police launched a search operation to trace the kids. Finally around 6.30 am on Monday, the bodies of both the kids were



found in a water-filled pit near an under construction bridge in Beur area."

"Based on initial observations, it appears to be a case

of drowning," said senior police officers who visited the spot.

The District Magistrate has been informed, and necessary procedures are being followed,"

Mishra added. Mishra refuted 'unverified reports' circulating in the media claiming the children's limbs were bound, their chests bore stab wounds, and their eyes had been gouged.

"These claims are unverified. Further investigation is underway," he added.

Meanwhile, family members and local residents alleged foul play, suggesting the children were murdered.

Some attempted to block traffic on the Beur-Patna road in protest, but were dispersed by police.

## KP Sharma Oli Takes Oath As Nepal PM After Prachanda Loses Trust Vote

*K P Sharma Oli was sworn in by President Paudel at Shital Niwas, the main building of Rashtrapati Bhawan.*

KATHMANDU, Jul 15 (Agencies): K P Sharma Oli on Monday was sworn in as Nepal's Prime Minister for the fourth time to lead a new coalition government that faces the daunting challenge of providing political stability in the Himalayan nation.

The leader of Nepal's largest communist party was appointed as prime minister on Sunday by President Ram Chandra Paudel to lead the coalition government with Nepali Congress (NC), the largest party in Parliament, apart from other smaller parties.

Oli, 72, succeeds Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda,' who lost the vote of confidence in the House of Representatives (HoR) on Friday, leading to the formation of the new government.

Chairman of the Communist Party of Nepal-United Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML), Oli was sworn in by President Paudel at Shital Niwas, the main building of Rashtrapati Bhawan at a ceremony that was delayed by more than half an hour.

According to the news portal MyRepublica, the swearing-in ceremony was delayed due to the failure of the Nepali Congress to finalise the names of its ministers to join the government



amid disputes within the party.

The President also administered oaths to the two Deputy PMs - Prakash Man Singh and Bishnu Paudel - and 19 other ministers. Singh would also look after the Urban Development Ministry while Vishnu Prakash Paudel would look after the Finance Ministry.

Arzoo Rana Deuba, wife of Nepali Congress President Sher Bahadur Deuba is the Foreign Minister in the cabinet.

There are 10 cabinet ministers from Nepali Congress; eight, excluding PM, from CPN-UML, two from Janata Samajwadi Party and one from Lokatantrik Samajwadi Party in the government.

Outgoing Prime Minister Pra-

chanda was also present at the ceremony, which was attended by foreign diplomats and other dignitaries.

Earlier on Sunday, President Paudel had appointed Oli as the new Prime Minister under Article 76-2 of the Constitution of Nepal, according to a notice issued by the President's Office.

On Friday night, Oli had staked his claim to become the next Prime Minister with the backing of NC President Deuba and submitted the signatures of 165 House of Representatives (HoR) members - 77 from his Communist Party of Nepal-United Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML) party and 88 from the Nepali Congress. (NC).

Oli will now need to secure a

vote of confidence from Parliament within 30 days of appointment, which he is likely to secure easily as the minimum number to form a government in the 275-strong HoR is just 138.

Prachanda faced the vote of confidence as earlier last week, Oli's party withdrew its support to that coalition and inked a new seven-point deal with Deuba to form a new coalition government.

According to the July 1 deal between NC and CPN-UML, the two parties will lead the government on a rotational basis until the next general elections scheduled for 2027.

Oli served as Nepal's prime minister from October 11, 2015, to August 3, 2016 and then, from February 5, 2018, to July 13, 2021. He continued to serve from May 13, 2021, to July 13, 2021 - because of an appointment by the then President Bidya Devi Bhandari, described by local media as a success of Oli's Machiavellian tricks. Later, the Supreme Court ruled that Oli's claim to the post of prime minister was unconstitutional.

Nepal has faced frequent political turmoil as the country has seen 14 governments in the past 16 years after the Republican system was introduced.

## Estonia's Prime Minister Kaja Kallas steps down to become EU's top diplomat



HELSINKI, Jul 15 (Agencies): Estonia's Prime Minister Kaja Kallas has stepped down as the leader of the Baltic country to become the foreign policy chief of the European Union later this year.

Kallas, Estonia's first female prime minister, handed in her formal resignation to President Alar Karis during a brief meeting at the Presidential Palace in the capital, Tallinn, on Monday.

Estonia under Kallas has been one of Europe's most vocal backers of Ukraine following the full-scale

Russian invasion in February 2022.

Summing up Kallas' 3 1/2 years at the helm of the nation of 1.3 million, Karis was quoted as saying by the Baltic News Service that "it has been a time full of crises, the milestones (such as) the coronavirus, the economic recession and the war in Europe, when Russia destroyed our previous security picture with its aggression in Ukraine".

The prime minister's move automatically triggered the resignation of Kallas' three-party Cabinet, made up of her center-right Reform Party, the Social Demo-

cratic Party and the liberal Estonia 200 party. It will continue as a caretaker government until the new Cabinet has been sworn in, most likely the end of July or early August.

The Reform Party announced on June 29 that it is chose party veteran and Climate Minister Kristen Michal as prime minister candidate to replace Kallas, whose last main duty was to represent Estonia at a NATO summit in Washington last week.

Michal's nomination will have to be approved by Karis and the 101-seat parliament, or Riigikogu, where the coalition holds a comfortable majority. He has been serving as the minister for climate affairs since April last year.

The 49-year-old former economics and justice minister has been active in the Reform Party, Estonia's key political establishment, since the late 1990s.

## Imran Khan's PTI party to be banned, says Pakistan Minister

ISLAMABAD, Jul 15 (Agencies): The Shehbaz Sharif-led government in Pakistan decided to ban the jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, the country's Information Minister announced on Monday. The PTI is Pakistan's biggest opposition party.

Attallah Tarar, the Pakistani Minister for Information and Broadcasting, announced in a press conference that a decision had been made to ban the PTI for alleged anti-state activities.

The government will refer the case to the Supreme Court, according to Pakistani media. This decision by the

government led by the Pakistan Muslim League (N) comes days after a Supreme Court order that declared Imran Khan's party eligible for over 20 seats reserved for women and minorities, paving the way for PTI to emerge as the single largest party in the National Assembly, while the ruling alliance is likely to lose its two-

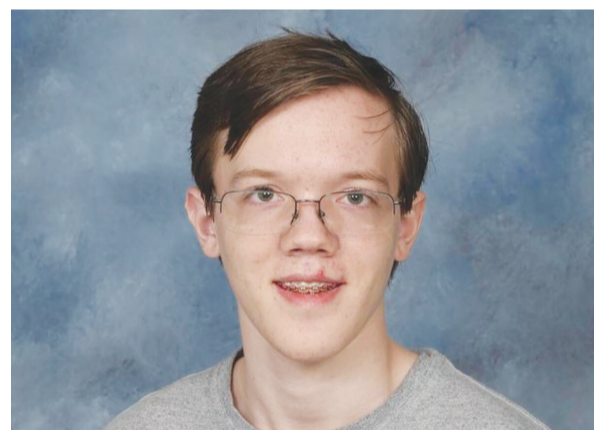
thirds majority.

Announcing the ban decision, the minister said there was "credible evidence" for the action.

"In view of the foreign funding case, the May 9 riots, the cipher episode, as well as the resolution passed in the US, we believe that there is very credible evidence present to have the PTI banned," he said.

## Thomas Matthew Crooks came within inches of killing Trump, but left few clues as to why

*Crooks graduated from high school in 2022 with a reputation as a bright but quiet classmate*



BETHEL PARK, Jul 15 (Agencies): The portrait pieced together so far of the 20-year-old nursing home aide who allegedly tried to assassinate Donald Trump at an election rally reveals frustratingly little about why he would make such an attempt - or how he managed to come so close to killing the former president.

The early details that have emerged about Thomas Matthew Crooks, who was shot dead by law enforcement, show a young man working an entry-level job near his hometown in Pennsylvania, where he graduated from high school in 2022 with a reputation as a bright but quiet classmate. His high school counselor described him as "respectful" and said he never knew Crooks to be political.

The FBI said on Sunday that Crooks' social media profile does not contain threatening language, nor have they found any history of mental health issues. They said he acted alone and have not identified a motive.

What is unique about Crooks - when compared to other recent shooters who opened fire at schools, churches, malls and parades - is that he came within inches of killing a presidential candidate.

On Saturday afternoon, Crooks slipped onto a rooftop location

tion Center.

Never known to be political

Two years ago, Crooks graduated from the local high school, where he showed no particular interest in politics, according to one classmate who asked not to be identified. Crooks' interests centered on building computers and playing games, the classmate said in an interview.

