

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

Rohit Shetty says a women oriented cop film will happen 'very soon'



NATIONAL | 7

PM Modi meets NDA allies in Maharashtra, discusses political situation in state

INTERNATIONAL | 8

Starlink Now Operational On More Than 1,000 Aircraft: Elon Musk



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BRIEFLY

Sanjeev Sharma appointed Sub-Registrar Kathua

JAMMU, July 25: In a recent administrative move, Sanjeev Sharma, Deputy Secretary to the Government, Labour and Employment Department, has been transferred and appointed as the Sub-Registrar of Kathua. This appointment is effective immediately and relieves Vishav Partap Singh, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Kathua, of his additional charge of the post.

Former Dean, Principal GMC Prof. Qazi Masood passes away

SRINAGAR, July 25 (Agencies): Prof. Qazi Masood, former Dean and Principal Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar passed away on Thursday morning after brief illness.

Dr Masood was Principal/Dean GMC Srinagar from August 2011 to September 2012.

He was formerly HoD Dermatology GMC Srinagar. Dr Masood was husband of Prof Shahida Mir, former HoD Gynaecology and Obstetrics GMC Srinagar.

People from several walks of life have expressed grief and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul.

Modi govt has not been able to change negative travel advisories against J-K: Omar

SRINAGAR, July 25 (Agencies): National Conference leader Omar Abdullah on Thursday said the Modi government has not been able to change anything regarding negative travel advisories as Jammu and Kashmir remained a "target" of the US State Department travel advisories.

"So much for 'naya J&K'. For all the talk of normalcy, peace, tourism & the G-20 tamsaha in Srinagar, J&K continues to be the target of US state

Army Chief lays wreath, pays homage to soldier martyred in Kupwara Gun Battle

SRINAGAR, July 25 (Agencies): Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi on Thursday laid a wreath and paid homage to Naik Dilwar Khan, who was martyred in a gun battle in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir.

The wreath laying ceremony was held at the Army's Srinagar based Chinar Corps headquarters in Badami Bagh.



Senior Army, civil, and police officers joined the wreath-laying ceremony. "GeneralUpendraD-

wivedi #COAS laid wreath & paid homage to Naik Dilwar Khan, who laid down his

life in the line of duty. #COAS and All Ranks of #IndianArmy salute his immense valour & sacrifice and stand firm with the bereaved family in this hour of grief," Army's Additional Directorate General of Public Information (ADGPI), posted on X.

Naik Khan, a resident of the Una district of Himachal Pradesh, was critically wounded

■ Turn to page 9

Ex-Army Officer runs 160 km to mark Kargil Vijay Diwas Anniversary



MUMBAI, July 25: A former woman army officer has completed a 160-km run from Srinagar to Drass to mark the 25th anniversary of

the Kargil Vijay Diwas. Lieutenant Colonel Barsha Rai (Retd) completed the run in four days. "I ran to honour our brave hearts who

sacrificed their lives for the nation," she said.

Lt Col Rai, whose husband is an army officer in Kashmir, ran from Srinagar to the Kargil War Memorial in Drass sector. The run began on July 19 and ended on July 22. She was accompanied in stretches by the Chinar Warriors marathon team. On completion of the run, they paid tributes to martyrs at the Kargil

■ Turn to page 9

Two OGWs held, preventive measures initiated against over 40 individuals in Kathua



KATHUA, July 25 (Agencies): In a significant breakthrough in our ongoing efforts to counter terrorist activities, Kathua Police at PS

Malhar have arrested two Over Ground Workers (OGWs) for supporting terror related activities. These individuals were also found to have

purposefully withheld crucial information by not disclosing it to police in time. Both individuals deliberately chose not to disclose vital information to the police, thereby obstructing efforts to prevent terrorist actions.

Over 100 individuals have been questioned in connection with this case, whereas the Preventive measures have been taken against more than 40 individuals to mitigate further risks

■ Turn to page 9

Over 4.25 lakh perform Amarnath Yatra in 26 days

JAMMU, July 25 (Agencies): The number of pilgrims performing the Amarnath Yatra during the last 26 days has crossed 4.25 lakh while another batch of enthusiastic 3,089 devotees left Jammu on Thursday for Kashmir.

Officials of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) headed by J&K Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha manage the affairs of the annual Yatra.

Last year, only 3.50 lakh Yatris performed



the Amarnath Yatra during the entire period while this year, in only 26 days, 4.25 lakh pilgrims have already had 'darshan' inside the holy cave shrine.

On Thursday, the batch of 3,089 Yatris left the Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas in Jammu for the Valley in two escorted convoys. Officials said that both escorted con-

voys left at 3.25 a.m. for the Valley.

The first escorted convoy left carrying 1,286 pilgrims in 43 vehicles for the North Kashmir Baltal base camp. The second escorted convoy left carrying 1,803 Yatris in 63 vehicles for the South Kashmir Nunwan (Pahalgam) base camp. The cave shrine houses an ice stalagmite structure that wanes and waxes with the phases of the moon. Devotees

■ Turn to page 9

PM Modi to visit Kargil on July 26 to participate in 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas; Launch Shinkun La Tunnel

NEW DELHI, July 25 (Agencies): On the occasion of the 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas on Friday, July 26, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit the Kargil War Memorial at around 9:20 AM and pay homage to the bravehearts who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. Prime

Minister will also launch the Shinkun La Tunnel project by virtually carrying out its first blast, the Prime Minister's Office said in a release on Thursday.

Shinkun La Tunnel Project consists of a 4.1km long twin-tube tunnel which will be

■ Turn to page 9

Delhi court extends judicial custody of Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia, K Kavitha in excise 'scam'

NEW DELHI, July 25 (Agencies): A Delhi court on Thursday extended the judicial custody of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in money-laundering and corruption cases related to the alleged excise scam.

Special Judge Kaveri Baweja extended Kejriwal's custody in a money-laundering case,



being probed by the Enforcement Director-

ate, till July 31, while his judicial custody in a cor-

ruption case, lodged by the CBI, was extended till August 8.

The judge also extended the judicial custody of Aam Aadmi Party leader Manish Sisodia, Bharat Rashtra Samithi leader K Kavitha and other accused till July 31 in the money-laundering case.

The accused were

■ Turn to page 9

236,000 lives lost to drowning worldwide every year: WHO

NEW DELHI, July 25 (Agencies): About 236,000 lives every year, which can be 350 per day or 26 every hour, are lost due to drowning worldwide, said Saima Wazed, the World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional Director for South East Asia on Thursday.

July 25 is observed as World Drowning Prevention Day to bring awareness about the leading cause of injury-related death and disability worldwide.

The theme this year is 'Anyone can drown, no one should'.

"In 2019, drowning claimed 70,034 lives in the South-East Asia Region, making it the second-highest contributor to drowning deaths worldwide," said the Regional Director.

"Drowning is a sudden and silent killer, often catching victims and those around them unawares until it is too late. A few seconds may not be enough time to respond. The power is in prevention," she added.

Wazed noted that the majority of the incidents took place near homes due to lack of supervision, exposure to hazardous water bodies, insufficient awareness,

■ Turn to page 9

MBA MOTORS

MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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

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

TENTH DAY

BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB AND ANTIM ARDAS

To pray for the departed soul and to seek strength for accepting the will of Akal Purakh **Shri Akhand Path Sahib** is being held for **S. Amandeep Singh (Rishu)** S/o S. Nirmal Singh R/o 110 Rouliki, Bakshi Nagar Jammu **Programme: Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib** at our residents 25-7-2024 Thursday at 9.00 AM

Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib on Saturday the 27th of July 2024.

Shabad Kirtan and Antim Ardass will be performed at Gurudwara Bakshi Nagar from 10.30 AM to 12.00 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Father & Mother
Balbir Kaur & Nirmal Singh - Retd (IDAS)
Chacha & Chachi
Simmi Kour & Jaswant Singh (Retd. Manager J&K Bank)
Phone No. 9103728077, 9419108515



AMANDEEP SINGH (RISHU)


BHOG/ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Kashmir Singh Ji** S/o Late S. Karam Singh R/o Lane no. 3, Bari Talab Digiara who completed his journey of life & left us for heavenly abode on 18th July 2024.

PROGRAMME @ Residence
Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib on Thursday 25th July 2024 at 9 AM
Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib on Saturday 27th July 2024 at 9:30 AM
Gurudwara Sahib

ANTIM ARDAS will be held at Gurudwara Singh Sabha, Bari Talab Digiara, Jammu on Saturday 27th July 2024 from 10:30 AM to 12:00 NOON.

IN GRIEF
Sri. Harbans Kaur - Wife
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Sri. Ranjeet Kaur & S. Gurmukh Singh
(Mazra Electric nisa, Guna Naik Naggar, Jammu)
Sri. Kamaljeet Kaur & S. Jugal Singh
(Kashmir Furniture, Bishnah Road Sultanpur)
Sri. Kulwant Kaur & S. Jasbir Singh (Daughter & Son-in-law)
94193-47010, 94191-81013, 96975-15240




S. Kashmir Singh Ji

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Father **Karam Yogi Sh. Sri Nath Pandit (Nath Ji)** S/o Ram Chand Pandit resident of Sagan, Anantnag Kashmir At Present Lower Baral, Shankarvihar, near Bhagwati Hajqat School.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education on 26-07-2024 at 7:30 A.M.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sri. Chand Rani (Wife)
Sons and Daughter-in-law
Sri. Surinder Pandit & Smt. Neetu Pandit
Sri. Sanjeev Pandit & Smt. Komal Pandit
Sri. Venus Pandit & Smt. Sucheta Pandit
Grand Son & Daughter in Law
Miss Simran Pandit - Grand Daughter
Miss Jarni Pandit - Grand Daughter
Sri. Vijay & Sh. C.L. Raina - Daughter & Son in law
Sri. Ranjit & Sh. M.L. Tikoo - Daughter & Son in law
Sri. Sanjay & Sh. C.L. Pandit - Daughter & Son in law
Sri. Sarani & Sh. A.K. Bhat - Daughter & Son in law
Sri. Khemata & Sh. Chand Ji Koul - Daughter & Son in law
Mob.: 959672260, 8492809632, 7006977430, 7061960314



Karam Yogi Sh. Sri Nath Pandit (Nath Ji)

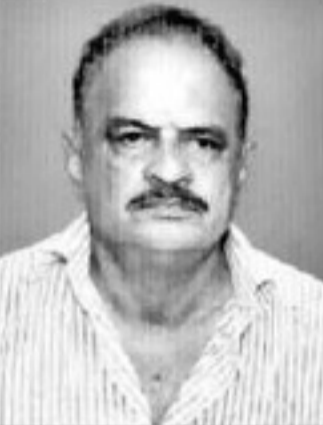
TENTH DAY/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Thoru Ram Sharma** R/o Chohata Chowk, Main Bazar Samba, who left for heavenly abode on 13-07-2024.

10th Day will be performed on Sunday, 21-07-2024 at Pacci Mandi Hall Chohata Samba from 10am to 12 Noon.

Uthala shall be performed at Pacci Mandi Hall on Saturday, 27-07-2024 at 4 pm.

Grief Stricken:
Santosh Kumari (Wife)
(Son & Daughter-in-law)
Janeshwar Sharma & Rashi
Sunil Kumar & Prem Lata
Reeta Sharma W/o Ram Pal Sharma
Davinder Kumar & Meenu Sharma
Pawan Kumar & Anuradha Sharma
Omkar Padha & Chanchla Padha
Subhash Sharma & Mohini Sharma
Anuradha Sharma W/o Shiv Kumar Sharma



Sh. Thoru Ram Sharma

Mob: 7889491277

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Chand Rani** W/o Lt. Sh. Tara Chand Bhat originally R/o Devsar (Kulgam) and presently residing at TRT Nagrota who left for heavenly abode on 17-07-2024.


Mourning will be observed at Durga Lakshmi Mandir Old Camp Nagrota.

Tenth Day Kriya shall be performed at Muthi Ghat (near Directorate of School Education) on 26-07-2024 and **Mourning Assembly** will be held at 9 am.

Grief Stricken:
Son & Daughter-in-law's
Smt. Dulori Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. Anwar Krishna Bhat
Smt. Usha Kisan W/o Sh. Tej Krishna Bhat
Smt. Sukrita Devi (Simran) W/o Sh. Ramesh Kumar Bhat
Mr. Ayush Bhat S/o Lt. Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhat

Daughters and Son-in-laws
Smt. Lalita Koul (Sarla Ji) W/o Sh. D. N. Koul
Smt. Usha Pandit W/o Sh. Jai Krishna Pandit

Deeply remembered by
SAMAST BHAT'S, KOUL'S, PANDITA'S, DHAR'S, RAINA'S AND KHER'S



Smt Chand Rani

Contact No: 8491865540, 9419403035

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Dilbag Singh Jamwal** (Retired Master) S/o Lt. Sh. Abhay Singh Jamwal.

Tenth Day will be performed on 26-07-2024 at 10:30 am at our residence Toph Sherkhania Jammu.

Grief Stricken
Smt. Trishla Jamwal - Wife
Bhanu Pratap Singh Jamwal - Son
Daughters & Sons-in-law
Meenakshi & Zoravar Singh
Pooja Jamwal & Vipin Singh
Deepika Jamwal & Ashok Singh

Sisters & Brothers-in-law
Smt. Santosh Jamwal & Sh. Jagdish Singh Jamwal
Smt. Suraksha Jasrotia & Sh. Talab Singh Jasrotia



Sh. Dilbag Singh Jamwal
(Retired Master)

DHARAM SHANT / UTHALA

Dharamshant of our beloved **Smt. Savita Poonchi** (Retd. A.M.T. School) will be performed on 28th July 2024 (Sunday) at residence F-187 Bakshi Nagar, Jammu. **Saij Pooja** at 11.30 am followed by **Bhram Bhog**.

Uthala will be held at Smriti Bhavan (Lower Hall) Shree Geeta Mandir, Bakshi Nagar, Jammu on 28th July (Sunday) from 5.00 to 6.00 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Pt. Suresh Poonchi (Husband)
Mr. Dinesh Poonchi & Manju - Beta & Bahu
Late Anubhav Poonchi - Son
Smt. Pushpa W/o Late Ramesh Poonchi (Jethani)
Sh. Yugal Kishore & Rekha - Devar & Devrani
Smt. Rajni & Sh. Ashok Kumar (Retd. Lect) - Sister & Jija
Smt. Meenaxi & Sh. Kuldeep Kumar (BOSE) - Sister & Jija
Smt. Asha & Sh. Rajiv Amla - Bhabhi & Brother
Smt. Savi & Sh. Sanjeev Amla - Bhabhi & Brother
Grand Children : Prema & Divya
Tel. No.: 8713955555, 9320546905, 9796888788




Smt. Savita Poonchi
(Retd. A.M.T. School)

SHADMOS/MASWAR

Six months have passed since you left for your eternal journey. Physically you are not with us, but we all feel your presence in every moment of life, your loving memories are still fresh in our hearts. Your noble, honest and graceful life will always be remembered. We pray to God for eternal peace to the noble soul.

Shadmoss & Maswar of my mother **Late Raj Kumari Koul**, W/o Ramesh Wali R/o 268-A Patoli Mangotrian Jammu will be performed on 28th & 29th of July 2024 at Jammu Yatri Bhawan Haridwar.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED & MISSED BY:-
Sh. Ramesh Wali (Husband)
Pallavi & Anmol Wali (Daughter in law & Son)
Smt & Sh. A.K. Kotha (Bhabhi & Brother-in-law)
Smt & Sh. R.K. Kotha (Bhabhi & Brother-in-law)
Smt & Sh. Sanjeev Koul (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Smt. Vijay Peshin (Sister)
Smt & Sh. Dr. Ashwani Koul (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Smt & Sh. Sanjay Thussu (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Smast Wallis, Kothas, Peshin's, Koul's, Thussu's and Munshi Families.
Mob: - 7006549539, 9149496310 and 9622226911



Late Raj Kumari Koul

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **S. LAKHVEER SINGH** S/O S. GURMUKH SINGH WAZIR R/O H.NO 31, SEC 12 GURU NANAK NAGAR JAMMU WHO LEFT US ON WEDNESDAY, 17 JULY 2024.

ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB ON 24-07-2024, WEDNESDAY AT 9:30 AM AT OUR RESIDENCE.

BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB AT OUR RESIDENCE ON 26-07-2024, FRIDAY AT 9:30 AM.

SHABAD KIRTAN, ANTIM ARDAS WILL BE PERFORMED AT GURDWARA SRI GURU SINGH SABHA GURU NANAK NAGAR JAMMU FROM 10:30AM TO 12:00 NOON.

GRIEF STRICKEN
SRI. AJEET KOUR W/O S. MAHJAN SINGH WAZIR (GRAND MOTHER)
S. GURMUKH SINGH WAZIR (REVENUE DEPARTMENT) (FATHER)
S. CHARANJEET SINGH WAZIR (UNCLE)
S. PARAMJEET SINGH WAZIR (INS. JKP) (BROTHER)
S. RAMANJEET SINGH WAZIR (MANAGER SRIRAM FINANCE) (BROTHER)
S. AMARJEET SINGH WAZIR (J.E.P.D.) (BROTHER)
S. KAWALJEET SINGH WAZIR (N.Z.) (BROTHER)
MOB: 9419183139, 6005619719



S. LAKHVEER SINGH

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sardarni Kamaljeet Kour Khurmi** W/o S. Gurcharan Singh Khurmi R/o 65 - DFC Gandhi Nagar, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 18-07-2024.

PROGRAMME
Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib at our residence on 24-07-2024 at 10:00 am **Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib** at our residence on 26-07-2024 at 10:30 am

Shabad Kirtan and Antim Ardass will be held on 26-07-2024 at Gurudwara Baba Fateh Singh Gandhi Nagar from 11 to 12:30 pm followed by **Guru ka Langar** 12:30 pm onwards

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sardarni Rampyari Khurmi W/o Late S. Mehar Singh Khurmi - Mother in Law
S. Gurcharan Singh Khurmi - Husband
Mrs. Komal & S. Vikrant Singh Khurmi - Son and Daughter in Law
Simran Singh & Ravinderpal Singh - Daughter and Son in Law
Roopa Khurmi - Daughter
Kanya Khurmi - Grand Daughter
Roopa Khurmi - Grand Daughter
Ishaan Singh Khurmi - Grand Son
W/o Ministry Mehar Singh Khurmi - Arms & Ammunition Manufacturer
W/o G.S Resorts Vijaypur Distt. Samba J&K
Contact: 7889438796, 9419193462, 9149606429 91906070077



SARDARNI KAMALJEET KOUR KHURMI


TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & immense sorrow, we inform the sad & untimely demise of **Sh. Vidya Dhar Bhan** S/o Lt. Sh. Vish Nath erstwhile resident of Martand Mattan Kashmir presently at House No. 4, Lane No. 1, Adarsh Nagar (Near J&K Bank) Paloura Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 19th of July, 2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat (Near Directorate of School Education, Muthi) on 28/7/2024 (Sunday) with subsequent **Mourning Gathering** at 8:30 AM at the same venue.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Sumitra Bhan - Wife
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Smt. Suman & Sh. Vimal Bhan
Smt. Surita & Sh. Vinod Kr. Bhan
Daughters & Sons-in-law
Smt. Veena & Sh. Rajinder Pandita
Smt. Kiran & Sh. Ashutosh Sher

Grand Children : Ayush, Ashish, Aryan, Himanshi, Anshu, Arushi
Mob.: 9910465014, 7889390934, 7006640142, 7006557819



Sh. Vidya Dhar Bhan

MOURNING FROM MALYUN SIDE

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Anita Pandita (Bitta)** D/o Late Sh. Lambodar Nath Sharma native of Vill Hawl, Pulwama, Kashmir on 22-07-2024.