"He was super smart. That's what really kind of threw me off was, this was, like, a really, really smart kid, like he excelled," the classmate said. "Nothing crazy ever came up in any conversation."

Jim Knapp, who retired from his job as the school counselor at Bethel Park High School in 2022, said Crooks had always been "quiet as a churchmouse," "respectful" and kept to himself, although he did have a few friends.

He rarely came across Crooks because "he wasn't a needy type kid," Knapp said. Crooks was content to occasionally eat lunch by himself in the school cafeteria, said Knapp, who would engage such students to see if they wanted company.

"Kids weren't calling him names, kids weren't bullying him," Knapp said.

Knapp said he never knew Crooks to be political in any way, even as other kids would sometimes wear Trump or Biden attire. He added that he couldn't recall Crooks ever being disciplined in school.

"Anybody could snap, anybody could have issues," he said. "Something triggered that young man and drove him to drive up to Butler yesterday and do what he did." Residents near the Crooks' home described feeling

shocked and unsettled that an assassination attempt has been linked to a person from the sedate city of 33,000 people.

"Bethel Park is a pretty blue-collar type of area, and to think that somebody was that close is a little insane," said Wes Morgan, a 42-year-old who works at an investment management company and bikes with his children on the same street as the Crooks' residence.

A couple standing on the porch of their nearby brick ranch-style home was left processing the events and spotlight on their neighborhood.

"There's never been a gun issue. There's never been the police being called," Mary Prisela, 67, said alongside her husband. "You kind of have to wonder what didn't he get in life?"

What led to this extreme?"

Crooks' gun - an AR-style 556 rifle - had been legally bought, the FBI officials said, adding that the FBI believed it had been purchased by the suspect's father. The officials said "a suspicious device" was found in the suspect's vehicle, which was inspected by bomb technicians and rendered safe.

Bruce Piendl, owner of Allegheny Arms and Gunworks in Bethel Park, said guns were part of the culture in the area. "You have to understand in western Pennsylvania we have a rich tradition of hunting and fishing and outdoor stuff," he said. "Within 10 miles (16 km) of here, there are a ton of gun clubs."

Piendl said his record show he did not sell any firearms to the shooter but declined to say whether he sold any to his family.

"That's between me and God," Piendl said.

## How a sniper with full rifle kit allowed rooftop access at Trump's event? US Secret Service faces scrutiny after assassination attempt

WASHINGTON, Jul 15 (Agencies): Amid assassination attempt on Donald Trump, secret service faces serious questions over security footprint and rooftop access at the ex-US President's event.

Questions are being asked about how a sniper was able to obtain rooftop access roughly 150 meters from the former president's position at the podium at an outdoor rally.

Sources have described the shooting as coming from the "three o'clock" position of Trump's podium location, with shots coming from his right side. Seconds after gunfire rang out, Secret Service counter-assault snipers began shooting the suspect who was found on top of a roof, reports CNN.

"How was a sniper with a full rifle kit allowed to bear crawl onto the closest roof to a presidential nominee," asked conservative activist Jack Posobiec on social media.

"There will be an intensive review" of the incident and "there's going to be a massive realignment," said Joseph LaSorsa, a former Secret Service agent who served on the presidential detail. "This cannot happen."

Meanwhile, the US Secret Service was under intense scrutiny after a gunman managed to evade its agents and open fire on former President Donald Trump at a political rally, with Republican leaders vowing swift investigations and President Joe Biden calling for an independent review.

The gunman, a 20-year-old Pennsylvania man, injured Trump and killed a rally attendee from a



rooftop perch around 150 yards (140 m) from the stage where the former president was speaking in Butler, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, officials said.

Trump, 78, who like other former presidents has lifetime protection by the Secret Service, was swarmed by agents who then rushed him away. Agents killed the shooter, identified by the FBI as

Thomas Matthew Crooks of Bethel Park, Pennsylvania, and an AR-15-style semiautomatic was recovered near his body, officials said.

House of Representatives, said panels in the chamber will call officials from the Secret Service, the Department of Homeland Security and the FBI for hearings. "The American people deserve to know the truth," Johnson said.

The Secret Service, tasked with protecting current and former presidents, is part of the Department of Homeland Security. The department's Office of the Inspector General is responsible for conducting oversight of Secret Service

operations.

In a statement, Secret Service spokesman Anthony Guglielmi denied accusations that the agency had rebuffed requests for more security resources from Trump's team.

Paul Eckloff, a former Secret Service agent who retired in 2020, said agents would have surveyed all the rooftops with a line of sight ahead of time.

"This person either concealed themselves until they became a threat, or were not a threat until they revealed their weapons," said Eckloff.

In the moments after Trump was injured, the former president was quickly surrounded by Secret Service personnel who formed a human shield, while heavily armed agents in body armor and toting rifles also took to the stage and appeared to scan the area for threats.

Trump was whisked by the agents to a black SUV, and taken to a local hospital, according to the campaign.



## JKMEF delegation meets Director Health Jammu, discusses issues

### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: A delegation from the JKMEF, led by Sushil Sudan, President, met with Dr. Rakesh Mangotra, Director Health Services Jammu, to discuss several pressing issues affecting health employees in Jammu division. The delegation emphasized the urgent need for regular Departmental Promotion Committees (DPC) for all categories of employees. They referred to Government Administrative Department (GAD) Order SRO-166 of 2005, which mandates biannual DPCs in January and July. They noted that the last DPC was conducted in July 2023. This issue underscores the importance of career progression and filling vacant positions within the health sector. Despite the announcement by the Lieuten-

ant Governor regarding COVID incentives for healthcare workers (Doctors Rs. 10,000/-, Para Medical Rs. 7,000/-, and Drivers/Class IV Rs. 5,000/-), the delegation expressed concern that these incentives have not been disbursed to health employees. They highlighted that GMC and associated hospitals have received these incentives earlier, contrasting with delays in other health facilities. The delegation advocated for changing the nomenclature of Government Pharmacists to align with practices in other states. This proposal aims to standardize job titles and possibly reflect expanded roles or responsibilities. They proposed the creation of critical positions such as Head Ophthalmic Technicians in District hospitals and Junior Ophthalmic Technicians

in Primary Health Centers (PHCs). Additionally, they sought the upgradation or creation of Senior Pharmacists' posts in upgraded sub-centers, aiming to enhance healthcare delivery at various levels. Rationalization of staff, refreezing of technical posts, and the implementation of the Comprehensive Health Insurance (CGH) scheme were highlighted as crucial for the welfare and efficiency of health employees. These measures are intended to streamline operations and ensure equitable distribution of resources. To improve operational efficiency, the delegation proposed the creation of more Junior Pharmacist posts at PHC and Community Health Center (CHC) levels. They also advocated for the establishment of Block Pharmacy Officers and Dis-

trict Pharmacy Officers to oversee pharmaceutical services at local and district levels. They stressed the need for creating Head OT Technicians in all District hospitals and Technical Officer posts in newly established District hospitals. Additionally, the establishment of District Training Centers (DTCs) in newly created districts was proposed to enhance technical expertise and support across the region. The delegation urged expedited reorganization for the post of Electricians, aiming to improve infrastructure maintenance and support services within healthcare facilities. Dr. Rakesh Mangotra, while listening to these demands, assured the delegation that their concerns would be addressed promptly. Bharat Bhushan

Bhagat, President, JK Govt Pharmacist Association Jammu, Praful Singh, General Secretary, JKMEF, Onkar Singh, President, J&K Ophthalmic Technicians Association /Vice President, JKMEF, Jaswinder Singh, President, OT Technicians Jammu Division, Sunil Chauhan, President, X-Ray Technician, Madan Lal President JKMEF Dist Jammu, Surjeet Kumar Vice President JKGPA, Ajay Phool Gen Secretary JKMEF Dist Jammu, Rakesh Bakshi President JKMEF Gandhi Nagar Jammu, Gagan Chib President JKMEF Block R.S.Pura, Javed Ahmed Secretary JKMEF Block Dansal, Bahadur Singh Vice President JKGPA Jammu, Sanjay Choudhary Joint Sec JKMEF Jammu, Tejinder Singh Pub.Sec.JKMEF Jammu and Barat Bhushan Sharma were present.