Mourning from Malyun Side will be held at Sec. A/2, Masjid Mohalla, Laxmipuram, Chinore, Bantala, Jammu - 181123 upto Sunday (28-07-2024).

Grief Stricken
Bhabhi -
Smt. Kundan Sharma W/o Lt. Sh. Hira Lal Sharma
Sister & Brother-in-law
Sh. Kamal Ji Sharma & Smt. Pushpa Ji
Nephews & Nieces
Alok Revoo & Kiran Revoo
Ashish Bhat & Purnima Sharma Bhat
Rahul Sharma & Shikha Zutshi
Vikas Sharma & Priyanka Gupta
Mb: 6005338953, 9419203898, 7006061484



Smt. Anita Pandita
(Bitta)

OBITUARY / TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Brj Krishan Raina** S/o Late Shri Sarwanand Raina original resident of Chandapora Habba Kadal Srinagar Kashmir at present Village Ghat, Distt Doda J&K who left for heavenly abode on 19-07-2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at their residence, on 28-07-2024 (Morning) Village Ghat, Bus Stand Near Jamia Masjid Distt Doda J&K.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Indira Raina (Wife)
Vijay Raina & Shailu Raina (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Meenu Raina (Daughter)
Chandrika Arora & Rahul Arora (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
Smt. Santosh Raina (Bhabhi)
Smt. Dura Ji Bhan W/o Late Sh. Hira Lal Bhan (Sister)
& All Nears & Dears
Mobile No: 9906299241, 8825014437




Brij Krishan Raina

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Jagar Nath Pandita** S/o Late Sh. Hari Ram Pandita originally from Village Sofi Hamam Sopore Kashmir A/p Lane No. 25 Block No. 160 Flat No. 15 Jagti Migrant Camp Nagrota Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 27-07-2024 (Monday).

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 31-07-24 Wednesday at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 8.30 AM.

Grief Stricken
Sh. C. L. Pandita & Smt. Jyoti Pandita - Son & Daughter-in-law
Sh. Kisan Pandita & Smt. Babi Pandita - do-
Smt. Santosh & Sh. Bilu Ji Pandita - Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Meera Raina & Sh. Satish Raina - do-
Smt. Veena Bhat & Sh. Sushil Kr. Bhat - do-
Grand Children :- Akshay, Shalu, Ribu, Shibu, Uvi, Diya, Krishna, Parul, Jya, Priya
Mob. 9469281512, 9797362298




Sh. Jagar Nath Pandita

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound address and deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved father, the esteemed **Karam Yogi Shri Nath Pandit (Nath Ji)**, son of late Ram Chand Pandit. He resided in Sagan, Anantnag Kashmir and later in Lower Baral, Shankar Vihar, near Bhagwati Hajqat School.

TENTH DAY KRIYA - Date: 26-07-2024, Time: 7:30 AM. Venue: Muthi Ghat, near Director School Education

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Chand Rani (Wife)
(Sons and Daughters-in-law)
Sri. Surinder Pandit & Smt. Neetu Pandit
Sri. Sanjeev Pandit & Smt. Komal Pandit
(Grand Son and Grand Daughter-in-law)
Sri. Venus Pandit & Smt. Sucheta Pandit
Miss Simran Pandit (Grand Daughter)
Miss Jarni Pandit (Grand Daughter)
Sri. Vijay & Sh. C.L. Raina (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Sri. Ranjit & Sh. M.L. Tikoo (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Sri. Sanjay & Sh. C.L. Pandit (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Sri. Beant & Sh. A.K. Bhat (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Sri. Khemata & Sh. Chand Ji Koul (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Contact Numbers: 959672260, 8492809632, 7006977430



Shri Sri Nath Pandit
(Nath Ji)

TENTH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that our beloved **Smt. Uttama Devi** (W/o Lt. Sh. Shiv Ram Proachji) of Purmandal passed away peacefully on 15th of July 2024 at her residence.

The **Tenth Day** shall be performed on 24th of July, 2024 Wednesday at 11:00 am at our residence, Purmandal. The **Kriya** shall be performed on Thursday 25th of July 2024, at our residence.

Uthala shall be performed on Saturday, 27th of July 2024, at our residence at 4:00 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN
(Daughter-in-law & Sons)
Smt. Asha Sharma & Sh. Yash Pal Sharma
Smt. Suman Sharma & Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma
Smt. Manisha Sharma & Sh. Ved Prakash Sharma
Smt. Anita Sharma & Sh. Rakesh Sharma
Smt. Vaishno Sharma & Sh. Naresh Sharma (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Smt. Sude sh Sharma & Sh. Darshan Sharma (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Proach Family.
Mob.: 6005039362, 7006291220, 7006299207, 9796641188



Smt. Uttama Devi

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that our beloved **Smt. Usha Gupta** left for her heavenly abode on 14/07/2024. Her strength will continue to guide us and we will cherish her fond memories forever.

The **TENTH DAY** will be performed on 23/07/2024 at 11 AM at Tangri Palace, Kathua followed by Uthala at 1 PM.

RASAM PAGRI will be performed on 27-07-2024 (Saturday) at 2 PM at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Prof. R.K. Gupta (Husband)
Ms. Pooja Mahajan (Daughter)
Mr. Arvind Mahajan (Son) & Ms. Annu Mahajan (Daughter in Law)
Ms. Simran, Arihaan & Aanya (Grand Children)
Spring Dales Family, All Near & Dear Ones
Mobile Numbers - 9622215222, 9419150947, 8527845353, 9419247028



SMT. USHA GUPTA
099-3471953 to 14th July 2024
SPRING DALES SCHOOL,
KATHUA (PRINCIPAL)

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Anita Pandita** R/o H.No. 242, Sector-I, Vinayak Nagar, Muthi, Jammu on 22-07-2024.

TENTH DAY will be performed at Muthi Ghat at 10:00 AM on 31-07-2024 (Wednesday).

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sh. Ravi Kumar Pandita - Husband
Sh. Rohan Pandita - Son
Daughter and Son-in-law
Smt. Archana and Nitin Chowdhary

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:-
PANDITA FAMILY
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JKMEF President urges Govt to redress demands of health department employees

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Dharminder Singh Bhargav, President of Jammu and Kashmir Medical Employees Federation (JKMEF), in a press conference at the JKMEF office near the CMO Office in Jammu, pressed demands of various categories of health department employees and urged the competent authorities to take immediate steps to address these issues.

He said that Departmental Promotion Committees (DPCs) for various categories of staff have been pending for over a year, resulting in significant vacancies due to retirements.

The Director Health Services Jammu, during a recent meeting with JKMEF representatives on July 22nd, 2024, agreed to expedite these DPCs by August 14th, 2024, he said.

Drivers in the health department raised



issues regarding the neglect of their service books, which have not been updated for several years, leading to pending entries. He emphasized the need for immediate action to rectify this administrative lapse.

Additionally, concerns were voiced about the lack of refresher courses and training for crucial positions like PHC Medical Officers, CHO, DMO, SHI, MI, LHV, BHW, and Multipurpose Workers. The absence of training has left promoted and new employees ill-prepared for their roles,

severely impacting the efficiency of health services, he said.

The staffing inadequacies in rural areas, particularly in the NVBDCP & UMCP schemes, were highlighted. Despite a drastic increase in the population, the sanctioned staff positions have remained unchanged since the schemes' inception, significantly compromising the department's ability to meet current demands effectively.

The State Health Transport Organization (SHTO) faced severe

neglect, with a drastically reduced budget that does not correspond to its operational needs, especially in Jammu division, which has a larger area and more health institutions than Kashmir, he said.

Furthermore, he brought attention to the concerning state of vehicles within SHTO, many of which operate without proper registration and insurance, violating regulatory norms and posing risks.

The absence of new driver recruitments since 2011 has led to a substantial number of vacancies due to retirements, severely hampering the mobility and operational capabilities of SHTO, he said adding that there was a strong recommendation to appoint a technical expert, such as a Mechanical Engineer, as the in-charge of SHTO instead of a medicos, deemed technically inadequate for the role.

The conference also

emphasized the need for transparency in the transfer policy for non-gazetted employees and proposed an increase in the Fixed Traveling Allowance (FTA) for BHWs to align with current transportation costs.

Furthermore, demands were made for a risk allowance for all employees exposed to health hazards and infections, similar to allowances provided to X-Ray technicians.

In conclusion, he underscored the urgent need for these issues to be addressed comprehensively by the authorities to ensure efficient functioning and improved conditions within the health department of Jammu and Kashmir.

JKESTWS expresses concern over physical verification of pensioners

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Vijay Sharma, President of Jammu and Kashmir Excise State Taxes Employees Welfare Society, highlighted significant concerns regarding recent government orders requiring physical verification of pensioners and family pensioners in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The government has issued orders (REF: DGAT/PS/DR/7198451/199 dated July 8, 2024 and 221 dated July 22, 2024) mandating all regular pensioners and family pensioners of all ages to physically present themselves before the concerned treasury officer by the end of September 2024. Failure to comply will result in the discontinuation of pension payments from October 2024 onwards," Vijay Sharma said.

He added, "Pensioners report that after submitting their Pension Payment Orders (PPOs) at respective treasury offices, they are not given any receipt and are asked to return

after 15-20 days without a specific date or time for their next visit."

"Treasury officers are expected to visit the residences of pensioners aged 80+ and disabled pensioners to verify their physical presence. However, each treasury office has limited staff (an officer and two assistants) and lacks adequate resources such as staff and transport to visit pensioners in far-flung areas across Jammu and Kashmir, from Madhavpur to Uri, Rajouri, Poonch, Kupwara, and Handwara," he said.

He added, "Many families of pensioners have migrated across India due to job scarcity in Jammu and Kashmir. The elderly parents of these families reside with their children, who are scattered throughout the country. This poses a significant challenge for treasury officers to physically verify their presence."

Some pensioners' children reside abroad, making it practically impossible for treasury officers to verify their physical

presence, Sharma said.

He described the current orders and circulars as absurd and irrational, particularly concerning pensioners aged 80+ or disabled, who often face physical limitations. These directives exacerbate their mental stress and pose challenges that many pensioners are unable to resolve on their own.

The Society proposed that in today's digital age, physical verification could be conducted through technologies like internet videos or face recognition. This would alleviate the need for physical travel and ensure accurate verification without causing undue hardship to pensioners.

He urged the administration to review the details and obstacles outlined and issue amendments that consider the unique circumstances of elderly and disabled pensioners. This would enable them to live healthy, peaceful lives without undue administrative burden before their final exit.

Shiv Sena demands strong military action against Pakistan

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit leaders staged a strong protest and burnt the flag of Pakistan, demanded strong military action against Pakistan and sent Pakistan's puppet terrorist organizations to hell, including Kashmir Tigers, who took responsibility for the attacks on Indian soldiers, along with this, accusing the BJP government at the center of failure to restore peace in Jammu and Kashmir.

Led by Manish Sahni, president, Shiv Sena(UBT) J&K unit at Bari Brahmana Chowk on the Jammu-Pathankot National Highway, demanded revenge for the supreme sacrifice of Indian soldiers along with bringing 10 Pakistani heads in exchange for one.

Sahni said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have been facing the brunt of terrorism for the last three



and a half decades.

The BJP, which claims to maintain peace in Jammu and Kashmir, has completed its 10-year term at the Center and is in its third tenure, but terrorism and Pakistan's nefarious activities in Jammu and Kashmir have not been controlled. Terrorists have spread their tentacles in Jammu along with Kashmir.

Sahni said that in the last one month, 12 soldiers have been martyred and 10 civilians have died in terrorist incidents in Jammu division.

In the last three years, more than 50 Indian

soldiers have made the supreme sacrifice in Jammu and Kashmir.

Pakistan is once again hatching a big conspiracy of infiltration from across the border.

Jammu and Kashmir DGP Rashmi Ranjan Swain claims that about 60-70 terrorists are waiting to infiltrate India on the 'launch pad' located across the Line of Control (LOC).

Sahni said that despite having such strong information and evidence, the delay in giving instructions for military action against Pakistan by the BJP government at the Center is beyond comprehension.

He said that the martyrdom of soldiers should not be tolerated any more. Along with strong military action against Pakistan, the terrorists active in Jammu and Kashmir should be shown the direct path to Jahnum.

On this occasion Gen Secretary Vikas Bakshi, President Kamghar wing Raj Singh, Shalpal, Pawan Singh, Sarpanch Gulam Nabi, Nar Singh, Rahil Verma, Rohit Kumar, Tarsam Sharma, Mahinder DC, Sahil Verma, Rohit Kumar, Narinder Kumar, Sinam, Kajal Kumari, Tarsem and many other Shiv saints were present.

CCI President expresses concern over frequent unscheduled power cuts

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Arun Gupta, President Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCI), expressed serious concern over the frequent unscheduled power cuts, putting the honest consumers and general public to extreme trouble in this hot and humid weather. He said that what to speak of other areas the smart metered areas are also not spared. The government had assured and announced 24x7 power supply in the smart meter areas at the time of installing the same. He said that the assurance and announcement of the authorities has fallen flat as the un-scheduled power cuts have become a routine feature and even in midnight power supply is snapped and nobody is bothering to respond to the queries about the reason and restoration of power supply.

Arun Gupta further said

that most of the consumers are complaining that the smart meters are running very fast as compared to digital meters installed earlier resulting in excess billing. He expressed grave concern over the inflated power bills after the installations of smart meters.

While expressing grave concern over the frequent move of the government to switching over from one type of meters to another he said that it will definitely not serve the purpose and instead government should focus on to put an end to distribution losses which are highest in our UT as compared to other states of the country and also control power thefts.

Arun Gupta also requests the authorities to constitute a committee to look into the grievances of excess billing of the consumers and publicize the same so that aggrieved consumers can get their grievances redressed.

Budget will help realise PM Modi's dream of making India developed: Jatinder

Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, July 25: The BJP on Wednesday hailed the Union Budget as "outstanding" and said it will accelerate the country's economic transformation and help realise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream of making India developed.

BJP Sr Leader Advocate Jatinder Sharma today said that the Union budget presented in the Lok Sabha would give a new direction and impetus to development in J&K.

Jatinder said the Modi government has presented a visionary budget which will bring about all round development among the youth and women in J&K. Jatinder hailed the annual budget as a beginning of a new chapter in J&K.

He said the budget aims at injecting a new vigour and strength to the economy. The budget has a main focus on Infrastructure Development, which will be the main reason for Vikshit Bharat.



The budget also focuses on the Skill enhancement of youngsters, it is an expenditure-based Budget, which will create new job opportunities for the generation. The budget gives benefits to the salaried class.

The standard deduction has been raised by 50%. Also, there is a change in Tax Slabs in the new tax regime which will help the General public reduce their tax payments.

The Modi government has also offered to initiate many steps, which will help in reducing litigation, which will be of immense relief to the common assessee.

Jatinder said this visionary budget will help all sections of the society and take the nation to new heights.

GOVT. OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER KISHTWAR
(Shree Machail Yatra Cell)
Phone/Fax: 01995-261466/259555. smmydcktr@gmail.com
www.shrimachailmatayatra.com

SHRI MACHAIL MATA YATRA-2024
ADVISORY

As per the nod given by the Government of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir with regard to the conduct of Annual Shri Machail Mata Yatra -2024, the following advisory in the public interest is hereby issued for the information of public in general and Devotees / Pilgrims in particular:

1. Only 8,000 No's of pilgrims shall be allowed per day to move from base camp Gulabgarh to Holy Machail Mata Shrine on foot, and out of which 6000 No's of pilgrims shall be allowed through online registration and 2000 pilgrims are allowed through offline mode at registration counter Sarkoot and Gulabgarh.
2. Only 700 No. of pilgrims shall be allowed per day to move from Gulabgarh to Holy Machail Mata Shrine through Heli services.
3. Those pilgrims with mild symptoms of cold, fever, cough, body ache/pain, headache etc. shall not be allowed to perform Yatra till full recovery.
4. Medical teams are stationed enroute at various designated places along with security personnel.

Timing of Journey

Departure	Timing
Kishtwar to Gulabgarh	05:00 AM to 04:00 PM
Gulabgarh to Machail	05:00 AM to 06:30 PM

Arrival

Timing	Destination
05:00 AM to 06:30 PM	Machail to Gulabgarh
06:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Gulabgarh to Kishtwar

In case of any query related to Yatra, please contact at District Control Room: 01995259555; Police Control Room (PCR Kishtwar) +919906154100 and official website: www.shrimachailmatayatra.com

DO'S FOR THE YATRIES

1. Online /offline registration of all yatrees is mandatory.
2. Do online registration via official website www.shrimachailmatayatra.com, to avoid standing in long que.
3. Do offline registration at Registration Counter Shri Gori Shankar Mandir Sarkoot, BDO Office Gulabgarh and Chishoti.
4. Do carry Yatra/registration slip along with Aadhar card and produce the same at Deondi Morh Gulabgarh and Darshani Gate Machail for onward journey to Shri Machail Mata Bhawan, as no devotee is allowed without online registration slip and offline Yatra Parchi.
5. Do carry sufficient woolen clothing as the temperature may sometimes abruptly fall and changes.
6. Do carry umbrella, raincoat, and waterproof shoes as the weather in the Yatra is unpredictable.
7. Do keep your clothes and eatables in a suitable water proof bag to avoid your belongings getting wet.
8. Do keep in your pocket a note containing the name / address, mobile telephone number, identity card / driving license and Yatra permit / registration slip before proceeding for Darshan, for emergency purposes.
9. Do help your fellow Yatris travelling with you and perform Yatra with a pious mind. Also you must leave the base camp along with all other members of your group while following of all SOPs/ guidelines.
10. Do seek immediate assistance of the Police/ any nearest Yatra Control room /and other teams deployed at various locations in case of any untoward accident or any member of your group is missing. Also announcement can be made on the Public Address System at the Base camp Gulabgarh and Machail Mata Temple.
11. Do strictly follow the instructions issued by the District Administration, Kishtwar from time to time and maintain the sanctity of the Yatra.

DON'TS FOR THE YATRIES

1. Don't start your travel before 05:00 AM in morning hours and after 06:00 pm in evening.
2. Don't attempt any short cuts on the route as doing so is dangerous.
3. Don't stop at places which are marked by warning notices, walk only on the tracks.
4. Don't do anything during the entire Yatra which could cause pollution or disturb the Environment.
5. Don't bring single use plastic / polythene material as it's use is banned in J&K and is punishable under law.
6. Don't carry expensive or heavy jewellery during the yatra.
7. Don't overload yourself with extra stuff on steep roads.
8. Don't ever try alcohol/intoxicating substances during the yatra which is strictly prohibited.
9. Don't try to wash hands/clothes/both in the rivers on the way.
10. Don't follow Gulabgarh - Matti old Yatra route.

DIP/J-3329/24

No:-ADC/Ktr/MY/24/685-694
Dated:- 23.07.2024

Pawan Kotwal (JKAS)
Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Kishtwar.

EDITORIAL

EDUCATION
SECTOR

The education sector in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) has been a critical focal point for development, reflecting the region's unique socio-political landscape and historical context. Over the years, education in J&K has faced numerous challenges and undergone significant transformations, shaped by its geographical diversity, cultural richness, and the complex dynamics of its governance.

Historically, Jammu and Kashmir has placed a strong emphasis on education, recognizing it as a key driver for social mobility and economic growth. However, the region's education system has been impacted by periods of instability and conflict, which have posed challenges to consistent educational access and quality. Despite these challenges, efforts have been made to ensure educational opportunities reach all segments of the population, including remote and marginalized communities.

The education system in J&K has evolved significantly over time. Pre-1947, the region had a traditional education setup with emphasis on religious and classical learning. Post-independence, efforts were made to modernize the system, expand access, and introduce reforms to align with national educational frameworks.

One of the significant milestones was the establishment of the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE), which oversees school education and conducts examinations. The JKBOSE plays a pivotal role in maintaining standards and curriculum development tailored to the regional context.

The education sector in J&K faces several persistent challenges.

Periodic disruptions due to unrest and conflict have affected the regular functioning of schools, leading to disruptions in academic calendars and affecting student attendance.

Many schools in rural and remote areas lack basic infrastructure such as adequate classrooms, sanitation facilities, and libraries. This impacts the quality of education delivery and overall student experience.

There is a need for continuous professional development of teachers to improve pedagogical practices and ensure effective classroom teaching. Addressing teacher shortages, especially in remote areas, remains a priority.

Ensuring that the curriculum remains relevant and responsive to the socio-cultural context of J&K while aligning with national standards is crucial. There is a need for curriculum reforms that promote critical thinking, creativity, and skills development.

Ensuring inclusive education that caters to the needs of diverse learners, including children with disabilities and those from disadvantaged backgrounds, requires concerted efforts and resources.

Despite these challenges, the education sector in J&K also presents opportunities for growth and development.

The government has launched several initiatives aimed at enhancing educational access and quality, including the provision of scholarships, infrastructure development, and teacher training programs.

The adoption of digital technologies in education has the potential to bridge gaps, especially in remote areas. Efforts to integrate ICT (Information and Communication Technology) in classrooms and expand internet connectivity are underway.

Engaging local communities, parents, and stakeholders in educational planning and decision-making processes can strengthen the education system's responsiveness and inclusivity.

There is a growing focus on skill development and vocational training to equip students with practical skills that enhance employability and contribute to economic growth.

In conclusion, the education sector in Jammu and Kashmir is at a crucial juncture, navigating challenges while leveraging opportunities for growth and improvement. Addressing infrastructure gaps, enhancing teacher quality, ensuring curriculum relevance, and promoting inclusive education are key priorities. Continued investment in education, supported by effective governance, community engagement, and innovative approaches, will be essential to realize the full potential of J&K's young population and foster sustainable development across the region.

Dealing with Monsoon Hair Problems

By: Shahnaz Husain

Monsoons are back. Are you tired of battling your unruly, frizzy, and greasy hair whenever the rain starts pouring?

Monsoons can be quite challenging for your hair. It gets sticky, frizzy and messy, a total recipe for hair fall.

The monsoon is a welcome relief after the scorching summer days, but droplets of rain also bring with them loads of scalp infections and hair problems. The air in the monsoon contains heavy moisture, leading to an increase in humidity and stickiness. This increases the probability of dandruff, hair fall and other problems too that causes hair follicles to swell, leading to increased hair fall. If not taken care of immediately, hair fall increases by 30% during the monsoon months due to the changes in the climatic conditions.

How your hair reacts to the rainy season depends on your hair type. People with dry hair may face visibly drier and duller hair, or those with oily hair may see even greasier strands.

Since humid air has a much higher quantity of water molecules, the hair strands absorb much more water than they usually would on non-humid days. The constant swelling and shrinking caused by hair strands absorbing and losing water damages the hair's structure, making it brittle and prone to breakage.

Say goodbye to hair woes with these herbal tips and hello to pleasant rainy days!

1--- Oil Therapy ----Sticky

dandruff is another problem to contend with. The scales, along with oil and sweat secretions, tend to stick to the scalp. Rich conditioners and hair styling products can also lead to a build-up on the scalp. For sticky dandruff, hot oil therapy is useful. Heat sesame seed oil or olive oil and apply it on the scalp with cotton wool, rubbing gently to dislodge the flakes. Then dip a towel in hot water, squeeze out the water and wrap the hot towel around the head, like a turban. Keep it on for 5 minutes. Repeat the hot towel wrap 3 or 4 times. This helps the hair and scalp absorb the oil better. Leave the oil on overnight.

Next morning, apply the juice of a lemon on the scalp and wash your hair after 20 minutes. You can also add 5 drops of Tea Tree Oil to a mug of water and use it as a last rinse.

2 --- Coconut Oil -

The best source of moisturising your hair during monsoon is coconut oil.

The use of natural coconut oil nourishes the scalp strengthens hair roots, and provides a protective layer against external damage.

Massage the scalp with slightly warm oil for about 15 minutes, let it sit for about an hour/overnight and then wash it off with lukewarm water. Follow this up with Conditioner to give your hair a deep herbal conditioning with the goodness of Ayurveda.

If you are uncomfortable with oiling the strands of your hair, use a hair serum of your choice or make the DIY

hair serum.

3--- Shampoo ----

Shampoo the hair more frequently during the Monsoons. Use less shampoo and rinse well with water. Then, have a tea water and lemon rinse for silky and shiny hair. Take used tea leaves and boil them again in 4 to 5 cups of water. The amount of water depends on the length of the hair. Strain and cool the water. Add the juice of a lemon and use as a final rinse after shampoo. To add shine, you can also whisk egg white with the juice of a lemon and apply it on the hair half an hour before your shampoo.

4--- Don't Tie or Comb Wet Hair---- You should avoid tying or combing hair during monsoon while it's still wet because wet hair is weaker and combing this wet hair will cause tugging and lead to excessive breakage. Tying your wet hair prevents it from drying causing knots. So let your hair dry naturally, even if it will take hours. When it's semi-dry you can use a wide-toothed comb to detangle it if you are in hurry.

5---Healthy Diet ----

As nutritional deficiency is one of the most common causes of hair loss, the diet is very important. Hair is made up of a protein matter called keratin. So, ensure adequate protein in the diet. A balanced, nutritious diet helps healthy hair growth since the hair is actually fed by the nutrients in the bloodstream. Include lean meats, fish, egg, dal, beans, fruits, sprouts, vegetables and whole grains. Consult your doctor before making changes in the diet.

Vitamin C, Zinc, Omega 3 fatty acids are all necessary for healthy hair growth. Vitamin C is available in oranges, lemons, tomatoes, papaya, grapefruit, cabbage and cauliflower. Zinc is plentiful in seafood, mushrooms, green leafy vegetables and wholegrain cereals. Omega 3 fatty acids are essential fatty acids, available in fish, plant and nut oils, and seaweeds. Cut down on aerated drinks, fried foods, and too much salt and sugar. Dull, lifeless hair can be a sign of a poor diet.

Take a small bowl of sprouts daily. Sprouts contain amino acids, which are very beneficial to the hair. Include fresh fruits, raw salads, leafy green vegetables, whole grains and curd in the daily diet. Drink 6 to 8 glasses of water daily. Drink freshly extracted juices of fruits and vegetables, adding enough water to them. Add the juice of a lemon to a glass of water and have it first thing in the morning. Ask your doctor to prescribe vitamin and mineral supplements.

Another problem is that of bad odour from the scalp during the humid season. Wash your hair at least four times a week. Rinse thoroughly with water. For a fragrant hair rinse, add the juice of a lemon and half a cup of rose water to a mug of water and use it as a last rinse after washing the hair.

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

India is on the right path to building a stronger, more vibrant nation where talent, knowledge, and skills thrive

By: Vijay GarG

By integrating knowledge and skill development with modern practices, we can nurture youth who are proficient and emotionally and physically resilient

Bharat's educational policies are geared towards fostering a balanced approach that integrates learning with modern skills, reduces unnecessary burdens, and nurtures the unique potential of every child. These efforts are crucial for building a future-ready youth capable of seizing new opportunities in a rapidly evolving world. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been a vocal advocate for educational reforms and skill development.

One of the landmark steps taken by the government is the introduction of the New National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, established after almost four decades. The introduction of the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has started giving positive dividends. Being a transformative policy, it formalises skill training by integrating it into the education system

from Class VI onwards. This policy underpins the importance of combining schooling with skilling, and teaching-learning materials for classes III rd onward are also being made available now.

The government's plan to incorporate emerging and applied areas, such as semiconductor technology, into the school curriculum is a promising step towards meeting the skilling needs of the diverse and talented Yuva Shakti.

Additionally, the School Bag Policy aims to enhance student well-being by addressing the physical burden of school bags. This policy focuses on streamlining educational materials, promoting digital resources, and encouraging ergonomic designs. States like Assam and Madhya Pradesh have taken significant steps to alleviate the burden on students, with new notifications set to take effect from the academic session 2024-25. 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' (PPC) outlines the vision and priorities of the government. During the 7th edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha (PPC), Prime Minister Modi interacted with students, teachers, and par-

ents, emphasizing the need to create an educational ecosystem where each child's unique individuality is encouraged and fully expressed. The government has been making concerted efforts to achieve this goal, recognizing that cultural and societal expectations often add undue pressure on students.

Modi advocates for healthy competition, reminding us that "Teachers are not in a job role but they shoulder the responsibility of grooming the lives of students." With the rapid pace of technological advancements, its adoption in the process of learning is very crucial and technology should be harnessed as a tool for learning, reminding us that "one cannot run away from technology," as the Prime Minister remarked. Reforms are necessary as they can lead Bharat to a higher stage of advancement. The holistic approach involves aligning educational practices with principles that promote mindfulness and resilience.

Education should encompass a broad spectrum of human development, not just intellectual growth. Proper methodologies should be

used to assess and nurture various aspects of a child's development. The new education system is all set to enhance individual potential and it also contributes to the nation's economic growth. It is widely admitted that a well-educated population is better equipped to drive economic progress and social mobility, reducing disparities and fostering a more equitable society.

Moreover, education contributes to better health, increased civic engagement, and enhanced personal satisfaction. Bharat's examination system needs further reforms. Hence, going forward, the nation is bound to have a more fair, transparent, stress-free, flexible and robust examination system. The holes are being plugged on an urgent basis at all levels. Bharat is on the right path to building a stronger, more vibrant nation where talent, knowledge, and skills thrive.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist Malout)

Rabindranath Tagore Nobel Award conferred in Kashmir by GHRT India

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 25: The Global Human Rights Trust (GHRT) India organized a prestigious award ceremony today at the renowned Tagore Hall in Srinagar.

The event celebrated the outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations in the field of human rights and cultural promotion.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of the Chief Guest, Ghulam Ali Khatana, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha.

In his keynote address, Shri Khatana commended the efforts of GHRT India in advocating for human rights and emphasized the importance of collective action in safeguarding these rights.

Dr. Darakshana Andrabai, Chairman of the Waqf Board, Jammu and Kashmir, was the Guest of Honour on this event.

Dr. Andrabai highlighted the critical role of community and institutional support in promoting human rights and justice.

Dr. H R Rehman, Chairman of GHRT India spoke



passionately about the organization's mission and the importance of recognizing and honoring those who strive to protect human rights.

The main aim of this event was to promote culture and encourage excellence in various fields. Many awardees from all over India were honored for their exemplary work in advancing human rights and cultural initiatives.

The awardees represented a diverse range of fields, including the medical field, literature, and many others. They expressed their gratitude

and reaffirmed their commitment to continue their work with renewed vigor.

Therefore 74 Awardees across India receive this prestigious Award are Mr. Jane Alam, Syeda Seema Fatima, Abrar Mughal, Saima Tabasum, Sahajad Hossain, MS Shahida Khanam, Dr Preet Kanwar Singh, Adv Guftar Ahmed Chowdhary, Amitosh Kumar, Mr Suhail Saalim, Virendra Sharma, CH. Taj UD Din Taj, Kyrmenskhem Nongshli, Bhat Tahir, Adv. Rajbalwinder Singh, Mohd Razak Bajjar, Gulam Mohi UD Din Sofi, Dr Suresh Kammar,

Akhter Abass Naik, Mr Ankur Kumar, Masrat Farooq, Gulzar Ahmed Mir, Choudhary Shazia Gujjar, Dr. ER. Manasa Kumar Dash, Hazim Rasheed, Ehsaan Yousf, Dr v.david Kalyani Raju, Shahnaz Bashir, Burhan Ali, Bhikan M Ambe, Puli Srinivasa Prasad, Sabreena Yaseen, Dr Sudhakar Navsagar, Choudhary Khurshid Doi, Payal Kanwar Ashiq Hussain, Ganesh Jayram Pagare, Dr Gazanfar Nazir, Rajni Kumar Srivastava, Adv. Mohd Akram, Dr Younis Ali Sofi, T Krishna Gound, Dr Vinayak Apparao Sarwade, Abrar Hussain,

Afreen Barkat, Robert Yesudeep, Hashim Bhat, Abdul Qayum Var, Anjali Arya, Dr Prasad Marella, Kifayatullah Malik, Abul Kashem, Zubair Ahmed Reshie, Mehjabeen Gousia, Dr. Priithvish Rajamani, Tariq Ahmad Shera, Syed Shahid Shah, Farooq Rashid, Dr Srinivas Nayanampally, Vinayaka High School, Nazam Uddin, Shahid Jeelani, Manoj Modi, Riyaz Ahmed Hajam, Syed Aafiyat Mukhtar, Datta Bhaurao Rajguru, Adnan Bashir, Sameer Abdullah Bhat, Shakeel Basheer, Aijaz Ahmad Baba, Sabreena Firdous, Dr Mandarapu Keshav Raju, Junaid UL Islam.

The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by Paramjeet Singh Secretary GHRT India by the words "This year's Human Right Noble Award Ceremony marks a milestone in honoring those who have made remarkable strides." Attendees left with a sense of renewed purpose and commitment to the cause of human rights and cultural promotion.

DIET Reasi performs activities in schools

Top News Report

REASI, July 25: On the eve of the 4th anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, Nation is celebrating "Shiksha Saptah" which aims to foster a spirit of collaboration and innovation among learners, educators, policymakers, and stakeholders in the education sector.

This momentous occasion presents a significant opportunity to reflect on the transformative reforms introduced by the NEP 2020 and to reiterate our commitment to advancing education across our nation.

It provides a platform to share best practices, discuss challenges, and chart a path forward towards realizing the vision outlined in the NEP 2020 at grass root levels.

This event is being organized under the ambit of the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, aims to present a common platform to resonate and live the spirit of achievements gained over the last four years of NEP 2020 implementation.

Each day of the week is dedicated to a specific theme, showcasing various aspects of education and development.

As desired, by the higher authorities the District Institute of Education & Trainings (DIET), REAM, has also taken initiative and has put together all the HOIs of all the Schools in District Reasi to perform activities in their respective schools as per the calendar issued by the Govt. of India, Ministry of Education, Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL) with effect from 22nd to 28 July 2024.

The event was inaugurated on the 1st Day virtually by Sunita Sambyal Principal DIET Reasi.

The details of first four days of the "Shiksha Saptah" celebrated in District Reasi. On July 22, 2024 TLM (Teaching-Learning Material) Day- Encouraging teachers to showcase TLM based on local context and use it in the Teaching Learning process.

On July 23, FLN Day generating greater awareness among all stakeholders for suc-

cessful implementation of NIPUN/FLN Mission.

On July 24, Sports Day- Organising indigenous sports competitions to highlight the significance of sports and fitness amongst learners.

On July 25, 2024 Cultural Day-Special cultural day to be organised for inculcating a sense of unity and diversity among students.

Till total today of 428 schools have participated in which 14197 student participated and 1759 teachers actively participated and play vital role in the performing the activities.

In addition to this, 835 community members also participated in the activities at school level and making this event a great grand success.

Moreover, DIET Reasi has also taken part through its faculty members in the celebration of "Shiksha Saptah" by executing two activities i.e. FLN Day at HS Kambal Danga and another one "Sports day" at Lower Middle School Seela.

Brahm Dutt faculty member DIET Reasi is coordinating the affairs.

Sanjay Kumar takes over as Director (Projects) NHPC

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Sanjay Kumar Singh has taken over as Director (Projects), NHPC Limited, India's premier hydro-power company and a Schedule 'A' enterprise of Government of India.

Singh holds a degree in Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) and has more than 32 years of vast and varied experience in Power and Infrastructure sector in respect of execution of mega and prestigious projects in India and Bhutan.

Prior to his appointment as Director (Projects), NHPC, Singh held the position of Chief Gen-

eral Manager at SJVN Ltd. During his tenure at SJVN, he headed several key projects and worked as Head of the Project of Sunni Dam HEP (Construction stage), Naitwar Mori HEP (Construction stage), Luhri HEP Stage II (Survey & Investigation stage) and Jhakhol Sankri HEP (Survey & Investigation stage).

Singh has also served as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of STPL (A wholly owned subsidiary of SJVN Ltd.).

In addition, Singh was responsible at different positions for construction of major critical components of largest Hydroelectric Power Project of

India i.e. Nathpa Jhakri Hydroelectric Project (HP) and Tala Hydroelectric Project (Bhutan) and also in Survey & Investigation / Pre-construction activities of Devsari Hydroelectric Project (Uttarakhand).

Singh possesses great expertise in working at various levels for Key project activities like Project Construction, Survey & Investigation/ Pre-construction including preparation of Detailed Project report and cost estimate, formulation of bid documents, evaluation of bids, issue of awards, contract management, Project Planning & Monitoring.