## Participants showcased their art in Mahasangram of Talent at Rainbow International School



### Top News Report

NAGROTA BAGWAN, July 15: Under the banner of Apna Kangra Entertainment, where auditions are being held all over Himachal, taking the same sequence forward, on Sunday, the auditions of Talent Ka Mahasangram were held at Rainbow International School, Nagrota Bagwan, participants in the audition participated in singing, dancing, painting, yoga and modeling. For information, let us tell you that 45 to 50 participants took part in the audition, in which the velvet voice of Himachal Pradesh Mansingh enhanced the talent of the singing jury, while Chinki Gupta and Vivek Kumar were in the dancing jury. Participants with his keen eye Vishal played an important role in the jury of painting, Preeti Singh and Khushbu played an important role in the jury of modeling. All the jury wished for the bright future of the participants and

inspired the young men and women to participate more and more in such programs and made them aware to participate in maximum numbers. On this occasion, folk singer Karna Rana of Himachal Pradesh, Kalju Peed fame Amit Meetu of Himachal Pradesh, comedian Prince Garg of Himachal Pradesh were present and they forced the audience to applaud with their comedy flair. On this occasion, Polaram Dhangwala from T Series Company was mainly present and he selected some artists for Himachal film Fauji Di Family, which is a big achievement in itself. Let us tell you that the shooting of Faujiya The Family Part 2 will soon start in entire Himachal and soon this film will be available for the audience to see under the banner of T Series Company. On this occasion, anchors Sandeep Choudhary and Vijay Kumar from Himachal Pradesh forced the audience to sit with their velvety voices. Dr. Naresh Barmani

participated in the program as chief guest and Kuldeep Dhiman as special guest and wished the participants a bright future. On this occasion, Director Sumit Gupta said that the final that will be held next is going to be difficult for the participants and the participants should come with full preparation without being careless in any way. On this occasion, participants from Bilaspur Hamirpur Mandi Kangra also participated and displayed their art. In the program, Apna Kangra Entertainment's brand promoters RB Soni and Prezi Sharma enthralled the audience with their performances and yoga girl Avantika Thakur forced the audience to remain at one place and watch her performance. Young poet writer Dr. Rajiv Dogra, social worker Poojan Bhandari, Baba Triloknath, Anil Gupta, Trilok Dhiman, Ravinder Kapoor were especially present in the program and had a special contribution in making the program successful.

## Samsung opens pre-orders for Galaxy Z Fold6 & Flip 6 in India

### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Samsung has opened pre-orders for its sixth generation foldable smartphones - Galaxy Z Fold6 and Z Flip6 in India, unfolding the next chapter of Galaxy AI. The new Galaxy Z Fold6 and Z Flip6 elevate Galaxy AI to new heights, enabling a range of unique mobile experiences for consumers. "At Samsung, we are thrilled to open the next chapter of Galaxy AI with our sixth generation foldables- Galaxy Z Fold6 and Z Flip6. The new smartphones are designed to unfold unique mobile experi-



ences across communications, productivity and creativity. Together with the AI-infused connected Galaxy ecosystem, our new products will empower you and enhance your lives. I am excited to share that both Galaxy Z Fold6 and Z Flip6 are manufactured at our Noida factory," said JB Park, President and CEO, Samsung Southwest Asia. Pre-order for Galaxy Z

Fold6 and Z Flip6 started from July 10, across all leading online and offline retail stores. Consumers can also pre-order on Samsung Live at <https://www.samsung.com/in/live-offers/>. Consumers buying the Galaxy Z Fold6 through Samsung.com will get the option of choosing from two exclusive colours - Black and White. Those buying Galaxy Z Flip6 from [samsung.com](https://www.samsung.com) will get the option of three exclusive colours - Black, White and Peach. Customers pre-ordering the Galaxy Z Fold6 and Galaxy Z Flip6 will receive a cashback of INR 8000 on HDFC Bank cards along with 9

months no-cost bank EMI or an Upgrade Bonus of INR 8000 along with upto 9M no cost EMI. Existing Samsung flagship smartphone customers can choose to avail an upgrade bonus of INR 15000. All customers who pre-order Galaxy Z Fold6 and Z Flip6 will get Galaxy Z Assurance wherein they will get an industry-first two screen/parts replacements at just INR 999. Additionally, Galaxy Z Fold6 and Galaxy Z Flip6 customers can avail 50% off on Samsung Covers and up to 35% off on the newly launched Galaxy Watch Ultra, Watch 7 & Galaxy Buds3 Series.

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## FROM PAGE 1

### Will take action against those misusing names of Badrinath, Kedarnath shrines: Temple panel chief

against those misusing and misrepresenting the name of the temple on Sunday. Ajay said there were people asking for donations to build dharamshalas, multi-speciality hospitals and temples in the name of the committee. "It has been brought to our notice that there are apps offering online pooja services for the temple... People also use the photo/video of the temples for business purposes. We are investigating such matters and shall take legal action against those doing so," Ajay said. The temple in Delhi is being built under the aegis of a body that goes by the name of Kedarnath Dham Trust. Ajay said that he had first received this information through social media. The committee has already consulted with legal experts on the matter.

### Lakhanpur-Doda NH DPR ready; project to cut down distance by over 100 kms

highway that starts from Rajbagh and passes through the hills of Mata Balasundari in Billawar," they added, "to reduce the distance between Sheetalnagar in Basohli and Bani, an eight-kilometer-long tunnel is also proposed, which will make the journey easier and lesser time consuming with its opening near Sarthal while landslide prone areas of Basohli and Billawar will be cut off." Official sources, as per the proposed DPR, further said the 6.8-km Chattergala tunnel will connect the erstwhile Doda region to Kathua by bypassing Chattergala top. "Once the project is completed, as proposed, the hilly areas of Kathua district, like Basohli, Bani, and Sarthal, will witness a major development, and the local population will benefit from employment during the construction work," said an official. The proposal for the Chattergala tunnel, they said, was initiated about six years ago, and the DPR was also prepared by the BRO, but it could not be started due to some administrative issues, said an official, adding that it has been decided that the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) will construct a new national highway from Lakhanpur to Basohli-Bani via Baderwah-Pul Doda. He said not only will the travel time be

reduced significantly, but this will also boost trade, create employment, and generate revenue for the locals. Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, who is a third-time Member Parliament in Kathua-Udhampur Constituency, said, "The idea was conceived in 2015-16, but due to some unavoidable reasons, it could not mature."

"The NHAI is now taking up the project, and the proposed Detailed Project Report (DPR) has already been submitted to them," Dr Singh told UNI. He said, "the Lakhanpur-Bani-Basohli-Doda is more than Rs 4000 crore project and may take six to seven years to complete with a major tunnel at Chattergala in Baderwah to make it an all weather road connectivity."

"The Lakhanpur to Doda distance will cut down by over 100-km with once this all weather highway is commissioned," adding Dr Singh said that from a security viewpoint vis-a-vis tourism and trade, it will reform this region and flourish to a larger extent, particularly in the unexplored Bani area.

### Security forces conduct search operations in Jammu, Doda, Reasi distts

At the Koti forest area in Doda district, the police, assisted by the Army, launched a cordon and search operation around 9.30 am following information about the presence of terrorists. The combing operation is underway but no contact has been established with terrorists so far, the officials said. They said security forces also conducted searches at Rumbal Nallah Kothian, Pouni, Dera Babbar, Kundle and Kanjli area of Reasi district on Monday morning.

The Jammu region has recently seen a surge in terror incidents, particularly in border districts such as Poonch, Rajouri, Doda and Reasi. Attacks on an IAF convoy, a pilgrim bus and the recent killing of soldiers in Kathua highlight the evolving threat.

### One dead, over 50 ill after consuming 'prasad' during temple inauguration in Tripura

nursing home and Banrang hospitals. "None from the family of the deceased has filed any complaint as of now. The food safety department is testing the packet of spices used in the prasad (khichdi). The matter is under investigation," said North district Superintendent of Police Bhanupada

Chakraborty.

### Vikram Misri takes charge as new foreign secretary

He has the rare distinction of serving as private secretary to three prime ministers - Inder Kumar Gujral, Manmohan Singh and Narendra Modi.

Before he was appointed as the deputy NSA, Misri served as India's ambassador to China from 2019-2021.

Misri is believed to have played a key role in talks between India and China after tensions flared significantly following the Galwan Valley clashes in June 2020. The ties between the two countries nosedived following a fierce clash in the Galwan Valley that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

In his illustrious career, Misri also served as India's ambassador to Spain (2014-2016) and Myanmar (2016-2018) besides having stints in many Indian missions, including Pakistan, the US, Germany, Belgium and Sri Lanka.

### CII CEOs delegation visits Kashmir

Radisson Collection during which Manisha Saxena, Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, emphasized the untapped potential of J&K's tourism sector.

"Jammu & Kashmir is a treasure trove of natural beauty and cultural heritage. Our focus is on creating a tourism ecosystem that preserves this heritage while providing world-class facilities for visitors. We are working on enhancing infrastructure, promoting adventure tourism, and ensuring safety and security for tourists," she said.