'To delay Assembly elections, | withhold restoration of statehood demand consideration by Modi Govt'

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: In the turbulent landscape of Jammu and Kashmir, amidst ongoing militancy, terrorist attacks in ten districts of Jammu and Kashmir and economic challenges, a cautious and strategic approach is very much imperative. So the call to delay elections and withhold restoration of statehood to the Union Territory demands thoughtful consideration, echoing concerns rooted in decades of unrest and unresolved issues.

This was stated by Kundan Kashmiri, President Kashmiri Pandit Conference (KPC) in a statement issued here on Thursday.

He said that the ongoing military engagements and cross-border tensions necessitate a steadfast approach.

"Until the menace of militancy is effectively curbed and stability restored across the region, the proposition to defer elections serves as a pragmatic safeguard against potential disruptions and external provocations. This stance advocates for a secure environment where civilian safety and national integrity remain non-negotiable priorities," he said.

The cautionary plea to Prime Minister Modi's Government at the centre reflects a collective sentiment among nationalist

forces and stakeholders in Jammu and Kashmir, emphasizing the need for judicious governance over impulsive decisions.

History serves as a stark reminder of the repercussions of hasty policies, epitomized by the regrettable missteps of the past, including the ill-fated Article 370 imposed by then Congress lead by late Nehru Ji.

Hence, the current circumstances in Jammu and Kashmir demand a cautious and well-calibrated approach. The decision to delay elections and withhold statehood restoration must be anchored in the principles of security, justice, and sustainable development. It is a call not for stagnation but for strategic consolidation, ensuring that the aspirations of all communities, including the marginalized Kashmiri Pandit population, are addressed comprehensively, he said adding that by prioritizing stability and peace, India can pave the way for a brighter, more harmonious future for Jammu and Kashmir—one built on resilience, equity, and enduring peace.

"This approach not only respects the complexities of the region but also sets a precedent for responsible governance and nation-building, aligned with the aspirations of its diverse populace," he added.

Kalki Movement delegation meets MD JKPDC, discusses power cut issues

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Members of the Kalki Movement held meeting with Vikas Kundal, the Managing Director of the Jammu and Kashmir Power Development Corporation Limited (JKPDCL).

The purpose of this meeting was to highlight the issues arising from frequent power cuts in both urban and rural areas. Citizens are facing numerous difficulties due to these power outages. Frequent power cuts at night are causing severe inconvenience to Amarnath pilgrims staying in Jammu, they said adding that hotel owners are unable to provide air conditioning facilities through generators, adversely affecting the city's image.

Schools have reopened on the 18th, but frequent power cuts are disrupting students' studies, they said adding that the heat and lack of electricity are causing significant discomfort to the children.

The power department had assured 24-hour power supply in areas with smart meters, but regular power cuts are still occurring in these regions.

Power cuts are affecting the daily activities of city residents. Work, household chores, and



other daily tasks are being disrupted. Despite meter replacements and technical improvements, the situation has not improved, they said.

Power cuts are making it difficult for farmers to operate tube wells and motors, resulting in agricultural losses and they are facing significant challenges, especially during the paddy planting season, members said.

Despite the installation of smart meters, accurate billing is not being done. For example, those who previously received a bill of Rs. 1000 are now being billed Rs. 3000, and those who received Rs. 3000 are now being billed Rs. 9000, they said.

Whenever there is a power cut, the tube wells in Company Bagh stop working, leading to water supply issues. The reason given is the power outage, which prevents water boring and lifting.

This affects the Parade Ground and subsequently the rest of the city. The Kalki Movement has demanded that a heavy transformer or generator be installed in Company Bagh to ensure continuous water supply even during power cuts.

In the old city, DT metering work is ongoing during the summer, causing power cuts every hour. Local residents and traders are suffering due to this. The Kalki Movement highlighted this issue and demanded that this work be postponed to the winter season to avoid power cuts during the summer.

The core committee and board members of the Kalki Movement, including Senior Pritam Sharma, Sunny Kant Chib, Chandan Gupta, Vikram Mahajan, Kushal Sharma, Sanjeev Kumar Dubey, Lucky Manhas, and other members, were present at the meeting.

Shiv Nagar in Vijaypur becomes glaring example of backwardness: Manjit Singh Says administration has no connect with general masses



Top News Report

SAMBA, July 25: Claiming that the Shiv Nagar in Vijaypur has become a glaring example of backwardness of administration in Samba, the Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and former Minister, Manjit Singh on Thursday has criticized authorities concerned for its failure to develop the Shiv Nagar where development has become a distant dream.

As per a press release, a meeting was organized at Shiv Nagar in Vijaypur under the leadership of former Minister, Manjit Singh. The meeting was also attended by Ex-Sarpanch, Joginder Lal.

During the meeting, the participants discussed various development related issues faced by the people with the poor basic amenities, and no road connectivity to the locality.

Speaking on the occasion, Manjit Singh expressed surprise over

underdevelopment in one of the localities in Vijaypur where the people have been deprived from the basic amenities.

He criticized the administration, and the respective departments for their inability to develop the Shiv Nagar area and did not provide road connectivity to the residential colony.

Expressing serious concern over the negligence of development, he said that the bureaucracy is working without direction or considering the public opinion before chalking out any developmental plans. Hence, the areas which require attention of the administration, remain undeveloped with no road connectivity, lanes, and drains.

He said that the administration has lost connection with the people and they do not know the ground reality while sitting in their respective offices. "The people are suffering because they

are not consulted by the administration nor their issues are resolved. Therefore, they are left in despair," he added.

Under these circumstances, the people have pinned their hopes with an elected Govt of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The people are disappointed that before the holding of assembly elections, the LG of J&K was granted more powers, and the elected Govt has been weakened in advance that would further alienate the people of Jammu and Kashmir from the 'weak' Govt that is going to be formed," he added.

In this regard, he said that if the Apni Party forms the next Govt, it would ensure overall development of all the regions without disparity, the interest of the general masses would be protected, and strengthen the justice system in every department to ensure the public issues can be resolved.

Remembering the Bravehearts: Battle Briefing and Reminiscence held at Lamocheen View Point

Top News Report

LEH, July 25: The Kargil War saw soldiers of Indian Armed Forces fight in the most challenging terrain under harsh weather conditions leading to the defeat of the enemy in Dras, Kargil and Batalik Sectors.

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Kargil Vijay Diwas, a briefing was conducted on Thursday at Lamocheen (Dras).

The event commenced with an audio visual narration of the battles which showcased the Kargil War as it unfolded. The vivid narrations, in the backdrop of the very mountains where

the fierce battles were fought, recreated scenes of each battle and the venue reverberated with tales of bravery and sacrifice of our soldiers.

The narrations of battle followed by reminiscences of actions by the war heroes themselves and family members brought to life the bravery, indomitable spirit and everlasting zeal of our braves.

The event was graced by the presence of the War Heroes and Veer Naris, Veer Matas and relatives of the gallant soldiers who laid down their lives during the war.

The event commenced with flypast by Flying Rabbits of Microlight Node Gaya.

YSS spiritual retreat at Shoolini University, Solan

Top News Report

SOLAN/JAMMU, July 25: The serene campus of Shoolini University in Solan is set to become a hub of spiritual activity this weekend as the Yogoda Satsanga Society of India or YSS organizes a three-day spiritual retreat there from Friday, July 26 to Sunday, July 28. The program will be conducted by Swami Krishnananda Giri and Swami Alokandanda Giri with the assistance of Br. Haripriyananda.

The event promises a deep dive into the soul-liberating teachings of Paramahansa Yogananda, attracting around 350 devotees from all

over India. The upcoming event at Shoolini University will feature spiritual discourses by YSS monks, reviews of YSS yoga techniques, group meditations, chanting sessions and a Kriya Yoga initiation.

A key highlight of the program will be the Kriya Yoga initiation, a sacred and transformative practice that has been passed down through the lineage of YSS. This initiation offers participants a profound method of meditation that can lead to deeper spiritual experiences and personal transformation.

YSS was founded by Sri Sri Paramahansa

Yogananda in 1917. He is regarded as 'the Father of Yoga in the west' as he introduced the sacred Kriya Yoga, a form of Raja Yoga there. He is the author of the world-famous spiritual classic 'Autobiography of a Yogi'. This book, first published in 1946, has sold millions of copies and has been translated and published in more than 50 languages around the world and 15 languages in India. The Worldwide organization, 'Self-Realization Fellowship' or SRF, founded by him has more than 800 centres, temples and retreats around the globe. YSS has its Kendras all over India.

Cinderella vibes

Punjabi actress Sara Gural, who was in Mohali for an event, says it's a challenge to jump from one language to another in various projects

Punjabi actress Sara Gural was dressed in a powder blue dress, which gave 'English princess vibes' at the new store launch of Giani's ice-cream parlour in Mohali on Wednesday. In a candid chat with us, she touched upon various subjects — right from her career plans to thoughts on dieting to perfecting her fashion.

For the launch event, she chose something 'Cinderella' because she thought it would go with the ice-cream theme. "When I think of ice-cream, I associate it with fairy tales and hope that children would vouch for that." She personally picked LaceMade London powder blue dress which she accessorised with Roberto Cavalli wrap-around analog watch and Zara shoes. About her fashion mantra, she said, "I believe in dressing according to the occasion. Many followers would say that you don't wear a saree. But I can't wear a saree on a beach! I always add a personal touch to my public appearances, depending upon the event I am heading to."

Sara, who studied fashion designing in Chandigarh, also runs her online clothing store called 'The Sara Shop'. She has plans to come up with other self-run businesses such as a 'make-up line or something to



do with pets'.

She is currently working in Amazon Prime Video series, Changez, which is in Hindi. Another Punjabi film, Gurmukh — The Eyewitness, opposite Kuljinder Singh Sandhu, will be released around November 15.

She shared, "I think it's the best work from my side till date. It's a story of a rape victim and an eyewitness of that incident. As for the Prime Video series, I am shooting for the second schedule. There's also an EP coming as I have keen interest in sing-

ing also."

To associate with a brand is one thing, but to promote and vouch for it is another. Sara explained, "Today itself I was shooting for a hair brand. I am doing it because I use that brand's shampoo and actually found it beneficial. So, I would always be genuine and authentic when becoming a face of the brand." Having worked in many regional projects from different parts of India, Sara shared, "It's easier to pick a lehza like Haryanvi and others, but, of course, it is a challenge to jump from one language to another while working on acting projects."

To beat the summer, mango and coconut are her favourite choices. About an innovative dessert that she makes for herself, Sara said, "I think I am very 'vanilla' in my choices. So, my personal favourite DIY dessert is mixing raw mango chunks with vanilla ice-cream and grating plenty of coconut over it."

This 90s kid also recollected her childhood when one could afford two matka kulfis for very less money. "Those were the days. I have had a humble background and lived in a village, and a rehriwala would roam in summer to sell desi ice-cream. But during the changing seasons, we were strictly told not to have it."

Celine Dion to return to stage with Paris Olympics' opening ceremony



Renowned singer Celine Dion, who has been battling a rare neurological condition called stiff-person syndrome, is expected to make a return to the stage at the Olympic Games. The singer is rumoured to be taking to the Paris Olympics stage during the opening ceremony on Friday. It will mark the pop legend's first performance since halting her touring

schedule and stepping away from the spotlight after being diagnosed with Stiff Person Syndrome in December 2022.

The singer arrived in Paris at the Royal Monceau Hotel near the Champs-Élysées, where Lady Gaga, another potential opening ceremony headliner, is also staying. Specific details about Dion's performance are being kept

under wraps.

Earlier, the Canadian singer teased that a comeback was likely during an interview where she said, "I've chosen to work with all my body and soul, from head to toe, with a medical team. I want to be the best I can be. My goal is to see the Eiffel Tower again."

She also said that she was working every day to get stronger, "For four years I've been saying to myself that I'm not going back, that I'm ready, that I'm not ready... As things stand, I can't stand here and say to you: 'Yes, in four months.' I don't know... My body will tell me."

It turns out that she may indeed be performing in front of the famous Parisian landmark, as the opening ceremony will take place in the shape of a nautical parade along the Seine, culminating near the Trocadero, facing the Eiffel Tower. The ceremony, which will take place outside of a stadium for the first time in history, will showcase Paris' iconic locations and bring together 3,500 actors, dancers and musical performers.

Rohit Shetty says a women oriented cop film will happen 'very soon'

Rohit Shetty, in a recent interview, shared his plans to create a storyline featuring all female cops. His upcoming film, 'Singham Again,' will introduce Lady Singham, portrayed by Deepika Padukone. However, Deepika isn't the first female cop in Rohit's cop universe; that distinction belongs to Shilpa Shetty, who was introduced in 'Indian Police Force.'

In a conversation with News18, Rohit Shetty hinted at the possibility of a women-oriented cop universe film, stating it will happen "very soon." He also discussed his upcoming film, Singham Again, promising a lot of "hand-to-hand combat" and emphasizing his preference for real action sequences over VFX.

Rohit has created a cop universe in the film industry with his hit movies and shows like 'Singham', 'Simmba', 'Sooryavanshi', and the web series - 'Indian Police Force'. Shilpa



Shetty appeared as a cop in Sidharth Malhotra's Indian Police Force, and television actress Shweta Tiwari was also part of the web show.

Deepika Padukone is the latest to join the cop universe and will be seen in the uniform in the upcoming 'Singham Again'.

Meanwhile, Rohit Shetty is set to return to television with the

14th season of his reality show, Khatron Ke Khiladi. The stunt-based show will feature celebrities like Gashmeer Mahajani, Niyati Fatnani, Asim Riaz, Abhishek Kumar, Shalin Bhanot, Sumona Chakravarti, Shilpa Shinde, and Krishna Shroff.

The show was shot in Romania and will premiere on July 27 on Colors TV.

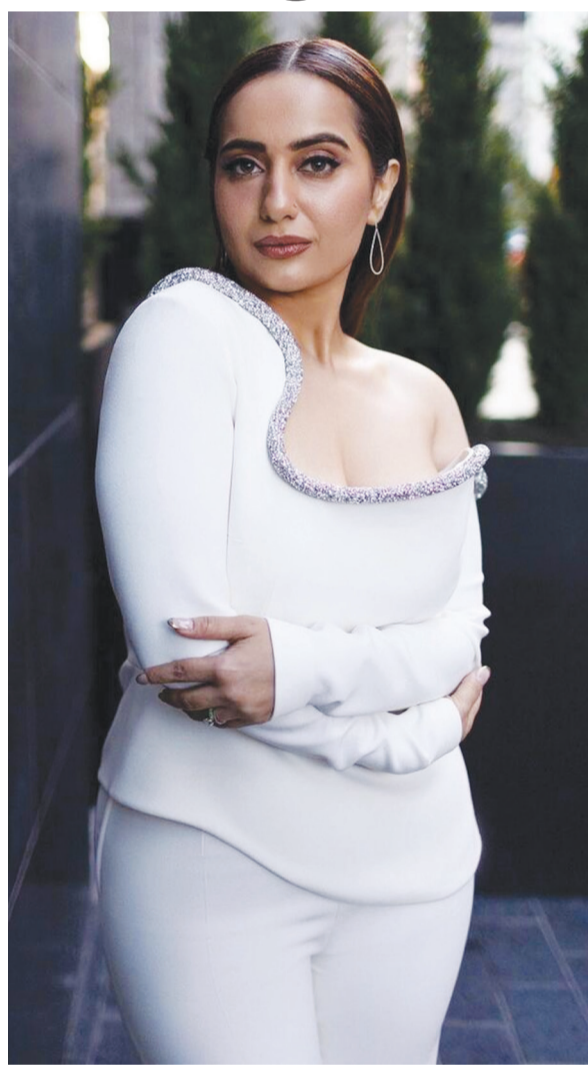
Kusha Kapila shares cryptic post after calling out 'dehumanising' roast

Actor and social media personality Kusha Kapila recently posted that a roast 'straight up dehumanised' her; she also revealed that 'shockingly unkind' jokes that were cracked about her body and her divorce from Zorawar Singh Ahluwalia weren't shared with her before the said roast. Amid all this, Kusha took to Instagram Stories to share a post about letting things 'slide off you'.

"It's their garbage, not yours to store"

She wrote, "When someone's trying to disempower you, it's their garbage. It's not yours to store. Let it slide off you." This comes days after Kusha opened up about how she sat through comedian Ashish Solanki's Pretty Good Roast Show, which was shot in January and released recently on YouTube.

She was joined by standup comedians on the show, including Samay Raina, who made some of the



'unkind' jokes about her. Aaditya Kulshreshth, Shreya Priyam Roy, and Gurleen Pannu also cracked jokes about Kusha.

"I absolutely was not okay"

After the episode dropped, some on social media asked why Kusha sat through the roast, and allowed such jokes at her expense. Breaking her silence on the backlash, she shared a long post about the roast and everything that went down. Kusha wrote, "I had no idea what was in store for me. Maybe I should have asked for a script and known better but since friends were involved I didn't. Rookie mistake."

She also said, "While I endured some of the really raspy jokes in front of a live audience and technicians, I absolutely was not okay for it to play for millions of people since some jokes straight up dehumanised me. It was shockingly unkind." She

added, "Mine was the first episode to be shot (was shot in January) so everyone had fair bit of learnings post shoot which is why in other episodes, boundaries haven't been crossed, especially with women."

Kusha Kapila's past marriage was one of the topics during the roast; she married Zorawar in 2017, and they announced their separation in June 2023. Samay began his recent roast by calling Kusha a 'gold-digger'.

He then went on to make jokes about her divorce, also referring to the pet dog, which Kusha shares with her ex husband.

He said in Hindi, "Kusha has a female dog, who is with Kusha half the time, and during the other half remains happy. Just give the dog to Zorawar. Let him have at least one b**ch in his life." Some of the comedians also took a dig at Kusha's recent weight loss.

Prisha Singh on playing an air hostess in Buddy: 'It was the best birthday gift'

Actor Prisha Singh is only three films old, but she has big dreams in her eyes. Soon to be seen in Sam Anton's Allu Sirish-starrer Buddy, she feels like this is just the beginning for her. In an interview with agency, Prisha discusses working in Telugu films, her love for acting, the upcoming film Buddy, and more.

As a Rajasthani from Mumbai working in Hyderabad and Chennai, Prisha believes she can ace a role anywhere in the world if needed. "I believe movies are all about the emotion, more so than the language the characters are speaking. Ever since I began my career, I've wanted to work in all languages, and maybe I will!" she says.

"I am just happy to be here"

Prisha says she has always been interested in 'drama' since childhood, but pursuing acting is something she never thought about. "I had no desire to come into acting per se, it just happened. And once I faced the camera (for a blink-and-miss role in Gulabo Sitabo), I just knew this is what I wanted to do with my life," she explains. In fact, Prisha already worked in editor Garry BH's debut directorial Spy, starring Nikhil Siddhartha, before she said yes to Buddy. Ask her if the lukewarm response her debut film got was a deterrent, and she says, "I feel like it's great I even reached a point where lakhs of people aim to be. I am just happy to be here, and I'll cherish whatever comes my way, irrespective



of the box office."

"It was the best birthday gift"

And it's precisely that attitude that seems to be helping her out. Because on her birthday last year, Prisha received the perfect gift she could think of. "Right on my birthday, I got the best gift. The production team called me to offer me an important role in Buddy. They saw my portfolio and liked my work," says the actor.

Prisha plays an air hostess in the crime comedy about an anthropomorphic teddy bear. "I've taken numerous flights in my life, but I've never noticed how air hostesses behave," says the actor, adding, "Once I signed this role, it's all I could notice. Their body language, how they talk... it helped me play the part."

"Working with Sirish and Nikhil was fun"

However, playing the role was challenging because Prisha says her character is nothing like her. "The only thing I could connect to was her ambition. Other than that, we're very different. So it was fun to play her."

Prisha had two co-stars in Telugu so far and she has nothing but good things to say about them. "Allu Sirish is a good actor. He's young but he's the kind of person who has valuable input for you if you're willing. He's never in your face about how much he knows, shooting with him was fun," she says, adding, "Nikhil is a very passionate actor and person. I had a sequence with him in Spy which is memorable."

French museum issues gold coins in honour of Bollywood star Shah Rukh Khan



The Grevin Museum in the French capital has honoured Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan with a set of customised gold coins. The Grevin is a wax museum located on the Grands Boulevards on the right bank of the Seine river in Paris. A paparazzi shared the update on Instagram with a photo

of the coin featuring SRK. This makes SRK the first Bollywood actor to have gold coins in his name at the museum.

Meanwhile, SRK has been earlier immortalised in wax statues in the US, the UK, Germany, France, Czech Republic, Thailand, India, Singapore and Australia.

Droupadi Murmu Completes 2 Years As President, Becomes Teacher For A Day

Born on June 20, 1958, in Uparbeda village of Odisha's Mayurbhanj district, Ms Murmu was sworn in as the 15th President of India on July 25 in 2022.

NEW DELHI, Jul 25 (Agencies): Droupadi Murmu, who completed two years as President of India today, took up the role of a teacher, engaging with students of Dr Rajendra Prasad Kendriya Vidyalaya at the President's Estate in Delhi. During her interaction, she discussed pressing issues like global warming and suggested various ways to conserve the environment.

Born on June 20, 1958, in Uparbeda village of Odisha's Mayurbhanj district, Ms Murmu was sworn in as the 15th President of India on July 25 in 2022. Prior to her presidency, she served as the governor of Jharkhand from 2015 to 2021.



Addressing a group of Class 9 students, President Murmu highlighted the importance of water conservation and afforestation as vital steps to combat

climate change. "We should plant more trees. We should also take steps to reduce water wastage and conserve it through rainwater harvesting,"

she told the students. President Murmu also talked about air pollution, exploring practical ways to mitigate its effects.

"I really enjoyed interacting with you. I got the opportunity to learn a lot from you all. You are studying in Class 9 and you are very aware of the impact of global warming. I am sure, when you grow up, global warming will be reduced," President Murmu said.

In a nod to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiative, she encouraged the students to plant a tree on their birthdays, reinforcing the significance of individual contributions to environmental preservation.

PM Modi meets NDA allies in Maharashtra, discusses political situation in state



MUMBAI, Jul 25 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday met MPs of the NDA in Maharashtra.

According to the details, the Prime Minister, during his meeting with the MPs, discussed the political situation of the state.

Among those whom the Prime Minister met included Union Min-

isters Nitin Gadkari, Piyush Goyal, and others.

Discussions also took place on the assembly elections in the state.

The meeting comes a day after Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister

Ajit Pawar demanded nearly 90 seats for the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) during his meeting with Home Minister

Amit Shah.

During his brief meeting with Amit Shah, Ajit Pawar insisted on finalising the seat distribution as early as possible and avoiding "lingering around" till the last-minute like in the Lok Sabha elections.

The BJP won just nine of the 28 seats it contested in the Lok Sabha polls, down from 23 it won in 2019.

The Ajit Pawar-led NCP won just one seat, Raigad, while the Sharad Pawar faction bagged eight.

Meanwhile, the Shiv Sena faction of Chief Minister Eknath Shinde is determined to contest 100 seats while the BJP has set a target of 160 to 170 seats.

"Supreme Court's NEET Decision Defeat Of Congress' Irresponsible Attitude": Education Minister

NEW DELHI, Jul 25 (Agencies): Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday said the Supreme Court's decision on the NEET-UG matter is not a defeat of students but of the Congress' "irresponsible attitude" and "petty politics".

The Congress, he charged is the "father" of paper leaks and corruption.

"The Supreme Court has clearly stated that there has been no systemic breach in the sanctity of the exam. The Congress does not trust the Centre government but does it not trust the Supreme Court too. The SC's decision on the NEET issue is not a defeat of students but a defeat of Congress' irresponsible attitude, fallacy and petty politics," Mr Pradhan wrote on X.

The Education Minister questioned Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge over paper leaks in Rajasthan when his party was in power.

"Is Kharge ji not aware of the paper leaks that happened before the BJP government came to power in Rajasthan? Why did he keep mum on the paper leaks that happened in his government? Congress is father of paper leaks and corruption.

"The people of the country have rejected Congress for the third time in a row. Congress is unable to digest the third consecutive defeat. To make political gains and save its rapidly slipping political ground, Congress has only the support of lies, half-truths and anarchy," Mr Pradhan added.

In a major setback to unsuccessful



aspirants of NEET-UG 2024, the Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed the pleas seeking cancellation and re-test of the controversy-ridden exam, holding that there was no evidence on record to conclude that it was "vitiated" on account of "systemic breach" of its sanctity.

The verdict came as a shot in the arm for the embattled NDA government and the National Testing Agency (NTA), which were facing strong criticism and protests, on streets and in Parliament, over alleged large-scale malpractices like question paper leak, fraud and impersonation in the prestigious test held on May 5.

"Kharge ji, neither you, nor your leader Rahul Gandhi, nor your party is concerned about the future of students. You are only concerned about your future and the future of one family," he charged.

"Such tampering with facts and truth raises a big question on your intelligence. Stop tarnishing the image of India's examination system and playing with the future of students," Mr Pradhan said.

4 dead in rain-related incidents in Pune; low-lying areas inundated, people being evacuated

IMD has given a red alert for Pune district for the next 24 hours

PUNE, Jul 25 (Agencies): Heavy and incessant rains wreaked havoc in Maharashtra's Pune, where at least four persons died in rain-related incidents on Thursday, while several houses and residential societies in low-lying areas in the city were inundated, following which people are being evacuated, officials said.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a 'red alert' for Pune district and asked people to take precautions. Schools and colleges in most parts of the district have declared a holiday in view of the heavy rainfall warning, they said.

Pune city and other parts of the district, including Velha, Mulshi, Bhore Talukas and the catchments areas of several dams, including Khadakwasla, have been witnessing incessant rains since Wednesday night.

In the city, housing societies in the low-lying areas, such as Sinhadga Road, Bavdhan, Baner and Deccan Gymkhana, witnessed flooding and inundation and efforts have been launched by the fire brigade and disaster management cell of Pune Municipal Corporation to evacuate the stranded people,



the officials said. Pune district collector Suhas Diwase said that in the wake of heavy rains in the Khadakwasla dam's catchment area, water has been released from the reservoir.

"As the catchment areas of Khadakwasla dam has been witnessing incessant rains, water is being released at over 35,000 cusecs and it will further increase to 45,000 cusecs. Due to the water discharge, several low lying areas along the Mutha river witnessed inundation and flooding," he said.

Four persons lost their lives in rain-related incidents in Pune, officials said.

While three men died of electrocution in the Deccan area of

people are feared trapped in a bungalow in the Lavasa area after mudslide, police said.

Considering heavy rainfall in the 'ghat' (mountain pass) sections of Khed, Junnar, Ambe-gaon, Velha, Mulshi, Maval, Bhore, Haveli talukas and Pimpri Chinchwad as well as Pune city area, a holiday has been for schools.

"As a precautionary measure, the disaster management cells and teams of NDRF have been deployed to the low-lying areas, where flooding and inundation is anticipated," he said.

Diwase appealed to step out of homes unless it is very important.

IMD has given a red alert for Pune district for the next 24 hours, he said.

Meanwhile, 29 tourists who were stranded due to flooding at resorts and bungalows in Malavli area near Lonavala hill station in the district were evacuated on Wednesday evening, a police official said.

Deputy Chief Minister and Pune Guardian Minister Ajit Pawar took stock of the rain situation and instructed the district authorities and the civic administration to provide all the help to the citizens.

Royalty payable on minerals is not a tax; states have legislative competence to impose taxes on mines, says Supreme Court's 9-judge Constitution bench

NEW DELHI, Jul 25 (Agencies): In a setback to the Centre, the Supreme Court on Thursday held that royalty payable on minerals is not a tax and states have the legislative competence to impose taxes on mines and minerals-bearing lands.

The verdict will give a boost to mineral-rich states like Jharkhand and Odisha as they urged the top court to decide on recovery of taxes worth thousands of crores of rupees levied by the Centre on mines and minerals, till now. The states urged the top court to make the verdict operational with retrospective effect to ensure refund of the taxes from the Centre.

However, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, vehemently opposed the submissions and sought that the verdict be made effective prospectively.

A nine-judge bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud asked the Centre and the states to file written submissions on this aspect, and said that it would decide the issue on July 31. By a majority verdict of 8:1, the nine-judge Constitution bench held that royalty payable on minerals is not a tax.

Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, who read out the verdict for himself and seven justices of the bench, held that Parliament does not have the power to tax mineral rights under Entry 50 of the List II of the Constitution.

Reading the operative part of the majority verdict, the CJ said the 1989 verdict of the apex court's seven-judge Constitution bench, which had held that royalty is tax, is incorrect.

"Royalty is not within the nature of tax as it is a contractual consideration paid by the lessee for the mining lease. Both royalty and dead rent do not fulfil the characteristics of tax. The judgement in India Cements (1989 verdict) holding royalty to be a tax is overruled," the CJ said.

Royalties are payments that the user party makes to the owner of an intellectual prop-

erty or real property asset. Under Entry 49, states have the power to levy taxes on lands and buildings, while Entry 50 allows states to impose taxes on mineral rights subject to any limitations imposed by Parliament by law relating to mineral development.

The CJ said the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act (MMDRA), 1957, does not limit the states from imposing taxes on mines and mineral development.

"There is no specific provision in the MMDRA Act imposing limitations on the taxing powers of the State. Royalty under MMDRA is not in the nature of a tax," the bench said, adding, "States have legislative competence to tax mines, minerals and minerals-bearing land."

At the outset, the CJ said the bench has delivered two separate verdicts and Justice BV Nagarathna has given dissenting views.

Reading out her verdict, Justice Nagarathna said the states do not have the legislative competence to levy taxes on mines and minerals-bearing lands. The bench decided the hugely contentious issue of whether the royalty payable on minerals is a tax under the MMDRA, and if only the Centre is vested with the power to levy such exaction or states also have the authority to impose levies on minerals-bearing land in their territory. Besides the CJ and Justice Nagarathna, the other members of the bench are justices Hrishikesh Roy, Abhay S Oka, JB Pardiwala, Manoj Misra, Ujjal Bhuyan, Satish Chandra Sharma and Augustine George Masih.

The nine-judge bench of the apex court began hearing the complex matter on February 27 because of two apparently conflicting Constitution bench decisions on the issue.

The case has its roots in a dispute between India Cement Ltd and the Tamil Nadu government. India Cement secured a mining lease in Tamil Nadu and was paying royalty to the state government.

The state government then imposed a cess

in addition to royalty on India Cement, which moved the Madras High Court against the measure, contending that a cess on royalty meant a tax on royalty which was beyond the remit of the state legislature.

The Tamil Nadu government argued the cess was by way of land revenue and on mineral rights, which it was empowered to impose. A seven-judge bench had decided in favour of India Cement in 1989. It had ruled the Centre was the primary authority under the MMDRA. It held that states can collect royalty under the MMDRA but cannot impose further tax on mining and mineral development. "...royalty is a tax, and as such a cess on royalty being a tax on royalty, is beyond the competence of the State Legislature..." the top court had held.

However, in 2004, a five-judge constitution bench, while hearing another dispute over imposition of cess on land and mining activities between the state of West Bengal and Kesoram Industries Ltd held that there was a typographical error in the 1989 verdict and that royalty was not a tax. It said the phrase "royalty is a tax" should instead be read as "cess on royalty is a tax" and that the 1989 judgement held that royalty is not a tax.

Over 80 more petitions were filed in the Supreme Court over the years, and since the India Cement matter was dealt with by a seven-judge bench, the matter was referred to a nine-judge bench to decide whether royalty is a type of tax or there was an error in the India Cement case judgement.

While states defended their right to impose tax on land and mineral activity during the eight-day-long hearing, the Centre, mining companies and public sector undertakings had contested the contentions, saying only Parliament can impose taxes on minerals by virtue of the MMDRA and states are completely denuded of the power to levy any taxes on mines and minerals.

Opposition indulged in politics during Budget discussion: Parl Affairs Minister Rijiju



NEW DELHI, Jul 25 (Agencies): Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Thursday hit out at opposition leaders, contending they had resorted to abusing Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the debate on the Union Budget in Parliament instead of speaking on the finer aspects of the document.

Addressing a press conference here, he said the manner in which some opposition leaders made their speeches amounted to insulting the House and lowering the dignity of the Budget session.

"Let us respect the mandate of the people. They have given the mandate to Prime Minister Modi for the third

consecutive term. If anybody tries to insult the verdict of the people, they will be punished in the elections," Rijiju told reporters here.

His remarks came a day after the Opposition claimed the Union Budget was "discriminatory" against non-NDA-ruled states and accused the prime minister of running a "shaky and vulnerable" coalition government.

During the general discussion on the budget for 2024-25 in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, various opposition members accused the government of doling out sops to key allies JD-U and TDP, which rule Bihar and Andhra Pradesh respectively, to ensure that the govern-

ment faces no hurdles from its coalition partners.

Rijiju said elections were over and now the focus should be to work towards a developed India (Viksit Bharat) and hold constructive discussion on the Union Budget.

"The prime minister has said that elections were over and now was the time to rise above political lines and work together for the nation," Rijiju said.

The minister said opposition leaders did not say anything on the budget, they just indulged in politics during the discussion on the Budget which began on Wednesday.

"They have insulted the mandate of the people. The opposition leaders have abused the prime minister," Rijiju said.

He said the floor leaders of political parties should direct the members not to create ruckus in Parliament and have a civilised and sensitive debate during the Budget session.

Video showing British police officer kick and stamp on a man's head during arrest at Manchester airport sparks protest

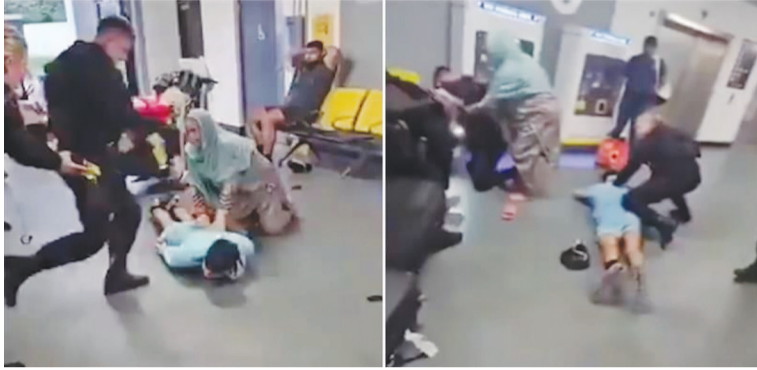
Police say they have referred the actions to an independent complaints watchdog after the video, filmed by an onlooker, was posted on social media platforms and attracted immediate criticism

LONDON, Jul 25 (Agencies): A video showing a British police officer kick and stamp on a man's head during an arrest at Manchester airport in northern England sparked a protest outside a police station late on Wednesday night.

Police said they had referred the actions to an independent complaints watchdog after the video, filmed by an onlooker, was posted on social media platforms and attracted immediate criticism.

It showed a chaotic scene in an airport car park in which several officers armed with tasers restrained two suspects. One man was kicked and stamped upon as he lay face down on the floor. The second man also appeared to be struck in the head by an officer.

A Greater Manchester Police



(GMP) statement said the video showed "an event that is truly shocking, and that people are rightly extremely concerned about. The use of such force in an arrest is an unusual occurrence and one that we understand creates alarm."

It said police had been responding to reports of an assault, and that three officers

were themselves assaulted during their response. The officers required hospital treatment, including one female officer who had a broken nose.

"One male officer has been removed from operational duties and we are making a voluntary referral of our policing response to the Independent Office of Police Conduct," the statement

added.

The two men were arrested on suspicion of assault, assault of an emergency worker, affray, and obstructing police.

The incident sparked a protest outside a police station in a nearby town. One video posted online showed the crowd of at least 100 people chanting "Shame on you GMP".

Police, who have not confirmed any details about the identity of those arrested at the airport, said the protest concluded safely and without incident.

"We have spent the evening listening to community feedback and will continue to engage with communities and elected members to maintain strong partnership links and understand local views," they said in a subsequent statement.

Have decided to pass torch to new generation, says Joe Biden on exiting US presidential race



WASHINGTON, Jul 25 (Agencies): Telling his fellow countrymen that America is at an inflection point, US President Joe Biden said that he had decided that the best way forward is to pass the torch to a new generation.

"I've decided the best way forward is to pass the torch to a new generation. That's the best way to unite our nation. There is a time and a place for long years of experience in public life, but there's also a time and a place for new voices, fresh voices, yes, younger voices, and that time and place is now," Biden said in his Oval Office address to the

nation.

The much-anticipated address to the nation came three days after he announced that he was withdrawing from the presidential race and endorsing his deputy Kamala Harris as the nominee for the Democratic Party.

Harris, who is of Indian and African origin, has now emerged as the presumptive presidential nominee.

"I've made it clear that I believe America is at an inflection point, one of those rare moments in history when the decisions we make now will determine the fate of our nation and the world for decades to come," he said from the Oval Office.

He was surrounded by the First Lady, Jill Biden, son Hunter Biden and several members of his family. Towards the end of remarks, Ashley Biden reached for the hand of her mother, Jill Biden, who was seated next to her.

After the President concluded his remarks, Jill Biden walked to the Resolute Desk and stood next to her husband. "This has been the honour of a lifetime," Biden said, followed by other words of gratitude.

Vice President Kamala Harris watched Biden's Address to the Nation from Houston, where she is spending the night after visiting the city's Emergency Operations Centre to receive a briefing on the ongoing recovery efforts following Hurricane Beryl.