Vikramjit Singh, Comm/Secretary-Industries and Commerce Department, Government of J&K provided an overview of significant investments in the Union Territory and gave a detailed presentation about industrial policy and schemes for investors.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor, Jammu & Kashmir provided insights into the strategic plans for industrial development in J&K.

"Jammu & Kashmir is poised for a significant industrial transformation. We are focused on improving infrastructure, ensuring ease of doing business, and fostering innovation."

Later on, the officials answered many queries of the delegation. CII also organised its Regional Council Meeting in Srinagar after a gap of nine years wherein more than 60

industry members from across the Northern Region states and local members participated.

The meeting facilitated a constructive dialogue between government representatives and industry members, addressing key challenges and opportunities in J&K. The discussions covered a range of topics including investment opportunities, infrastructure development, tourism, and skill enhancement.

Madhav Singhania, Chairman, CII Northern Region and Deputy MD & CEO, JK Cement Limited said "The collaborative spirit and forward-thinking strategies presented by the government of J&K officials are set to revolutionize J&K's industrial landscape. Their insights are invaluable as we work together to unlock the region's full potential. Sunjay Kapur, Deputy Chairman, CII NR and Chairman, Sonam Comstar said the strategic plans outlined by the distinguished speakers at the Regional Council are pivotal for fostering a robust industrial ecosystem in J&K. Their emphasis on infrastructure, skill development, and sustainable tourism offers immense potential for our industry stakeholders.

Syed Junaid Altaf, Chairman, CII J&K and Group Executive Director, FIL Industries said "We have suggested that the Government of India organize a vibrant tourism festival around the stunning monuments and gardens of Dal Lake. This would be celebration of Kashmir's rich culinary strengths, the rich cultural heritage of the Dogra's and Kashmiris and champion our talented handicraft artisans. It would also provide a platform for meaningful and fruitful business opportunities for local artisans and handicraft players". Junaid also mentioned that the visit of this delegation has highlighted significant opportunities for J&K's growth to the big industry players. He said "The government's focus on sustainable tourism and industrial transformation aligns perfectly with the goals of CII. These initiatives will greatly benefit our local industries and communities"

consider the issue of validity of passage of laws like the Aadhaar Act as a money bill. The decision was aimed at addressing the controversy around money bills after the government introduced legislations like the

### SC to consider setting up bench to hear pleas against passage of laws like Aadhaar as money bills

consider the issue of validity of passage of laws like the Aadhaar Act as a money bill. The decision was aimed at addressing the controversy around money bills after the government introduced legislations like the

Aadhaar Act and even amendments to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) as money bills, apparently to circumvent the Rajya Sabha where it did not have a majority then. A money bill is a piece of legislation which can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha cannot amend or reject it. The Upper House can only make recommendations which may or may not be accepted by the Lower House.

### Omar's Wife Gets SC Notice Over Leader's Divorce Plea

Omar and Payal Abdullah were married on September 1, 1994 and have been living separately since 2009. They share the custody of their two sons.

Earlier, the High Court had also directed the National Conference to pay 1.5 lakh per month as maintenance to his wife in addition to 60,000 per month each to his two sons.

### Vilakshan questioned intentions of Central Govt to restore statehood

has strengthened the position of Lieutenant Governor in J&K by passing.

The Transaction of Business of the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir (Second Amendment) Rules, 2024. Singh said that the Prime Minister had recently promised that statehood in J&K would be restored soon. Singh said that in a State, the head of the state is the governor and he has a very limited role in the administration.

The affairs of the state are run by the democratically elected government.

Singh said that the manner in which the Central government is strengthening the office of Lieutenant Governor in J&K, it appears that the central government does not have any intention of restoring Statehood of J&K as once the statehood would be restored the office of Lieutenant Governor would cease to exist. Singh said that the residents of J&K are being treated as guinea pigs. They have been deprived of the democratically elected government for the last more than six years. He said democracy in J&K is being brutally murdered by the central government.

He said that due to the absence of an elected government, the people of J&K are suffering in every sphere and dictatorship is writ large in J&K. He demanded that statehood of J&K should be restored immediately.

He called upon the residents of J&K to get united for the restoration of statehood of J&K as the central government does not seem to be in a mood to restore statehood.

## AIIMS Jammu conducts Awareness Session on "Safe Use of Elevator and Escalator"

### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Jammu recently held an enlightening awareness session on the "Safe Use of Elevator and Escalator," aimed at educating its staff on the efficient and secure use of these essential facilities. The session was conducted in collaboration with ACIL (Ahluwalia Contracts (India) Limited) and Johnson Lifts and Escalators.

Recognizing that the use of lifts can be daunting for some individuals, due to various reasons such as lack of prior experience, past incidents of being stuck due to power failures, or distressing news stories, AIIMS Jammu took proactive steps to address these concerns. With a

workforce of nearly 1,000 supporting staff, many of whom are not entirely comfortable using elevators in the institution's multi-storied towers, this initiative aimed to mitigate their fears and enhance operational efficiency.

The session featured Balwinder Kumar, Senior Engineer at Johnson Lifts and Escalators, who shared his vast experience and expertise with hospital attendants, security staff, and other supporting personnel. His comprehensive address covered crucial aspects of elevator safety, including practical guidance on rescue operations in the unlikely event of a lift malfunction. He reassured participants that the lifts installed at AIIMS Jammu are designed to automatically reach the nearest

floor and open the doors in case of power failure or other operational faults. Additionally, he emphasized the importance of remaining calm and managing oneself and others during such situations.

The key points on the safe use of elevators highlighted during the session included supervising children and not leaving them unattended. They may use the lift as a joyride, which is inappropriate and should be avoided. Always pay attention to signage by following posted instructions and warnings in and around the elevator. Allow passengers to exit before entering, and keep hands, feet, and belongings clear of closing doors. Press the desired floor button once, as repeated pressing does not speed up the process. In case

of emergency, use the emergency button or phone inside the elevator to call for help and remain calm. Avoid overcrowding by not exceeding the maximum capacity of the elevator to ensure safe operation.

Prof (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director & CEO of AIIMS Jammu, highlighted the significance of this program, stating, "Ensuring the safety and comfort of our staff is paramount. This awareness session is a critical step towards creating a safe and efficient working environment. By addressing the common fears associated with using elevators, we aim to empower our workforce with the knowledge and confidence to use these facilities without hesitation. It is through such initiatives

that we uphold our commitment to the well-being and holistic development of our staff."

The ED & CEO commented, "I've noticed people using lifts to travel just one floor, which is detrimental to health. An inactive lifestyle, such as this, is linked to various diseases. While the convenience of lifts is undeniable, it is important to use them judiciously to promote a more active and healthier lifestyle."

The event was well-received by the participants, who appreciated the practical advice and reassurance provided. AIIMS Jammu remains committed to fostering a safe and supportive environment for all its employees, ensuring that they can perform their duties with utmost efficiency and confidence.

## Modi govt transformed Jammu & Kashmir: Jugal Kishore

### Top News Report

SAMBA, July 15: The Modi government has transformed Jammu & Kashmir and benefitted every single person in the region. J&K residents witnessed a development spree after 2014, when the Narendra Modi-led government came to power, said Jugal Kishore Sharma.

Jugal Kishore Sharma, MP (Lok Sabha), accompanied by Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, General Secretary, J&K BJP & former Minister, Chander Prakash Ganga, former Minister, and other senior leaders of BJP addressed a massively attended "Abhinandan Samaroh" at Ramgarh Assembly Constituency in Samba District.

DDC Keshav Dutt, DDC Subhash Bhagat, Amit Dubey, Anita Choudhary, Asha Rani, Mohinder Pal, BDC Radhey Sham, and Ankush Jamwal were amongst the other prominent party leaders present on the occasion.

Jugal Kishore Sharma, while addressing the Samaroh, said that before 2014, the faith of people had almost died in the Indian politicians due



to the embarrassing and nepotism-filled politics of Congress and its allies. He said that people were restless by the corruption and lawlessness under the Congress regime, and then people saw the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, who worked as the 'Pradhan Sewak' of the masses.

Jugal said that in Jammu & Kashmir, every BJP worked by heart and strengthened the hands of PM Modi to serve the people and to boost development. He expressed gratitude to everybody for voting in his support which further strengthened the Modi government and development process in Jammu.

Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal said that with the development work visible on the ground, the masses have given full support to the BJP's MP candidate in the Lok Sabha elections. He said

that the opposition candidates had no choice, so they resorted to miscampaign with malafide intentions, which were rejected by the people in the elections. He said that under the guidance of PM Modi, Jugal Kishore Sharma represented the issues of public in the Parliament and brought the development to the homes of the masses. He also credited the party activists for their work and the voters for their support to the Modi government.