Biden in his remarks said America is going to have to choose between moving forward or backward, between hope and hate, between unity and division.

Kamala Harris is unfit to rule, says Donald Trump; describes her as 'radical left lunatic'

WASHINGTON, Jul 25 (Agencies): Unleashing a volley of attacks against his new campaign opponent Vice President Kamala Harris, former president and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has said she is "unfit to rule" and described her as a "radical left lunatic" whom voters will reject in November.

Trump, 78, launched a scathing attack on Harris as he took the stage for the first time to address an election rally on Wednesday after Harris became the presumptive nominee of the Democratic Party.

Over the weekend, President Joe Biden, 81, announced that he was dropping out of the race and named Harris as his successor.

Harris, 59, will be officially announced as the party's presidential candidate at its Democratic National Convention in August.

"For three-and-a-half years, Lyin Kamala Harris has been the ultra-liberal driving force behind every single Biden catastrophe. She is a radical left lunatic who will destroy our country if she ever gets the chance to get into office. We're not going to let that happen," Trump said.

Trump, who has previously called Biden "Sleepy Joe", gave Harris the nickname "Lyin Kamala".

"I was supposed to be nice. They say something happened to me when I got shot. I became nice," Trump said, referring to his brief call for national unity after the July 13 assassination attempt on him.

"And when you're dealing with these people, they're very dangerous people. When you're dealing with them, you can't be too nice. You really can't be. So if you don't mind, I'm not going to be nice. Is that okay?"

he asked his supporters amidst huge applause from the audience.

Harris is the most liberal elected politician in American history, he said.

This November, the American people are going to tell her, no thanks, Kamala, Trump said.

"You've done a terrible job. You've been terrible at everything you've done. You're ultra-liberal. We don't want you here. We don't want you anywhere. Kamala, you're fired. Get out of here. You're fired," Trump said.

Trump continued linking Harris to Biden and his policies and argued that both worked to cover up the president's physical decline while in office.

"She was appointed by this horrible president, this horrible guy... what they've done to our country is unthinkable," he alleged.

Trump told his cheer-



ing supporters that Harris lies.

A vote for Harris is a vote for four more years of dishonesty, incompetence, weakness and failure, Trump said.

Trump alleged everything Harris touches turns into a total disaster. He mentioned Harris as many as 45 times in his speech.

"When Kamala Harris was sent to Europe to deter Russia from attacking Ukraine, how did that work out? Russia answered by launching the invasion just five days after she left. Putin laughed at her like she was nothing. She is nothing. She's so bad for us.

Everything Kamala touches turns into a total disaster. She's destroyed San Francisco with the policies," Trump said.

Harris has worked as a prosecutor, first as the district attorney in San Francisco and later as the attorney general of California.

"She'll destroy our country if she's elected. So we won't let her be elected. We can't let that happen. Unbelievably, despite all of the damage she's caused, radical, liberal Kamala Harris now wants a promotion to deliver four more years of chaos. We've had the worst four years," he said.

Russian drones attack Ukraine port second night in a row

KYIV, Jul 25 (Agencies): Russian drones attacked the southern Ukrainian port city of Izmail for a second straight night damaging infrastructure, Kyiv said Thursday, claiming several Russian attack drones entered Romanian airspace.

Moscow has targeted ports in the southern Odesa region persistently since it exited an accord last year brokered by the United Nations and Turkey allowing Ukraine to export grain via the Black Sea.

Local authorities in Izmail said "port infrastructure facilities were damaged" in the Russian attack and that two civilians were wounded.

The Ukrainian Air Force said Russia had launched 38 Iranian-designed attack drones and that air defence systems had downed 25.

"Another three Shaheds were lost after crossing the state border with Romania," it said.

The governor of the Odesa region, which borders EU and NATO member Romania, said the attack had damaged an administrative building.



Three people were wounded in the Russian attack one day earlier on Izmail, local authorities had said.

Romania's military carried out a search for drone debris near the border with Ukraine following the attack on Wednesday, with Romanians reporting hearing explosions.

People in 17 cities and villages in Romania's southeastern Tulcea county got alerts on their mobile phones early Wednesday after "several objects" were observed "approaching the northern area" of the county.

Starlink Now Operational On More Than 1,000 Aircraft: Elon Musk

According to the company, Starlink keeps passengers connected with high-speed internet from the moment they step onboard their plane.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jul 25 (Agencies): The affordable internet service Starlink is now operational on more than 1,000 aircraft, SpaceX and Tesla CEO Elon Musk said on Thursday.

According to the company, Starlink keeps passengers connected with high-speed internet from the moment they step onboard their plane.

"Using Starlink on a plane feels like you're on a high-speed ground fibre connection," said the tech billionaire in a post on social media platform X.

Musk recently informed that Sierra Leone in Africa became the 100th country - and the 10th African nation - to be connected to Starlink.

In May, the company launched Starlink in Indonesia and Fiji.



According to Musk, no long-term contract is required to order the high-speed internet service with Starlink.

The satellite-based internet service has also received preliminary approval from Sri Lanka to provide internet service in the island nation.

However, the internet service has yet to receive approval from the Indian government. The commercial part

has been examined on issues such as foreign investment and net worth, and the technical requirements have been examined in accordance with the licensing conditions in the country.

Once Starlink gets approval, it will be issued a Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) services license, which is required to provide satellite communication services in the country.

Freight ship sinks, 2 dead as Typhoon Gaemi passes Taiwan

TAIWAN, Jul 25 (Agencies): Typhoon Gaemi swept through northern Taiwan on Thursday, killing two people, triggering flooding and sinking a freighter off shore, before heading across the sea and into China where it is expected to dump more torrential rain.

Gaemi made landfall around midnight (1600 GMT Wednesday) on the northeastern coast of Taiwan in Yilan county. It is the strongest typhoon to hit the island in eight years and was packing gusts of up to 227 kph (141 mph) before weakening, according to the Central Weather Administration.

As of 8.30 am (local time), it was in the Taiwan Strait and heading toward Fuzhou in China's Fujian province.

The storm cut power to around half a million households in Taiwan, though most are now back online, utility Taipower said.

Taiwan's fire department said a Tanzania-flagged freighter with



nine Myanmar nationals on board had sunk off the coast of the southern port city of Kaohsiung and there had been no response from the crew. Search efforts were ongoing, it added.

The typhoon is expected to bring more rain across Taiwan, with offices and schools as well as the financial markets closed for a second day on Thursday.

Trains, including the high speed line linking northern and southern Taiwan, will be closed until 3 pm (0700 GMT), with all domestic flights and 185 international flights cancelled for the day.

Two people have died and 266 injured due to the typhoon, the government said. Taiwanese television stations showed pictures of flooded streets in cities and counties across the island.

Chinese weather forecasters said Gaemi will pass through Fujian province later on Thursday and head inland, gradually moving northward with less intensity. But weather forecasters are expecting heavy rain in many areas as it tracks north.

Government officials have already prepared for heavy rain and flooding, raising advi-

sories and warnings in the coastal provinces of Fujian and Zhejiang.

In Fujian, government officials have relocated about 150,000 people, mainly from coastal fishing communities, state media reported. As gale force winds picked up, officials in Zhoushan in Zhejiang province suspended passenger waterway routes for up to three days.

Most flights were cancelled at airports in Fuzhou and Quanzhou in Fujian, and Wenzhou in Zhejiang, according to the VarioFlight app.

Guangzhou rail officials suspended some trains that pass through

typhoon-affected areas, according to CCTV.

Meanwhile, north China is experiencing heavy rain from summer storms around a separate weather system. Officials in capital Beijing upgraded and issued a red warning late Wednesday night for torrential rain expected through most of Thursday, according to Chinese state media.

Some areas have already experienced heavy rain and emergency plans were activated, with more than 25,000 people evacuated, according to Beijing Daily. Some train services were also suspended at the Beijing West Railway Station, state media said.

The Beijing Fangshan District Meteorological Observatory expects that by 10 a.m. (0200 GMT) many parts of the city will have more than 150 mm (6 inches) of rainfall in six hours, and in some other areas more than 200 mm (8 inches) in 24 hours, state television reported.

Srinagar Civil Defence makes drivers aware about traffic rules

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 25: The Srinagar Civil Defence team performed commendably during their Amarnath Yatra duty across the Kashmir valley, focusing on various yatra routes and raising awareness about traffic rules among drivers and the general public.

The Srinagar Civil Defence team demonstrated their commitment and efficiency while fulfilling their duties during the yatra across the Kashmir valley.



Their proactive approach included ensuring the safety and smooth movement of pilgrims and travelers along the designated yatra routes.

Beyond logistical support, they took the initiative to educate drivers and the public about adhering to traffic rules, thereby promoting a safer environment for all.

This proactive stance by the Civil Defence team reflects their dedication to public service and community safety.

By raising awareness about traffic regulations,

they contribute significantly to reducing road accidents and ensuring orderly conduct during events like yatras, which often involve large numbers of participants and vehicles.

The appreciation expressed by the people of Kashmir valley underscores the positive impact of the Civil Defence team's efforts.

Their work not only enhances the efficiency of logistical operations but also fosters a sense of security and confidence among residents and visitors alike.

Chak Kigam Army Camp conducts Plantation Drive



Top News Report

HANDWARA, July 25: Increasing exploitation of resources & pollution are some of the major threats to environment. Without trees, the existence of human life, as well as other species on earth is impossible. Keeping the above as backdrop, Chak Kigam Army Camp alongwith Kamraj Forest Division conducted a Tree Plantation Drive and Pledge ceremony at

Upper Primary School, Chak Kigam.

A total of 70 indls including school student, teachers and officials from Kamraj Forest Division participated in the good cause to expand the importance and necessity of going green.

The event also raised awareness about initiatives like saying no to plastic, planting tree in a year, not to throw garbage in rivers & Nallahs, drive less & use bicycle

to preserve our mother earth.

Apart from tree plantation Pledge ceremony was also conducted for school students. Pledge was conducted by Farooq Ahmad Dar, Block Forest Officer Drugmulla.

The event was extremely fruitful as students were deeply gratified to be part of this noble event and pledged to change their outlook towards our environment.

Director Agriculture Jammu assesses agricultural projects and HADP Initiatives in Marh Sub-Division

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Director Agriculture Jammu Arvinder Singh Reen, accompanied by a team of officials, recently conducted a comprehensive field visit to Marh Sub-Division to evaluate various agricultural projects and initiatives.

The visit encompassed inspections of key agricultural activities aimed at enhancing productivity and sustainability in the region. The visit commenced with a thorough inspection of the paddy fields owned by Vijay Kumar, son of Rattan Lal, in Marh. The primary



objective was to assess the progress of line sowing of the paddy crop. During this inspection, DAJ and his team meticulously examined all facets

of the cultivation process, ensuring strict adherence to recommended agricultural practices. They also verified the effective utilization of seed com-

ponents provided by the Agriculture Department.

Additionally, DAJ inspected the combine harvester belonging to Tilak Raj, son of Late Dharam Chand, in Gajansoo, which was provided under the HADP. The inspection aimed to ensure optimal functioning and utilization of the equipment, thereby empowering Tilak Raj to improve farm efficiency.

Furthering the assessment, DAJ visited the apiculture unit of Rajinder Singh, son of Rattan Singh, in Village Gajansoo, where he inspected 70 bee colonies provided under the HADP.

Rajinder Singh had successfully harvested approximately 80kg of honey from these colonies. DAJ engaged in discussions with Rajinder Singh on strategies to enhance honey production and expand bee colonies through multiplication techniques

Joint Director Agriculture Extension Satish Sharma, SDAO Marh Sahil Gandotra, and other agriculture staff accompanied DAJ during these field visits, emphasizing collaborative efforts towards enhancing agricultural development and empowering rural entrepreneurs.

Pankhuri Malhotra of DPS Jammu shines in national level dance sports championship

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Pankhuri Malhotra, a young dance prodigy of class VI D from Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu brought laurels to the institution and her parents by winning Gold Medal in Classical Infusion Dance performance organized by Harman Dance Institute in Udhampur at Police Auditorium. She also achieved First prize in Inara present Star kid India 2024 Fashion Show Season 2 at Jammu Haat. The event was graced by an esteemed panel of guests including Kunwa-



rani Dr. Ritu Singh and guest of honour Dr. Priya Dutta on 9th June, 2024.

She had successfully participate in Solo Dance Performance organised by Star World dance Academy Jammu in Jammu & Kashmir Per-

forming Art Trial held on 13th July, 2024 at Shere-I-Kashmir, Police Academy, Udhampur.

She got Certificate of Appreciation and also selected in Trial of National Performing Art Championship Ayodhya Dham- Uttar Pradesh-2024.

The management DPS Jammu, President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC, Dr. Singh, Director; S.S Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra and staff congratulated Pankhuri Malhotra and her parents and extended their best wishes for all her future endeavours.

Dr. Mehjaeen organizes special program for specially disabled persons



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 25: The sweet memories of Gulmarg trip are deeply intertwined with Dr. Mehjaeen Nabi's exceptional organization of a special program for specially disabled persons.

Dr. Mehjaeen Nabi, the founder of this trust, is a visionary and sincere indi-

vidual of strong character. Under Dr. Mehjaeen guidance, everyone's dignity is upheld and respected.

I sincerely pray to Allah that he bestows upon Dr. Mehjaeen Nabi continued respect, success, and prosperity in every endeavor of her life.

Her efforts have not only enriched my personal experiences but

have also brought joy and meaningful opportunities to those with special needs during our memorable trip to Gulmarg.

This trip stands as a testament to the compassion and foresight of Dr. Mehjaeen Nabi, who has dedicated herself to enhancing the lives of others through thoughtful and inclusive initiatives.

PM SHRI KV No. 1 Udhampur organizes sports meet

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, July 25: The KVS Regional Sports Meet 2024 was held at PM SHRI Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1 Udhampur on 24th and 25th of July for the U-14 and U-17 girls categories. The event took place over two exciting days with 161 participants from 20 schools.

The meet began with a grand inauguration ceremony. The principal and headmaster lit the lamp, signifying the start of the sports meet. The chief guest delivered an inspiring speech, encouraging all the young athletes to give their best.

The main events of the meet were Kabaddi and Volleyball. The girls

showed great skill and sportsmanship in both events. The atmosphere was filled with cheers and enthusiasm as the participants competed with full energy.

After two days of thrilling matches, the meet concluded with a closing ceremony. Certificates were awarded to the winners, celebrating their hard work and dedication. The event was a great success, promoting sports and camaraderie among the students.

Overall, the KVS Regional Sports Meet 2024 at PM SHRI Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1 Udhampur was a memorable event, fostering a spirit of sportsmanship and teamwork among the young athletes.

Poster Making Competition on theme "Kargil Vijay Diwas" held at GGM Science College

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Boys of 2nd J&K NCC Bn. GGM Science College organized a poster making competition to commemorate Kargil Vijay Diwas.

This event was part of the College's initiatives to instill a sense of patriotism and respect among the NCC Cadets and Honour brave soldiers who fought for the county in the Kargil War.

The event began with welcome speech by Lt. Dr. Devinder Kumar Sharma, ANO (Boys) GGM Sc. College.

A brief speech was delivered by Principal Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta, he appreciated the efforts of ANO and NCC Boys Cadets for organizing such a wonderful event and emphasized the importance of Kargil Vijay Diwas as well bravery of the Indian Armed Forces.

He stressed upon all cadets to join

armed forces and to serve the mother land in best way.

He said, it is crucial for our youth to understand the sacrifices made by our armed forces.

The competition was judged by Dr. Parshotam Singh Thakur, Dr. Vinod Bakshi, Dr. Lekh Raj, Dr. M.S. Saini and Dr. Sunil Dutt. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prize were given to Cadets Saksham Choudhary, Vansh Bhagat and Niranjan Mangotra respectively.

The event concluded with vote of thanks by Lt. Dr. Devinder Kumar Sharma and a tribute to the martyrs and a pledge to uphold the ideas of courage and sacrifice demonstrated during the Kargil War. Such initiatives not only honor our heroes but also reinforce the spirit of nationalism and unity among the youth. The event ends up with slogan "Bharat Mata Ki Jai".

FROM PAGE 1

Army Chief lays wreath, pays homage to soldier martyred in Kupwara Gun Battle

during an encounter in the Trumkhan forests of frontier Kupwara on Wednesday and succumbed to his injuries later.

An unidentified militant was also killed during the encounter, which erupted on Tuesday evening when joint teams launched a combing operation in the Trumkhan forest area following an input.

While the exchange of fire has stopped since Wednesday, the combing operation in the area is still underway, officials said.

Ex-Army Officer runs 160 km to mark Kargil Vijay Diwas Anniversary

war memorial. She averaged 40 km per day. After starting from Srinagar, she moved to Wusan on Day 2, running to Sonamarg at an altitude of 9,000 feet. Day 3 saw her surmount the 11649 feet high Zojila Pass on the Srinagar-Leh national highway, connecting the Kashmir valley with the Ladakh region, to reach Matayen, before reaching the memorial at Drass on Day 4.

"I was in class 7 when the Kargil war started and my father Colonel Keshab Rai, who

retired 10 years ago, had then moved out overnight along with his entire unit. "For fauzi families like ours, what followed were days of uncertainty, loss and despair.

This run was not just a personal journey for me, but a tribute to the indomitable spirit of the soldiers who fought valiantly during the Kargil war," she said. "The physical pain my body endured in this run pale in comparison to the hardships faced by our soldiers during the war.

Through this run, my aim was to raise awareness about the sacrifices made by our soldiers," she said. Lt Col Barsha Rai is a fourth-generation army officer. Her great-grandfather was a Military Cross recipient. She was commissioned into the Army Service Corps in March 2010 from the Officers Training Academy in Chennai, where she was awarded the Garhwal Medal.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be in Ladakh on July 26 to attend the 25th anniversary celebrations to mark India's victory over Pakistan in the 1999 war.

Two OGWs held, preventive measures initiated against over 40 individuals in Kathua

and disrupt any potential support systems for terrorist activities. Through meticulous investigation, 02 OGWs have been identified as 1.Layaqat Ali @Pawu S/o Gammi R/o Ward No. 07, Kalna Dhanu Parole Tehsil Billawar District Kathua . 2. Mool Raj @Jenju S/o Uttam Chand R/o Bowl Mohalla Malhar Tehsil Malhar District Kathua.

Accordingly a case FIR No. 18/2024/U/S 61(1),113,147,150/ BNS 2/3 EIMCO Act was registered at PS Malhar whereas the further investigation is going on.

The arrest of these OGWs is a testament to our resolve. We urge the public to remain alert and report any suspicious activities to their nearest Police Station or Dial 100 or 9858034100.