Chander Prakash Ganga said that the BJP has done multi-pronged infrastructure building, due to which earlier road-blockers to development were removed. He said that the Modi government is working with a futuristic vision. He lauded the development works done by MP Jugal Kishore Sharma and said that the people have full faith in the Modi government.

## Successful conclusion of exercise MAITREE 2024: Strengthening military cooperation between India and Thailand



### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: The 13th edition of the joint military exercise MAITREE 2024 between the Indian Army and the Royal Thai Army culminated with a grand closing ceremony at Tak Province, Thailand. The ceremony, graced by Major General Narongrit Panikabutr, Commander of 4th Infantry Division of the Royal Thai Army as Chief Guest, marked the successful completion of two weeks of intensive training and collaboration. From the Indian side, Group Captain Brijesh Paul, Defence Attach to Thailand was the guest of honour.

Major General Narongrit Panikabutr commended the dedication and pro-

iciency displayed by the contingents of both armies throughout the exercise. He emphasised that exercise MAITREE plays a crucial role in bolstering defence cooperation between India and Thailand, reflecting their commitment to addressing regional security challenges and promoting peace under the United Nations charter.

Lieutenant Colonel Mandan Ojha, Contingent Commander of the Indian Army contingent, expressed gratitude to the Royal Thai Army for hosting the exercise. He highlighted the mutual benefits gained from the exchange of best practices and expertise, reinforcing the operational capabilities of both armies.

The joint training activi-

ties during MAITREE 2024 encompassed a wide range of tactical activities including weapon training, day and night firing, rappelling, jungle survival techniques, navigation training, communication exercises, combat first aid and casualty evacuation drills among others. These activities not only enhanced the tactical skills of the participants but also deepened the enduring friendship between the armed forces of India and Thailand.

Exercise MAITREE 2024 reaffirms the commitment of both nations to collaborate closely in defence and security matters, further strengthening the bilateral ties that exist between India and Thailand.

## Security forces will soon crush terrorism with resilience, valour: Kavinder

### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former deputy Chief Minister today expressed unwavering confidence in the capability and dedication of security forces dealing with terrorism.

In a press release issued to media persons, the senior BJP leader emphasized on the importance of solidarity and support for the brave men combating terrorism from the front. He said that re-emergence of terror in some parts of Jammu Province will soon be crushed by the security forces through resilience, bravery, and utter professionalism, as these are already on job to take violence mongers head on.

Highlighting the recent terror incidents especially the Kathua terror attack, Kavinder condemned the same, and reassured the public that every necessary measure shall be taken by the security forces to ensure the safety and security of the region.

"These cowardly acts of terrorism are desperate attempts to destabilize the Jammu region and

spread fear among the people. However, they will not succeed. Our security forces are well-equipped and prepared to handle any threat posed by these terror mongers," he said and called upon the citizens to remain vigilant and cooperate with the security agencies by reporting any suspicious activities.

"The fight against terrorism is not just the responsibility of our security forces, rather it is a collective effort. We must all play our part by staying alert and supporting our security forces in every possible way", he maintained while praising the government's ongoing efforts to enhance the capabilities of the security forces through better training, advanced equipment, and improved intelligence networks.

The former deputy Chief Minister said that the BJP Government under the realms of PM Narendra Modi is committed to provide all necessary resources to the security forces to help them in bolstering the security of the region and enable them to eliminate every single entity indulged in terror activities.

## Sham Choudhary, others listen to the public grievances at BJP headquarters

### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Sham Choudhary, J&K BJP Vice-President & former Minister, accompanied by Baldev Singh Billawaria, former Deputy Mayor, Anuradha Singh Charak, Vice-President, J&K BJP, and Ricky Mahajan, SEM listened to the public grievances at the BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

A number of deputations visited the party headquarters to present their issues related to electricity, revenue, scarcity of water, Pension, Cleanliness, and also other issues of a similar nature before the senior leaders of the BJP.

Sham Choudhary, while listening to the grievances presented by the people stated that the party is committed to resolving the issues faced by the people. He said that the party feels that the political system



serves as an important means to address the genuine problems and the aspirations of the people. In order to fulfill the duty to serve the masses 365 days a year, the BJP has always kept its doors open for needy persons. The daily grievances camps arranged by the party itself speak of the commitment of the party to address the needs of the public.

Baldev Singh Billawaria said that the camps have initiated a mode of communication between the public and the administration as the masses

feel free to approach the senior leaders of the party regarding their concerns at the party headquarters.

Anuradha Singh Charak, sharing the details of today's camp said that more than 2 dozen of deputations had visited the party headquarters to share their issues.

Senior BJP leaders immediately took the issues presented by the people with the concerned department officials telephonically and made written communications for certain issues.

## Para Cricketer to attend Aryans Scholarship Mela across 8 states from 18th July to 2nd August



### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Aryans Group of Colleges is going to organize a series of career counseling sessions cum scholarship mela & opportunity for on the spot admission from July 18 to August 2 in various cities in north India.

Dr. JK Saini, Director, Aryans Group said that these 15 day scholarship events will be held in various cities in north India. Amir Hussain Lone, Captain, Para Cricket Team JK & Brand Ambassador of Aryans Group will also accompany this tour & meet the deserving students, added Kataria. He said students may also visit

Aryans website [www.aryans.edu.in](http://www.aryans.edu.in).

Dr. Garima Thakur, Deputy Director, Aryans Group & Manpreet Mann, Dean, Scholarship added that in these events in JK, Himachal, Haryana, Bihar, Delhi, Punjab, Tricity, Bihar, Jharkhand etc., the selected students would get 10%-100% scholarship on merit cum mean basis. For any admission related queries, students can call on 98765-99888, 98781-08888, 98782-99888.

Born in 1990 in the village of Bijbehara, JK, Amir met with a horrific accident that resulted in the loss of both his arms. However, this devastating setback did not deter Amir's spirit or his love for cricket. God of Cricket, Sachin Tendulkar has invited Amir Hussain to play first ball of Indian Street Premier League (ISPL). Virat Kohli, Harbhajan Singh, Navjot Sidhu, Ashish Chopra, Ajay Jadeja have also appreciated his passion for cricket. The cricketer has a unique playing style. He bowls using his legs and bats using his shoulder and neck.

It is to be mentioned that, established in 2007, Aryans campus is located on Chandigarh-Patiala highway, near Chandigarh and has lush green 20 acres pollution free campus and has become the destination for students across the nation. Aryans Group has been serving the educational and intellectual interests of the youth in a commendable manner. The Group is running Engineering College, Law College, Pharmacy College, Management College, Business School, Education College, and Nursing College, Faculty of Physiotherapy & Paramedical etc.

## Plantation drive held at Govt. Polytechnic for Women, Jammu

### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: In consonance with "Ek Ped Maan Ke Naam" drive, the NSS wing of this institution carried out Plantation drive in this institution in collaboration with the Social Forestry Department of J&K UT.

During the drive around 50 saplings of medieval plant viz" Harad" were planted in the campus by the faculty, staff and students of this institution.

Principal, Er. Suket Gupta, who was the chief guest on the occasion, while interacting, was impressed upon the need of plantation drives, particularly during this season and asked the students to carry out such plantations in their areas also.

Those present on the occasion included, Dinesh Joshi Range Officer, Social Forestry Division Jammu alongwith his team, faculty and staff of this institution.

## Ashok expresses concerns over negligence of LG Administration in Shankpal Yatra 2024

### Top News Report

RAMBAN, July 15: Ashok Kumar, Former MLA from Ramban and a senior Congress leader of Jammu and Kashmir has expressed serious concerns over the negligence by LG Administration in providing basic facilities to the pilgrims at Shankpal Yatra, 2024.

He strongly urged the Lieutenant Governor of J&K to provide a circular road surrounding Shankpal Devta from erstwhile Ramban and Udhampur District connecting Lander, Sanasar, Kriya and Bhattan. It is a shame that even in the 21st century thousands of people are without a road. He also demanded LG to direct the concerned District administration to provide three tier security during Shankpal Dusshera Yatra so that innocent lives of pilgrims could be protected as thousands of pilgrims visit the site during annual Dusshera festival.

Ashok has said that the Shankpal Devta is surrounded by beautiful meadows which can have a lot of potential for natural tourism.

## Kewal Kumar Kewal awarded with Padma Bhushan (Dr.) Shiv Mangal Singh Suman Samman

### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Cultural Secretary of Dogri Bhasha Academy, Jammu, distinguished humorous satire poet of Dogri and Hindi language, Kewal Kumar Kewal has been awarded with the Padma Bhushan (Dr.) Shiv Mangal Singh Suman Award.

This honour presented by Medium Literary Institute and Yuva Utkarsh Literary Forum Delhi in the 33rd Attahaas Samman Ceremony organized on July 13, 2024 at Hindi Bhawan, New Delhi.

On this occasion Padma Shri Ashok Chakradhar, Dr. Captain Singh, satirist Alok Purnik, Anoop Srivastava, Subhash Chandra, Ram Kishore Upadhyay, Alok Shukla etc. also present on the stage.

It is noteworthy that in this program the book of humorous satirical poems entitled "Poonch" penned by Kewal Kumar Kewal will also be launched.

Established humorous satirical poet and children's poet of Hindi and Dogri language, Kewal

Kumar 'Kewal' was born on February 02, 1974 in the house of father Sh. Sardari Lal and mother Prakasho Devi in Barui village of district Jammu. He did M.A. from Jammu University (Hindi) Degree.

He was fond of reading and writing literature since childhood, due to which today Kewal is known as a reputed poet. Presently working as a teacher in the Education Department of Jammu and Kashmir, along with writing, he is also known as a Radio, T.V. and stage comedian artist.

Kewal got married to Lalita Sharma in 2002. He had 08 books been published so far in Hindi and Dogri language till now.

He has received many honors and awards for his writings, including honor by Rashtriya Kavi Sangam, Delhi, Dogri Bhasha Academy, Jammu Award, Vidyavachaspati Saraswat Award by Vikramshila Hindi Vidyapeeth, Kavya Rangoli Sahitya Bhushan by Khamaria Pandit, Uttar

Pradesh. Honored by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Katra, Jammu and Kashmir, honored by Power Grid Northern Region II, Regional Headquarters, Jammu and Kashmir, Honores by Sahitya Shri Samman by Rashtriya Kavi Sangam, Assam, Honor ed by Chandrabhaga Sanskriti Manch, Akhnoor, Cosmic College of Education, Lakhanpur, Honored by Nav Durga Kala Manch, Jammu, Dogri Kala Manch, Jourian, honored by, Comedy-Satire Forum, Katra (2007, 2011 and 2012), Katra Culture Club, Katra (Vaishno Devi), Gagan Ram Education and Social Welfare Society, Bhiwani (Haryana) by Prof. Shambhu Dayal Smriti Samman, Swami Brahmanand Teerth Sahitya Samman by Sarva Bhasha Trust, Kavya Gaurav Samman by Navratri Festival Katra, Poetry Gaurav Samman by Hindi Language Conference Patiala, Nirmala Yuva Sahitya Sarjan Samman, Haryana, Sarva Bhasha Samman by Sarva Bhasha Trust, New Delhi etc.

## Rohit Sharma says he will continue to play Tests and ODIs 'at least for a while'

India captain recently quit T20Is with 4,231 runs from 159 matches, having made five hundreds and 32 fifties

DALLAS (USA), Jul 15 (Agencies): India captain Rohit Sharma says he will continue to play Test and ODI cricket "at least for a while" after ending his T20 international career with a World Cup win last month.

Rohit has been on a break since the title win in the West Indies and is set to miss the limited-overs tour of Sri Lanka later this month, which includes three ODIs.

"I just said it. I don't look that far ahead. So clearly, you will be seeing me play at least for a while," the 37-year-old said at an event here on Sunday night.

His statement was reiteration of a position he made clear after



announcing his T20 retirement after the final in the West Indies

in which India defeated South Africa by seven runs.

Earlier this month, BCCI secretary Jay Shah had confirmed that Rohit will captain India in the ongoing World Test Championship cycle and the Champions Trophy next year in February-March.

Rohit had led India in the 2022 T20 World Cup where the team was ousted in the semi-finals by eventual champions England.

A year later, India reached the final of the 50-over World Cup at home under his leadership, but succumbed to Australia in the summit clash at Ahmedabad.

Rohit quit T20Is with 4,231 runs from 159 matches, having made five hundreds and 32 fifties.

## Argentina win record 16th Copa America title, beat Colombia 1-0 after Messi gets hurt



MIAMI GARDENS (USA), Jul 15 (Agencies): Argentina won its second straight Copa America championship, overcoming Lionel Messi's second-half leg injury to beat Colombia 1-0 on Lautaro Martinez's 112th-minute goal.

Messi appeared to sustain a non-contact injury while running and falling in the 64th minute and covered his face

with his hands when he sat on the bench. Martinez later ran to that bench to hug his captain after the goal that propelled Argentina to its record 16th Copa title on Sunday night.

In a match that started 1 hour, 20 minutes late because of crowd trouble at Hard Rock Stadium, Argentina won its third straight major title following the 2021 Copa America and

2022 World Cup and matched Spain, which won the 2008 and 2012 European Championships around the 2010 World Cup.

Argentina also stopped Colombia's 28-game unbeaten streak dating to a February 2022 loss to the Albiceleste.

Martinez entered in the 97th minute and scored from Giovanni Lo Celso's perfect through pass. Just inside the penalty area, to Martinez sent a right-foot shot through the upraised arms of sliding goalkeeper Camilo Vargas for his 29th international goal, his tournament-high fifth.

## Pat Cummins to miss Australia's limited-overs cricket tour to England and Scotland

MELBOURNE, Jul 15 (Agencies): World Cup-winning skipper Pat Cummins will be rested for Australia's upcoming limited-overs tour to Britain and Mitchell Starc will miss the Twenty20 portion of the trip as part of a workload management program.

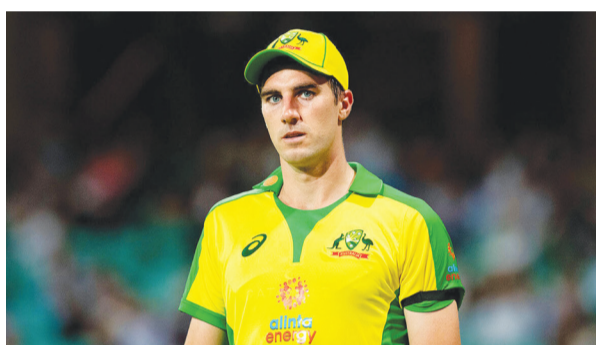
Australia is scheduled to play three T20s against Scotland and five one-day internationals against England in September.

Cricket Australia said Cummins' absence was part of a "pre-planned, long-term load management strategy" as part of preparations for the Champions Trophy next year.

Mitchell Marsh, who led Australia at the recent T20 World Cup in the United States and Caribbean, will be captain for the tour.

Veteran opener David Warner has retired and wicketkeeper Matthew Wade wasn't selected, with selectors looking at the future.

Young batter Jake Fraser-McGurk was included in both the ODI and T20 squads after being a designated traveling reserve for the T20 World Cup.



"This tour gives us a great opportunity to bring in some new players in the absence of David Warner and Matthew Wade, as well as giving some senior players time to prepare for the home summer and a busy first half of next year," George Bailey, Australia's selection chairman, said.

The likes of Fraser-McGurk, Spencer Johnson, Xavier Bartlett and Aaron Hardie "are exciting prospects to join the likes of Cameron Green, Nathan Ellis and Josh Inglis in the white ball setup," Bailey said. "With the Champions Trophy next year ... there has been a lot of planning invested into these next six months."

"That has included gradual integration of new players into our white ball squads who have earned international opportunities via

excellent form."

Australia is the World Cup champion in the 50-over format and holder of the World Test Championship title, but didn't reach the semi-finals of the T20 World Cup.

T20 squad: Mitch Marsh (captain), Xavier Bartlett, Cooper Connolly, Tim David, Nathan Ellis, Jake Fraser-McGurk, Cameron Green, Aaron Hardie, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Spencer Johnson, Marcus Stoinis, Adam Zampa.

ODI squad: Mitch Marsh (captain), Sean Abbott, Alex Carey, Nathan Ellis, Jake Fraser-McGurk, Aaron Hardie, Cameron Green, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Marnus Labuschagne, Glenn Maxwell, Matthew Short, Steve Smith, Mitchell Starc, Adam Zampa.

## Sublime Spain strike late to win record fourth Euro crown

Oyarzabal secures 2-1 win with late strike; 2nd successive final defeat for England

BERLIN, Jul 15 (Agencies): Spain's Mikel Oyarzabal scored four minutes from time as they capped a dominant Euro 2024 campaign with a deserved 2-1 win over England in Sunday's showpiece for a record fourth title and condemned their opponents to a second straight final defeat.

Oyarzabal finished off a swift counter-attack for the winner after England had fought back from a goal down for the fourth successive match and seemingly earned extra-time.

"I have done my job," said Oyarzabal, who came on for captain Alvaro Morata after 67 minutes. "Just the fact of being in the 26, you value it a lot. It happened to me but could have happened to anyone." Spain manager Luis de la Fuente added: "I couldn't be happier. A real team, European champions. I said I was proud and today I am even prouder. It confirms what we are. For me, they are the best in the world." After a cautious first half where Spain had 65% possession but England's Phil Foden managed the only shot on target, the Spaniards struck two minutes after the restart, despite losing influential midfielder Rodri to injury at the break.