Over 4.25 lakh perform Amarnath Yatra in 26 days

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

The cave is situated at an altitude of 3,888 metres above sea level in the Kashmir Himalayas. Devotees approach the cave shrine either from the traditional South Kashmir Pahalgam route or the North Kashmir Baltal route.

The Pahalgam-Cave shrine axis is 48 km long and takes Yatris 4-5 days to reach the shrine. The Baltal-Cave shrine axis is 14 km long and takes one day for the pilgrims to have 'darshan' and return to the base camp.

This year's Yatra will conclude after 52 days on August 19 coinciding with Shraavan Purnima and Raksha Bandhan festivals.

PM Modi to visit Kargil on July 26 to

participate in 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas; Launch Shinkun La Tunnel

constructed at an altitude of around 15,800 feet on the Nimu-Padum-Darcha road to provide all weather connectivity to Leh. Once completed, it will be the highest tunnel in the world. Shinkun La tunnel will not only ensure swift and efficient movement of our armed forces and equipment but also foster economic and social development in Ladakh, the PMO said.

Delhi court extends judicial custody of Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia, K Kavitha in excise 'scam'

produced before the court through video-conference.

The Supreme Court had earlier granted interim bail to Kejriwal in the ED case. However, he continues to be lodged in Tihar jail here as he has not furnished the bail bond in the case.He is in judicial custody in the Central Bureau of Investigation case.

236,000 lives lost to drowning worldwide every year: WHO

and poverty. There are preventive measures that exist and are crucial to address this issue, Wazed said, adding that the global health body has outlined evidence-based, cost-effective, and scalable strategies to prevent drowning.

It also comes with guidance that is tailored to different contexts.

"We all have a role to play in preventing drowning. Whether by raising awareness, promoting knowledge of effective solutions, collaborating on prevention plans and policies with local or national governments, volunteering with relevant organisations, or ensuring personal and family safety around water, each of us can make a difference," Wazed said.

Modi govt has not been able to change negative travel advisories against J-K: Omar

department travel advisories. The Modi government has been able to change nothing,"

Abdullah posted on X.Abdullah was reacting to the travel advisory issued by the US State Department asking its citizens not to travel to Manipur, Jammu and Kashmir, the India-Pakistan border, and parts of central and eastern parts of the country where Naxalites are active.

LG addresses IUST's Convocation Ceremony

Girls are excelling in education in our region, at both school and higher education levels: Sinha

Top News Report

AWANTIPORA, July 25: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha addressed the 3rd Convocation of Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) Awantipora, on Thursday.

The Lt Governor, who is also the Chancellor of the University, congratulated and extended his felicitations to the students and appreciated the commendable achievements of IUST in setting a shining example of gender equality.

"I am delighted to note that 22 of the 27 students who received their gold medals today are girls. The girls are excelling in education in our region, at both school and higher education levels. Educating women contributes meaningfully to societal progress, economic growth and sustainability. Their role is crucial in making the country a true Viksit Bharat by 2047," the Lt Governor said.

He also commended the role of parents and teachers in paving a solid foundation for the prosperous future of the youth.

Addressing the Students, the Lt Governor exhorted them to continu-



ously innovate to meet the local challenges and work towards a bright and prosperous future of the country.

"Desire and Determination, the two key factors will guide you to harness opportunities and steadily contribute to build Viksit Bharat," the Lt Governor told the students.

I believe that the prime objective of education is to create higher values and independent thinking in students to shape the destiny of the nation. Our educational institutions must lay special emphasis on reinventing the classroom learnings to unleash students' true potential, the Lt Governor said.

He further emphasised on strengthening Industry-academia connect and providing a collaborative space for startups and business ideas to prosper.

Startups are powerful instruments to bridge the

gap between universities and industries. Education should be driven by creativity rather than by a rigid curriculum, he said.

The Lt Governor also congratulated the Vice Chancellor, faculty members and students of IUST for making remarkable strides in the fields of academics, research, innovation and entrepreneurship.

IUST has not only excelled in providing skill training to its students but has also been a pioneer in various educational innovations in J&K, the Lt Governor said.

As per National Education Policy 2020, IUST has made notable additions to its academic offerings, engaging in multidisciplinary education successfully blending humanities with sciences and introducing new pedagogies, he observed.

He said the introduction

of UG program in Design Your Own Degree mode, 4- Year UG Programs with Multiple Exit and other innovative programs like Robotics & Automation, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, Media Studies, Operation Theatre Technology, and many other areas stands as a testament to the commitment to offer flexible and modern educational opportunities that cater to the diverse needs of our students.

"We are witnessing massive transformation in J&K's education sector and I am confident IUST will be a beacon of knowledge and innovation in the UT," the Lt Governor said.

Speaking on the occasion, Padma Vibhushan Dr Anil Kakodkar, eminent nuclear scientist and former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, congratulated the students for

embarking on their new journey.

"The World out there is full of opportunities as well as challenges. The capabilities the students acquire from IUST will enable them to lead a successful career ahead and empower them to make meaningful contributions to nation building," he said.

Prof Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, Vice Chancellor IUST, presented the University report and highlighted the achievements of the University.

During the convocation, 27 students were conferred with Gold Medals, while 53 students were awarded with merit certificates.

A total of 1056 students have been awarded with degrees for UG/PG programmes, and 19 students received their Ph.D Degree Certificates.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Prof Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman, J&K Higher Education Council; Vice-Chancellors of various Universities; HoDs of different educational institutions, senior officials of Civil and Police administration, faculty members, students and their parents were present.

ECI orders 2nd special summary revision of photo electoral rolls in J&K

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 25: The Election Commission of India (ECI) ordered the second special summary revision of photo electoral rolls in all the Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies in UT of Jammu and Kashmir with July 1, 2024, as the qualifying date.

A notice, issued here on Thursday in this regard, by Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, P K Pole, reads that the timeline for publication of the integrated draft electoral roll is July 25, 2024, while the timeline period for filing claims and objections is July 25, 2024 to August 9, 2024.

The document further reads that special campaign dates are July 27 and 28, 2024 and August, 03 and 04, 2024.

The notice adds that "The Draft Photo Electoral Rolls 2024 will be available at District Headquarters, Tehsil offices of

Srinagar and Jammu, Municipal Corporations/ Booth Level Offices at polling station level, and on the website of the CEO, J&K (ceojk.nic.in) for information of all concerned."

All individuals, who are 18 years of age or above on July 1, 2024, can get their names enrolled in the electoral rolls by filing form number 6 used for registration of new electors. Further, Form 7 could be used for objections to proposed inclusion or deletion of name in the existing electoral roll, Form 8 for multiple purposes like correction of any particulars in the roll, shifting of residence (within or outside constituency), replacement of person with disability and Form 6 B could be used for capturing Aadhaar number of the existing electors. The Draft Electoral Roll could be downloaded at www.ceo.

jk.gov.in and www.ceojk.nic.in.

Further, the notice reads that the claims and objections could be filled in both online as well as offline mode. "For online filing of claims and objections, one can log on to Voter's Service Portal (www.voters.eci.gov.in) or download voter helpline app (VHA), and for offline mode, the concerned BLO, AERO or ERO could be contacted," it adds.

The document also reads that all stakeholders are requested to participate in the revision exercise to ensure that maximum eligible voters are enrolled in the electoral rolls.

"Assistant Electoral Registration Officer (Migrant) in Delhi, Jammu, and Udhampur shall receive the claims and objections from the Kashmiri migrants living within their jurisdiction as per the mentioned schedule," reads the notice.

Skill development certificate course on Agri-Produce begins at Shoolini University

Top News Report

SOLAN/JAMMU, July 25: The ten-day Skill Development Certificate Course (SDCC) on "Production and Value Addition of Agri-produce" commenced today at Shoolini University.

The course is being organized by the Directorate of Extension Education, Dr. YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan, and the MS Swaminathan School of Agriculture at Shoolini University in collaboration with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Hyderabad.

The inaugural session began with an address by chief guest Chancellor, Shoolini University, Prof. PK Khosla who encouraged students to become job providers rather than job seekers

and also highlighted the importance of skill development in the agriculture sector.

Registrar, Shoolini University, Prof. Sunil Puri, highlighted the need for advanced research to spur agricultural growth and shared updates from the recent Union Budget. Prof. Puri also addressed the budget constraints and inflation issues impacting the agricultural sector, urging participants to leverage their newfound skills for entrepreneurship post-course completion.

Dr. Somesh, Dean, MS Swaminathan School of Agriculture, welcomed the chief guest, Chancellor, Shoolini University, PK Khosla, and guests from Nauni University. He also mentioned the need to shift from traditional agriculture to modern agriculture. He emphasized on value-addition as an important technique to minimize the losses in agriculture

produce and to uplift the economy.

Dr. Inder Dev, Director Extension UHF, Nauni, shared India's agricultural journey from food scarcity to the Green, White, and Blue Revolutions. He underlined the course's goal to equip students with entrepreneurial skills and expressed optimism about India's future, stating, "By 2027, India will be a developed country."

Prof. Anil Sood delivered a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all dignitaries, Shoolini University, and the Dean of Agriculture. He acknowledged the contributions of everyone involved in making the course possible.

Following the inaugural session, Dr. Santanu Mukherjee introduced participants to the ten-day training programme, discussed the aims and vision of NAHEP and NARM and provided an overview of the course itinerary.

EESL's Initiatives Powering PM Modi's Vision for a Carbon-Neutral Ladakh

Top News Report

LEH, July 25: Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Union Territory of Ladakh is taking significant strides towards becoming carbon neutral. Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture of Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power, is at the forefront of this transformation with a series of innovative and impactful initiatives aimed at reducing carbon footprints and promoting sustainable living in the region. Ladakh's rugged terrain and high altitude make traditional energy sources costly and hard to access, emphasizing the need for alternative, eco-friendly solutions.

One of the cornerstone initiatives is the National Efficient Cooking Programme, under which EESL, in collaboration with Ladakh Power Development Department (LPDD), initiated provision of 2000 induction cookstoves to Anganwadi centers across Ladakh. This initiative addresses the health concerns associated with traditional cooking methods, which emit harmful pollutants, reducing their dependence on conventional

sources of cooking. The induction cookstoves ensure a safer and healthier working environment for Anganwadi workers, also advocating sustainable and health-conscious cooking practices. As part of the NECP programme, Ladakh is the first Union Territory to distribute induction cook stoves in Anganwadi Centers and promote electric cooking.

Furthering energy efficiency initiatives in the region, EESL signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh (LAHDC), which included crucial aspects of energy efficiency, including lighting, e-cooking, space heating and e-mobility.

Another significant effort by EESL is the deployment of 10W LED inverter bulbs under the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)'s action plan for Ladakh. As part of a large-scale inverter bulb camp, organized in coordination with LPDD, EESL enabled access of 40,000 LED inverter bulbs to beneficiaries of Ladakh in the region of Nubra, Zaskar and Changthang. These inverter bulbs, which have a power backup of 4 hours, not only reduce

electricity bills but also enhance the quality of life for households and students by providing reliable lighting during power outages.

The beneficiaries are expected to save approximately 8.76 million units of electricity annually and reduce CO2 emissions by 7446 tons each year. Additionally, this switch to LED bulbs results in monetary savings of approximately Rs 3 crores annually for the residents of Ladakh.

EESL's efforts are a crucial stepping-stone towards achieving Prime Minister Modi's vision of a carbon-neutral Ladakh by 2050, reflecting the company's commitment to promoting energy-efficient technologies and renewable energy solutions across the region.

By working to identify and implement tailored energy efficiency and clean energy programs that address Ladakh's unique challenges and leverage its natural advantages, EESL is helping to reduce the region's carbon footprint, improve energy access, and create a cleaner, healthier environment for its residents, while also aligning with India's broader sustainability goals and building a more resilient and prosperous society.

Auto drivers, owners on verge of starvation due to policies of BJP govt, UT adm - Ravinder

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: On the instruction of Party high command especially Shri Rahul Gandhi, the JK Congress manifesto team Jammu headed by Mr Ravinder Sharma & accompanied by other senior Congress leaders today reached Kunjwani Chowk to meet the Auto operators and drivers besides labour class and listened to their plight.

The Tata magic owners and drivers told the team that they are at the verge of starvation due to wrong policies and huge taxations imposed by BJP government and UT administration.

They told the team that auto operators are worst affected by the huge taxations and increase in the insurance premium & other fees besides lack of rehabilitation policies for them.

They are unable to earn their livelihood and re-pay their loans. Post Covid - 19 they were not given any relief like exemption of taxes or reduction in interests on loans. After introduction of e - rickshaws and then e-buses, these auto operators are not able to earn their livelihood.

The team listened to the plight of these people and assured to take up their demands and list in the manifesto.

Ravinder Sharma told the gathering that Congress team has been visiting poor sections of the society as per directions of Cong President Malikarjun Kharge and LOP Shri Rahul Gandhi, Incharge Jk Affairs Shri Bharat Singh Solanki & PCC President Vikar Rasool Wani to reach out poor and downtrodden sections.

The team members present on the occasion included Vice Presidents Sdr Tarlok Singh Bajwa Ex- MP, Indu Pawar EX-MLA, Shashi Sharma, Suresh Dogra, Satish Sharma, General Secretaries, Iqbal Dar member, Pritam Singh Ex - Corporation and representatives of Auto transport namely Johney Chib, Kuldeep Raj, Pawan Kumar, Daljeet Singh & others.

Later the Chairman and members met the migrant workers & listened to the issues of labour class who narrated their woes. They narrated that they live & work under inhumane and unhygienic conditions with no basic facilities to the labour class anywhere whereas they are the builders of nation

Their children suffer the most in education and health sectors. They sought attention to the labour class by the centre & UT government.

Bhoti Cell and Language Lab inaugurated at DIET Leh

Top News Report

LEH, July 25: In a significant step towards promoting linguistic and educational development, Deputy Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Tsering Angchuk, inaugurated the Bhoti Cell and a newly developed Language Lab at the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) Leh today. The event marks a milestone in the efforts to preserve and promote the Bhoti language and enhance educational resources in the region.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Chief Education Officer Leh, Sonam Wangchuk, and Principal DIET, Deldan Angmo.



The gathering included principals and headmasters of government schools, Bhoti teachers, and resource persons, showcasing a collective commitment to advancing education in Leh. In his address, Dy.

Chairman, Tsering Angchuk emphasized the importance of preserving the Bhoti language and culture, which are integral to the identity of the Ladakhi people. He expressed confidence that the Bhoti Cell

and the Language Lab would provide valuable support to students and teachers in learning and teaching the Bhoti language more effectively.

The newly established Language Lab is equipped with modern facilities and technologies aimed at enhancing the linguistic skills of students and educators. It offers an interactive environment for learning, with resources tailored to the needs of the local community.

Following the inauguration, the Chief Guest welcomed the commencement of CBSE, (Leading Transformation program) training for the heads of institutions in the Leh district. This initiative aims to

update the educational leaders on the latest pedagogical trends and strategies, ensuring the continuous improvement of education standards in the region. Film pedagogy is the 3rd program started at DIET by the Chief Guest.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks from the Principal, DIET, Deldan Angmo, who acknowledged the efforts of all participants and expressed optimism for the future of education in Leh.

This event marks a promising start to the new academic initiatives in Leh, fostering a stronger educational foundation and preserving the rich cultural heritage of the region.

Social Welfare Deptt organizes seminar on BBBP at Nowbugh

Top News Report

ANANTNAG, July 25: Under the banner of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) campaign, Social Welfare Department in collaboration with district hub for empowerment of women Anantnag organised an awareness camp cum seminar at Govt. Hr.Sec.School Nowbugh Larnoo in Anantnag here on Thursday.

Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao is a campaign of the Government of India aimed to generate awareness and improve the efficiency of welfare services intended for girls in India.

Speaking on the occasion, Career Counselling Officer District Employment and Counselling centre Shazia Qureshi said that every step must be taken to encourage the girl child. She said that the recent results of 10th and 12th class are evidence that girls are capable and can outshine boys when given the right encouragement.

She said that the Social welfare department has been instrumental in spreading awareness among the masses and urged them to continue the good work. Muzaffar Ahmad Malik, District social welfare

officer Anantnag on the occasion said that females compete with, and are ahead of their male counterparts in various fields of education, sports, etc.

While highlighting the aim of organizing such camps launched in 2016 as Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Campaign. He also said that females should be made aware about various Central/state sponsored social welfare and financial assistance schemes and avail their benefits.

He stressed on eradicating all types of crime against women to empower them.

He highlighted various issues regarding women and assured that far reaching initiatives have been taken to reduce the gap between male and female sex ratio. He said true empowerment not only means education and economic empowerment but also the fact that women are able to move fearlessly.

He said the various social rituals that impose unnecessary burden on parents of the girl child must be discarded by the society as a whole and the department is committed to spread awareness and drive change in the society.

Various other speakers shared their views on the occasion with all of them emphasizing on spreading awareness regarding the importance of education for females and taking steps to encourage girls in various spheres.

Speakers on the occasion shed light on the issues that the girl child is facing and the social discrimination, though much less than before but still witnessed in some quarters and added that sustained efforts are necessary to drive social change.

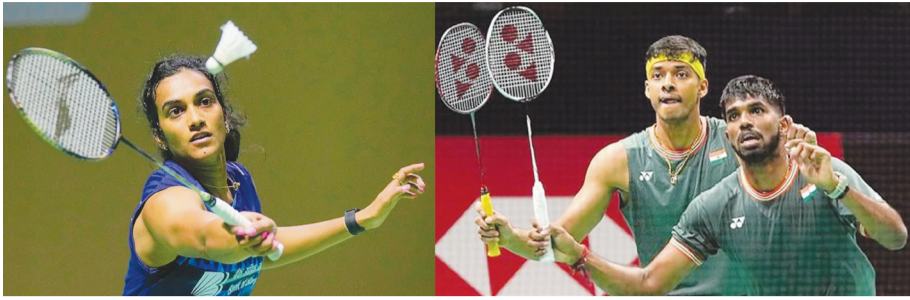
At the conclusion of the programme Chief Guest felicitated the girl students and distributed sports kits and Napkin machine with napkin kits for Hr.Sec.School Nowbugh

The programme was attended by secretary District legal services authority Anantnag Tabasum Qadri, ZEO Vailoo Bashir Ahmad, BDO Larnoo, Dr. Tariq Ahmad, CDPO Breng Rameez Ahmad, District coordinator Child Helpline Misbah Altaf, Youth Services & Sports Activity incharge Sajad Ahmad Mir, ICDS officials, Anganwadi workers, students of various institutes, besides a large number of participants.

Doubling hopes: Sindhu is 2-time medallist, but Sat-Chi have the best chance

CHANDIGARH, Jul 25 (Agencies): Saina Nehwal and PV Sindhu, the first queen of Indian badminton and the duckling who deposed her, brought three medals to India from consecutive Olympics — bronze, silver, bronze. From zero in the five Olympics that featured badminton to three in three, India has become accustomed to success in the sport. The three medals won by Saina and Sindhu place India at the fifth spot on the list of countries with most medals in women's singles; indeed, for three Olympics in a row, only badminton and wrestling have won India medals.