Teenager Lamine Yamal, who had been shackled completely in the first half, finally found space down the right and crossed for



Nico Williams to slot home past goalkeeper Jordan Pickford.

Spain then enjoyed a purple patch with a series of sharp attacks as England's previously watertight defence lost its shape and Dani Olmo, Morata and Williams all had good chances.

England manager Gareth Southgate sent on Ollie Watkins, the scoring substitute hero of the semi-final, for an ineffective Harry Kane after an hour, with Cole Palmer, England's most creative player in the last month, joining him 10 minutes later.

PAY OFF The changes paid off almost immediately when Jude Bellingham laid the ball back into Palmer's path and the substitute curled home a precise low 20-metre shot in the 73rd minute.

through a shootout at some point in the tournament following France (2000) and Greece (2004), nobody can deny they were worthy winners.

For England the "30 years of hurt" after their 1966 World Cup success, which was the soundtrack to their hosting of Euro 96, will now run to at least double that number as they became the first team to lose successive Euro finals "We've competed until the very end of the final," said Southgate, who is widely expected to step down having remarkably led his country to two Euro finals and World Cup semi and quarter-finals in his eight years in charge.

"I think we didn't keep possession of the ball quite well enough. They press you really well and you've got to get out of that pressure and we weren't able to do that and in the end that meant they had more control of the game "The players have got to take enormous credit for getting us to the point they did. They way they fought and represented the shirt with pride. They were never beaten until the very end, the final five minutes of the last game and then that chance at the end. Just the character and resilience that they've shown."

"It's fine margins, but I think they (Spain) were the best team in the tournament and they deserved to win."

## India finish with a bang: Sanju Samson, Mukesh star as visitors beat Zimbabwe by 42 runs, win series 4-1

HARARE, Jul 15 (Agencies): Sanju Samson's well-crafted fifty and Mukesh Kumar's disciplined spell helped India wind up their Zimbabwe tour with a comprehensive 42-run victory in the fifth and final T20I here. With this win, India clinched the series 4-1.

Samson (58 off 45 balls) was central to India's healthy 167/6 along with Shivam Dube's flashy 26 (12 balls). Then the India bowlers led by Mukesh (4/22), Shivam Dube (2/25) and Washington Sundar (1/7) did their job, bundling out Zimbabwe for 125 in 18.3 overs.

After the early dismissal of Wessly Madhevere, who dragged the third ball of the first over by pacer Mukesh onto his stumps, and Brian Bennett, the pair of Tadiwanashe Marumani (27) and Dion Myers (34) added 44 runs for the third wicket to keep the hosts in the hunt.

Marumani's switch-hit four off leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi, who went for a few runs in this match, was quite stunning in its execution. But such shots were few and far between from the Zimbabwe batters.

Marumani went for a sweep shot against Washington but missed the line altogether as the ball crashed onto his upper torso to get adjudged as leg-before.

Dube tailed a shuffling Myers with a quicker delivery onto his body, and the Zimbabwe batter merely chipped the ball to Abhishek Sharma at short third man.

The final nail was the run out of skipper Sikandar Raza (8), which came during a cartwheel of four wickets for nine runs. Mukesh, who bagged his career-best T20 figures, fittingly ended Zimbabwe innings going through the gate of Richard Ngarava.

Earlier, Samson and Riyan Parag (22 off 24 balls) added 65 runs for the fourth wicket as India recovered from a middling powerplay in which they scored 44/3.

Yashasvi Jaiswal (12), who made an unbeaten 93 in the fourth T20I, started the proceedings with two sixes off the first two balls - counted as one delivery after Raza started with a no ball -- of the innings. But off the fourth ball of the same over, Jaiswal played the wrong line to a delivery on the middle and leg stump to get bowled.

Abhishek, who was dropped on 10 by Bennett off Blessing Muzarabani, did not last long, edging the pacer two balls later to Clive Madande behind the wicket.

Skipper Shubman Gill, who received a reprieve on 11, was never his fluent self and smashed left-arm seamer Ngarava straight

into the hands of Raza in the deep.

At 44/3, India needed a partnership to steady the innings. Samson and Parag provided just that. Their alliance was all about prudence than theatrics, choosing the correct delivery to punish.

It was the right approach too considering the pitch was not precisely a belter as it was in the previous two matches, offering a hint of turn. However, Samson showed his aggressive side when the opportunity presented itself.

Samson brought up his fifty in 39 balls, his second in T20Is, but Parag departed as India were looking for some late acceleration. The right-hander perished to Mavuto while looking to clear the fence, and Samson too could not carry on till the end of the innings. He took on Muzarabani, the most home side bowler, but ended up giving a catch to Marumani.

However, the tourists found some late steam through Dube's fireworks.

Brief scores: India: 167/6 in 20 overs (Sanju Samson 58, Shivam Dube 26, Riyan Parag 22; Blessing Muzarabani 2/19, Richard Ngarava 1/29); Zimbabwe: 125 all out in 18.3 overs (Dion Myers 34, Faraz Khan 27, Tadiwanashe Marumani 27; Mukesh Kumar 4/22, Shivam Dube 2/25).

## Kate, the Princess of Wales, hands Carlos Alcaraz his Wimbledon trophy in a rare appearance for her

LONDON, Jul 15 (Agencies): Kate, the Princess of Wales, handed Carlos Alcaraz the champion's trophy after the Wimbledon men's final at the All England Club in only her second public appearance since announcing she was diagnosed with cancer.

Kate, wife of heir to the throne Prince William, was greeted by a standing ovation when she arrived in the Royal Box at Centre Court on Sunday to watch Alcaraz's victory over Novak Djokovic. After leaving the court following the trophy ceremony, the princess and Alcaraz had a conversation in a room inside the tournament's main stadium.

"You played so well," Kate told him. "Enjoy the win." Earlier, Kate — wearing a purple dress, one of Wimbledon's official colors — went from the stands down to the playing surface to present the trophies, part of her duties as patron of the All England Club,



which hosts the annual tournament.

She shook hands with some of the ball kids who worked at the tournament, then exchanged words with both players and applauded for Alcaraz after giving him the winner's trophy for the second year in a row. "It was, of course, a privilege to be in her presence again. I've said to her that it is very nice to see her in good health; she seems to be in good health," Djokovic said at his postmatch news conference.

"That's obviously very positive news for everyone in this country, but also for Wimbledon." Kate and her 9-year-old daughter, Princess

Charlotte, got to the site of the grass-court Grand Slam tournament in southwest London in a motorcade about a half-hour before the final was scheduled to begin. They went to a terrace at the club that is connected to the main stadium by a pedestrian walkway and greeted several people, including 2021 U.S. Open champion Emma Raducanu and other young British tennis players.

Also, in the Royal Box for the final were Kate's sister, Pippa Matthews, actors Tom Cruise and Benedict Cumberbatch and several past Wimbledon champions, including Rod Laver, Andre Agassi and

Stefan Edberg.

Since 2016, Kate has been the patron of the All England Club. She did not attend Saturday when Barbora Krejčíková defeated Jasmine Paolini for the women's title. Kate revealed in March that she has an unspecified form of cancer and was undergoing chemotherapy. Her lone public appearance since then had been attending last month's birthday parade for King Charles III. Before that event, she released a statement saying she was "making good progress" but still had "good days and bad days." Prince William has been a regular at Wimbledon finals but was not there Sunday. Instead, he planned to be in Germany to watch England face Spain in the final of the men's soccer European Championship. He is the president of the English Football Association.

Queen Camilla, wife of King Charles III, visited Wimbledon on Wednesday.

## Raman Suri praises reopening of Temple in Anantnag

### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Congratulating Kashmiri pandits for the reopening of historic temple of Goddess Uma Bhagwati ji after more than 34 years in District Anantnag of Kashmir in the presence of Union Minister Nityanand Rai, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri said that the Union government led by BJP is committed to restore peace and brotherhood in the Union Territory of J&K. He also praised the local Muslim population of Brarian-gan in South Kashmir's district of Anantnag for welcoming devotees and setting an example of composite culture that has been the real strength of Kashmir.

Raman Suri also appreciated the local administration including Deputy Commissioner Anantnag Syed Fakhuridin Hamid, SSP Anantnag Dr GV Sundeeep Chakravarty, district administration and office bearers of Uma Bhagwati Asthapan-Trust for making elaborate arrangements for the devotees and bringing the entire village back to life after more than three decades. He added that the devotees besides local people were happy to see their village beaming with festivity and fervour because of this mega event that was close to the heart of Kashmiri Pandits.

Raman Suri said that despite some stray incidents of violence, the government is leaving no stone unturned to restore

peace in the Union Territory, and still appreciable is the role of local people, many of whom extended a helping hand to their erstwhile neighbours in ensuring their safe stay and performing rituals at the temple. Since the idol was damaged in the temple, a new idol of Goddess Uma Bhagwati ji was brought from Rajasthan and installed in the sanctum sanctorum amid chanting of religious hymns.

The BJP leader said that the restoration of temples and starting of rituals is being widely welcomed by everyone, and seeing the village come to life has brought in cheers and smiles on everyone's faces in Kashmir, which is a healthy sign of normalcy. The kind of help the locals have extended

speaks of their desire to see Kashmiri Pandits back to their homes as soon as possible. Raman Suri said, this means that even the local population is sick and tired of the gun culture and want to see such events taking place in their villages so that people can enjoy all socio-economic activities.

Raman Suri said, under the Modi government, terrorism is taking its last breath in J&K and those supporting it from across the border are going to face the music. The security forces now have a free hand to deal with any situation that disturbs peace in the Valley, he said, adding that local people along with the government are making all efforts to restore the real identity of Kashmir

wherein everyone lived peacefully and had equal opportunities of progress before them. Those days are not far when Kashmiri Pandits, Muslims, Sikhs, and Christians in the Valley will be celebrating religious festivals with fervour and equal participation as they used to do earlier.

Suri further said, the way the Union Government is prioritising development in Jammu and Kashmir, the days are not far when this UT will be generating employment for millions and seeing huge investments. There is no room for hatred or separatism now as people are collectively building a new Kashmir that is providing youngsters with ample opportunities of progress and prosperity.

## NC only solution to all the miseries: Tejinder



### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Tejinder Pal Singh (Aman), District President Jammu Urban (JKYNC), organized a significant public meeting in Nanak Nagar area of Jammu city today. The meeting saw an enthusiastic turnout of local residents who raised several pressing issues affecting their daily lives.

The residents voiced their concerns about the unscheduled power cuts, which occur without any prior notification. They expressed frustration over the frequent power outages, especially during rainy weather or even minor hailstorms, which seem to affect Nanak Nagar disproportionately compared to neighboring localities like Trikuta Nagar, where power supply remains uninterrupted.

Another critical issue raised was the prob-

lem of waterlogging and flooding during rains. The residents highlighted the inadequate drainage system, which leads to significant water accumulation and disrupts their routine activities.

Addressing the gathering, Tejinder Pal Singh criticized the authorities at the helm of affairs for their lack of serious concern towards these public issues. He pointed out that despite raising these concerns numerous times, the authorities have failed to take any substantial action. He emphasized the hardships faced by the people in the absence of a popular government in Jammu and Kashmir.

Tejinder said, "The National Conference has always been at the forefront of addressing public grievances and ensuring equitable development. The current state of affairs, marked by

neglect and indifference, is unacceptable. It is high time the authorities wake up to the genuine concerns of the people and take immediate corrective measures."

He further added, "The National Conference is committed to resolving these issues and bringing about meaningful change. I urge the people to support the National Conference in the upcoming Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir. Together, we can work towards an era of equitable development and a better quality of life for all residents."

The meeting concluded with a resolve to continue raising these issues and holding the authorities accountable.

Tejinder assured the residents of his unwavering support and promised to escalate these matters to the highest levels for prompt resolution.

## Army hosts Mahindra and Mahindra Group car rally

### Top News Report

LEH, July 15: To commemorate the 25th anniversary of India's victory in the Kargil War, Mahindra and Mahindra Group, in close collaboration with the Indian Army, is hosting a special 'Heart to Bravehearts Car Rally'. The rally, which commenced from three corners of the country, culminated at Dras on Monday. The Pan India Car Rally embarked on three distinct routes originating from Tanot (Rajast-

made the ultimate sacrifice for the nation. The car rally covered vast distances across the plains of Haryana, Punjab and the challenging terrains of Jammu and Kashmir. Along the route, the team engaged with NCC cadets, students from schools and colleges, ex-servicemen and Veer Naris.

The rally was flagged in at Kargil War Memorial, Dras on Monday by Lieutenant General Hitesh Bhalla, General Officer Commanding Fire and



han) in the West, Tezu (Arunachal Pradesh) in the East and Kochi (Kerala) in the South, converging at New Delhi on 08 July 2024. From there, a unified Car Rally started its journey towards Dras via Udhampur.

The Car Rally commemorates the resounding victory of Indian Armed Forces in Kargil War and pays homage to the brave soldiers who

Fury Corps.

He interacted with the team for undertaking this remarkable pan-India journey, underscoring the profound message of 'Unity in Diversity'.

He also applauded the pivotal role played by Mahindra and Mahindra Group in spearheading this national initiative to honour the valour and sacrifice of Indian Armed Forces personnel during Kargil War.

## CUJ inks MoU with Jammu Kashmir Study Centre



### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: The Central University of Jammu and the Jammu Kashmir Study Centre have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on research and academics related to issues pertaining to Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.

The MoU aims to foster a partnership between the two organizations, leveraging their expertise and resources to promote scholarly research, academic exchange, and informed discourse on the sociology-economic, legal, historical, environmental, cultural, legal and political dynamics of Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.

The collaboration will focus on various aspects, including history, culture, politics,

economy, and social dynamics. The MoU was signed between Prof Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu and Ashutosh Bhatnagar, Director of Jammu Kashmir Study Centre, Prof Yashwant Singh, Registrar, Central University of Jammu and Ajay Sharma, Academic Coordinator of Jammu and Kashmir Study Centre, who expressed their enthusiasm for the partnership and its potential to contribute to a deeper understanding of the region.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Central university of Jammu On the occasion said "This collaboration will enable us to tap into each other's strengths and expertise, leading to meaningful research and informed discussions on issues relevant

to Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh".

Ashutosh Bhatnagar, Director of Jammu Kashmir Study Centre said that "We look forward to working together to promote academic excellence and contribute to the region's development".

The MoU will facilitate joint research projects, seminars, workshops, and conferences, providing a platform for scholars, researchers, and stakeholders to engage in constructive dialogue and knowledge sharing. Central University of Jammu also committed to bear the expenses of the field work carried out by the research scholars working on the research areas related to Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh. Dr Ajay Singh and Jai Bhawani Singh were also present on the occasion.

## Girls became topper at IIMC Jammu

### Nidhi, Yukta, and Megha excel as top performers at IIMC Jammu

### Top News Report

JAMMU, July 15: Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), Jammu witnessed a celebration of academic excellence as girls topped in Post Graduate Diploma courses in batch 2023-24.

Nidhi Dwivedi, Yukta Lodwal and Megha Kumari emerged as the top performers in their respective disciplines in the Jammu campus. Nidhi Dwivedi led the pack in P.G. Diploma in Digital Media with an outstanding score of 78.2 percent, while Yukta Lodwal excelled in P.G. Diploma in Journalism (English) with an impressive 76.8 percent.

Megha Kumari secured the top spot in P.G. Diploma in Journalism (Hindi) with a commendable score



of 76 percent.

The achievements of Kashishi Saxena and Shivani Verma as the second and third toppers in the Post Graduate Diploma in Digital Media further underscored the institute's commitment to nurturing talent.

Similarly, Prachi and Harshita's second and third ranks in P.G. Diploma in Journalism (English), along with Megha Kumari and Abhay's achievements in P.G. Diploma in Journalism (Hindi), highlighted the diverse strengths of the

student body.

Congratulating the successful students, Prof. Anil Saumitra, Regional Director and Coordinator of Journalism (Hindi) at IIMC Jammu, praised the faculty and experts for their guidance that enabled students to excel across different media perspectives. Vivek Pathak, Officer on Special Duty (OSD)/ Financial Advisor of IIMC Jammu, extended his congratulations and encouraged students to pursue their dreams of becoming successful media person-

alities.

Dr. Dilip Kumar, Coordinator of Journalism (English), expressed pride in the consistently strong performance of students at IIMC Jammu, emphasising the campus's distinctive reputation among all IIMC branches.

Dr. Vinit Kumar Jha Utpal, Coordinator of Digital Media course, shared his enthusiasm, highlighting the rigorous training and practical exposure provided to digital media students through interactions with prestigious institutions and media giants from Jammu, Delhi, and beyond.

Last year's top performer, Sakshi Chaurasiya, who secured the first rank in Digital Media across all five IIMC campuses, remains a testament to the insti-

tute's legacy of producing top-tier media professionals. The achievements of these students not only reflect their individual dedication and hard work but also highlight IIMC Jammu's commitment to fostering excellence in media education.

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