The spotlight this time is not on the women, however — the men's doubles team of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty is much more likely than Sindhu to win a medal in Paris. The reasons are obvious: Sindhu has had diminishing returns from international tour-



naments in recent times, while Satwiksairaj and Chirag — Sat-Chi to all — have been in the ascendant.

Indian men have snatched the spotlight from the women in the years following the Tokyo Olympics. They won the Thomas Cup in 2022, and the enormity of this feat can't be overstated; Sat-Chi won the doubles gold at the Asia Championships last year, a feat that can be put at par with winning a medal at the Olympics, such is the level of competition in Asia. Last year, HS Prannoy won a silver at the Hangzhou Asian Games.

The Indian squad will feature seven players in five categories in Paris — the highest number

at one Olympics since badminton was introduced as a competitive sport at Barcelona 1992. Sindhu, the leader of the pack, is the sole Indian in the women's singles draw; Prannoy and Lakshya Sen feature in men's singles; Sat-Chi in men's doubles; and Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto in women's doubles.

Sindhu must not be dismissed summarily, but her performance has been patchy after she suffered a stress fracture on her left ankle at the 2022 Commonwealth Games. This kept her out of the rest of the tournaments that year, including the World Championships — which she had won in 2019. She's been

inconsistent since her return, reaching four semifinals in 2023 and also losing in the first round in seven tournaments. This year, her best has been a silver at the Malaysia Masters. At 29, Sindhu has seen the best days in her career; Paris is likely to be her last hurrah — her best hope lies in her vast experience and her big-match temperament.

Prannoy makes his Olympics debut at the rather ripe age of 31, while Sen does it at 22 years; Prannoy reached a career-high world No. 6 in 2023, with a first BWF World Tour title, a bronze at the World Championships, and the bronze at the Asian Games. Sen reached the semifinal

at the French Open and the All-England Open. He's also the current Commonwealth Games champion. On their day, both can best the best in the world.

The rise of Sat-Chi has been phenomenal: A World Championships bronze, gold in the Asian Games — that too in China! — and gold at the Asia Championships.

They've achieved the No. 1 ranking and are currently No. 3 — men's badminton in Sat-Chi's times is extremely competitive and all top teams are capable of defeating the others. At the Tokyo Games, Sat-Chi had a tough draw, for the world's No. 1 and No. 3 teams were in their group, and their run ended early. This time, due to their high ranking, the Indians should easily make it from the group stage to the knockouts — after that, with their power, speed and pedigree, the two can believe that nothing is impossible.

Archers begin quest to end long wait for Games medal

Deepika leads way as action starts with ranking rounds



CHANDIGARH, Jul 25 (Agencies): There will be a few amongst the archery team with butterflies in their stomachs. Their quest to end India's long wait for an elusive Olympics medal begins tomorrow with the ranking rounds at the Esplanade des Invalides. In the last three Games, India's archers have exited at the quarterfinal stage or before.

For some, the scars can last a lifetime. L Bombayla Devi is still haunted by her miss in London when she failed to hit the target. Taunts like "that arrow is still flying somewhere over London" remind her of that harrowing miss.

"You feel bad. It is not

as if I missed that arrow intentionally. Till today, I do not have an answer as to how I did not hit the target that day," Bombayla said.

Bombayla, though, is hopeful that the current team has the tools to end India's wait. "It can happen this time, why not? Speaking about the women's team, Deepika (Kumari) is very experienced and both Ankita (Bhagat) and Bhajan (Kaur) have done well in world tournaments, so I am hopeful," she said.

Only Deepika and Tarundeep Rai carry the luggage of past exits, which could work in India's favour. However, securing a top-10 ranking is a must, otherwise they may run into big

teams, including South Korea, China and even Chinese Taipei, in the earlier rounds.

Rahul Banerjee, who took part in the London competition, said that the key is to do well in the ranking rounds. "We have to do well in the ranking rounds. A good seeding means avoiding the big teams early. Once they do that they have the skills to take it to the knockout rounds," Banerjee said.

"Dhiraj Bommadevara and Tarun have been shooting well and their average scores generally were 675 or above throughout the year. So I am optimistic. But yes there will be pressure. Once you start getting closer it will play on the mind, so we have to deal with that. If we do that, we will win something. Tarundeep and Deepika will have to take the lead here," he added.

This is the first time after London 2012 that India is able to field a full team in both the men's and women's categories.

"Not the last time": Ex India Star's blunt take on Sanju Samson's ODI snub

NEW DELHI, Jul 25 (Agencies): Unarguably one of the most talented batters in the India spectrum, Sanju Samson's international career has been an intriguing one, with repeated snubs from the white-ball teams derailing his journey. Despite scoring a century in his last one-day international match, Samson wasn't deemed good enough for a spot in India's ODI series against Sri Lanka. Former India cricketer Robin Uthappa, when asked about Samson's case, had quite a blunt response, saying it's neither the first time, nor the last time that such a case happened with the wicket-keeper batter.

"From Sanju's perspective, this is not the first time he has gone through it? I don't think it will be the last time he will go through it as a player, but Sanju's one-day numbers have been quite incredible. I think, again, with changes



in leadership group or changes within the leadership group. Things have to kind of settle down a little bit and we as fans and supporters of the Indian cricket team have to give that space to kind of settle down as well," Uthappa said in a virtual interaction with select journalists, arranged by Sony Sports Network.

As far as Samson's future is concerned in the ODI team, Uthappa doesn't think that the Rajasthan Royals star is someone who is out of contention, but would need to put in solid performances whenever

given an opportunity next.

"So, I think Sanju is not out of contention as with any other player. I think, it's a matter of time, and he will get his opportunity, but when the opportunities do come, he will have to grab those opportunities to make sure he steps up with solid performances that keep him in the running," Uthappa said.

Samson is a part of India's T20I team for the Sri Lanka tour. An exemplary show in the shortest format could force the selectors to give him a longer run in the 50-over format too.

With renewed hope, Anjum targets Paris medal

PARIS, Jul 25 (Agencies): Three years ago, Anjum Moudgil had entered the Olympics, her first, with eager eyes and high hopes. The Chandigarh-born shooter thought she was ready for the biggest challenge of her career. But things never went as planned.

She finished 15th in the 50m rifle 3 positions and 18th in the 10m air rifle mixed team events. The disappointment dimmed the fire in her bright brown eyes, and a heartbroken Anjum decided to take a break from the sport.

During her sabbatical, Anjum learnt paragliding, ribbon poi and skating. She enhanced her painting skills and even got married. In 2022, when she had finally forgotten about Tokyo, Anjum picked up the gun again. "It was tough, but I am over it," said Anjum, while talking to agency from France.

Anjum said that Tokyo



was a "totally different" experience due to Covid, which also hit the team's preparations. "We were undergoing tests every day, everything was unclear and we were constantly worrying about the wellbeing of our families back home," said Anjum, who

is a sub inspector with Punjab Police.

Pushing limits

The former world No. 1 carries India's medal hopes in the 50m rifle 3 positions event in the Paris Olympics. "Expectations will always be there, but it's my job to give my best. I cleared

the first test (getting selected for the Olympics) and I am looking forward to doing the same in the final," said the World Championships and Commonwealth Games medallist.

Anjum could not earn a quota but came through the month-long national trials, finishing second to seal her spot in the squad. "The competition is very high in India. This helped me push my limits. In the Olympics, I have to do the same by challenging my limits and setting small goals," she said.

The shooting event will be held at the National Shooting Centre at Chateauroux, where Anjum trained last year. "I practised at the same range for almost a week last year. A similar structure was there for our pre-Olympics preparation in Luxembourg. I have adapted to the conditions. The weather is also very pleasant here," she said.

This time, Anjum will also get moral support from international shooter Ankush Bhardwaj, whom she married in January 2022. "When I was making my comeback, he gave me emotional support. Life has surely changed after marriage but I am lucky to have my in-laws by my side," she said.

Ankush said: "She has gone through a lot in the last three years. The challenges have made her strong and she will definitely emerge as a better shooter in these Olympics. She is a keen learner and I hope she delivers as planned in the Olympics."

No longer overawed by the Olympics, Anjum said she was positive about her chances this time. "The competition is high, so it's challenging. But I am positive. I am not just thinking about going with the flow, but about implementing my plans to win a medal," she said.

"Sabki soch alag hoti": Ashish Nehra on his decision to not apply for India coach job

NEW DELHI, Jul 25 (Agencies): After months of speculation, Gautam Gambhir's appointment as head coach of the Indian team was made official earlier this month by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Gambhir, who replaced Rahul Dravid at the helm, is already in Sri Lanka with the Indian team for the upcoming white-ball tour. Gambhir was one of the two candidates interviewed for the role by BCCI's COC, following his successful stint as mentor of the Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR). The likes of Ricky Ponting, Justin Langer, Mahela Jayawardene, and Stephen Fleming, were also reportedly in the race.

However, the BCCI's priority was always an Indian. While Gambhir's appointment was made official on July 9, after Rahul Dravid's contract came to an end, former India pacer Ashish Nehra was also floating in the media.

During a recent interaction, Nehra has opened up about why he didn't apply. The 45-year-old insisted that his children are young, and he was not in the



mood to travel for nine months. "Meri abhi kabhi us tareh soch nahi gayi hai. My kids are young. GG ke bacche bhi abhi young hai par sabki soch alag hoti hai, toh I am very happy where I am. I am not in the mood to travel for nine months (I never thought about it. My children are still young. Gautam Gambhir also has young children, but everyone has different ideas. That's why I am happy where

I am. I am not in the mood to travel for nine months)," Nehra told agency.

Meanwhile, Gambhir also confirmed the names of two assistant coaches that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has approved.

Though the complete list of coaches will be confirmed only after the Sri Lanka tour, Gambhir is happy to see the board agreeing to most of his

demands as the head coach of the Indian team.

During a media briefing, Gambhir revealed that his former Kolkata Knight Riders mates, Ryan Ten Doeschate and Abhishek Nayar have joined him as assistant coaches.

"This is going to be the crux of the support staff. As I said, we still have one month after the Sri Lanka tour. We will try and finalise after the Sri Lanka tour. But, I have worked with people like Abhishek Nayar, Ryan Ten Doeschate very closely. In the last two months, especially in the IPL, I have enjoyed working with them. They are thorough professionals. Hope Ryan and Abhishek can have a successful stint.

"Hopefully, we can have a successful tenure as coaches. I am really looking forward to work with the rest of the other guys as well. I have had some really good feedback from the players about the other guys. I am really looking forward to working with them. My experience and learning have been very simple," Gambhir said.

Sri Lanka, Bangladesh register big wins to enter semifinals of Women's Asia Cup



DAMBULLA, Jul 25 (Agencies): Hosts Sri Lanka and Bangladesh cruised into the semifinals of the women's Asia Cup T20 tournament with comfortable victories over Thailand and Malaysia in Dambulla on Wednesday. While Sri Lanka thrashed Thailand by 10 wickets in the final group match of the tournament, Bangladesh hammered Malaysia by 114 runs earlier in the day at the same venue. In the first match of the day, Bangladesh rode on opener Murshida

Khatun's 59-ball 80 and skipper Nigar Sultana's 37-ball 62 to post a commanding 191 for 2.

Opting to bat, Khatun and wicket-keeper Dilara Akter (33) shared 65 runs for the opening wicket before the former joined hands with Sultana to stitch 89 runs for the second wicket to set the foundation for the big total.

Bangladesh then restricted Malaysia to 77 for 8 in 20 overs to register a convincing win and a place in the semifinals.

In the last group match of the tournament, Thai-

land could muster only 93 for 7 after opting to bat.

Wicket-keeper batter Nannapat Koncharoenkai top-scored for Thailand with a 53-ball 47.

Off-spinner Kavisha Dilhari (2/13) was the pick of the bowlers for Sri Lanka.

The chase was a cakewalk for Sri Lanka with skipper Chamari Athapaththu (49 not out) and Vishmi Gunaratne (39) remaining unbeaten to guide the island nation home in a resounding fashion.

None of the Thailand bowlers could manage to make an impact with the Sri Lankan openers breezing their way to victory.

In the semifinals, defending champions India will take on Bangladesh, while Sri Lanka will be up against Pakistan on Friday.

K.B Public School empowers students with introduction of speed ball as part of FIT India Initiative

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Brig. Khuda Baksh Memorial Public Hr. Sec. School, a premier educational institution in Gujjar Colony, Bye-Pass, Channi himmat, committed to nurturing holistic development, is excited to announce the integration of Speed Ball into its physical education curriculum as a part of the FIT India initiative. This progressive step aims to promote fitness, agility, and overall well-being among students while aligning with the national campaign for a healthier India.

Speed Ball, a dynamic and engaging fitness activity, combines elements of cardiovascular exercise, coordination, and agility training. By incorporating rapid movements and striking a suspended ball



with precision, students not only improve their physical fitness but also enhance their motor skills and focus. Brig. Khuda Baksh Memorial Public Hr. Sec. School believes that integrating Speed Ball into the curriculum will inspire students to adopt an active lifestyle and instill lifelong habits of wellness.

"We are thrilled to introduce Speed Ball as a part of our commitment to promoting health and fitness among our students," said Arshad Choudhary, Chairman, Brig. Khuda Baksh Memorial Public

Hr. Sec. School. "This initiative underscores our dedication to providing comprehensive education that encompasses physical, mental, and emotional well-being. By embracing activities like Speed Ball, we aim to empower our students to prioritize their health and lead fulfilling lives," said Nehreer Khan Principal, Brig. Khuda Baksh Memorial Public Hr. Sec. School.

"On behalf of Brig Khuda Baksh Public School, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Sunny Nanda, General

Secretary, J&K Sports Speed Ball Association along with his team members for your invaluable support in introducing Speed Ball into our curriculum. Your partnership has enriched our students' fitness journey and contributed immensely to their holistic development. We look forward to further collaborations in promoting health and wellness," said Nehreer Khan Principal, Brig. Khuda Baksh Memorial Public Hr. Sec. School And Ajaz Ahmed Sports HoD.

Aligned with the FIT India initiative launched

by the Government of India, Brig. Khuda Baksh Memorial Public Hr. Sec. School is dedicated to fostering a culture of fitness and wellness within the school community and beyond. By integrating innovative fitness programs like Speed Ball into its curriculum, the school seeks to contribute to the national goal of building a healthier and more active nation.

As part of the holistic approach to education, Brig. Khuda Baksh Memorial Public Hr. Sec. School encourages students to participate in a wide range of physical activities that promote fitness, teamwork, and personal growth. The introduction of Speed Ball adds another dimension to the school's physical education program, offering students a fun and effective way to stay active and healthy.

IMS Jammu collaborates with CT University Ludhiana for promoting Entrepreneurship amongst students

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Under MoE's Innovation Council, IMS Jammu collaborates with CT University, Ludhiana for promoting entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Institute.

A delegation from CT University visited IMS College under a mutually beneficial agreement to advise the Innovation Cell of the institute in creating awareness regarding various schemes of AICTE and MoE's innovation council and their impact on student development. The meeting commenced with a warm welcome extended to Sanjay Khanduri, Director of Planning and Skill Development, and Vasu Tandon, Project Officer, both from CT University.

Dr. Meenakshi Sharma, Director of IMS, subsequently addressed the gathering, providing an overview of the IIC cell's

mission, goals, and its role in fostering innovation among students. Dr. Sharma emphasized the cell's commitment to transforming student ideas into tangible innovations.

Er Divya Jamwal, Coordinator of the Management Department, presented a comprehensive report detailing the IIC cell's activities from August 2023 to June 2024.

The presentation encompassed a wide range of initiatives, including Celebration activities, IIC Activities, MIC activities, and Self-driven activities.

The report also highlighted the significance of the Impact Lecture Series, Mentor-Mentee Program, and IIC Quarterly Meetings in supporting student growth.

Following the presentation, an open forum for discussion was held

which was attended by Chief Coordinator, Er Nidhi Jamwal, coordinators of Management and Computer department and all the faculty members.

The meeting provided an opportunity to explore potential avenues for further enhancing student support and development.

The meeting concluded on a positive note, with Sanjay Khanduri expressing satisfaction with the IIC cell's progress and its potential to contribute to student success.

The management of IMS College, Er Vidhi Singh Jamwal, Chairman Jamwal group, Vice Chairman, Shiv dev Singh Jamwal and Managing Director, Er Renu Bangroo, congratulated the Director and Faculty of the institute for providing various opportunities to the young students for a better tomorrow.



Doctoral Degree in Biotechnology awarded to Mahima Sharma at SMVDU

Top News Report

KATRA July 25: Mahima Sharma has been declared qualified for the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Biotechnology award by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU).

Mahima worked on the topic, entitled "Studies on selected endophytes for sourcing novel bioactive compounds from Cordia dichotoma Forst", under the supervision of Dr. Sharada M. Potukuchi, Associate Professor, School of Biotechnology, SMVDU, Katra.

During the oral defense, Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of the University; Dr. Sunil Wanchoo, Dean, Faculty of Sciences; Dr. Ratna Chandra, Head, School of Biotechnology and the External Examiner Prof. Saroj Arora, Department of Botanical & Environmental Sciences, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab



appreciated the work done and congratulated the student for her successful Ph.D. Viva-Voce examination.

Mahima, a GATE & CSIR-NET qualified scholar, has published her research findings in the SCI-E Journals of repute and presented her results at International and National Conferences.

Mahima expressed her gratitude to the School of Biotechnology and SMVD University for providing all the facilities for carrying out the research work and financial assis-

tance in terms of Scholarship and Contingency during her tenure at the University.

Her study emphasizes the first-time isolation and identification of endophytic bacteria and fungi and their pharmacological activities from the medicinal plant Cordia dichotoma (Lasura), which is native to the Jammu region of India.

It was also initiated to evaluate the antimicrobial, antioxidant, and anticancerous activity of secondary metabolites extracted from parent plants and their endophytic inhabitants.

The protocols developed during her research work can be used to maximize the biomass and metabolite content of the selected species for their commercial exploitation and prospective applications in the pharmaceutical sector for novel sources of drug molecules.

Om Parkash must be listed in Guinness Book of World Records

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: Om Parkash urf Oma, who never went to school, surprises people when he tells them the correct total of any sum in no time without calculator, and the exact time without watch as and when asked.

R.L.Kaith said, Om Parkash resides in his neighbourhood at Krishna Nagar. He despite being the most illiterate person, is a human calculator and should be listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for speed of mental calculation.

Kaith further said that once in a cloth shop at canal road, a family came



and purchased a number of suits for wedding. After the purchase, the family asked the shopkeeper to make the total. Oma sitting in a corner of the shop at once spoke that the total is such. All were amazed to see when total made by the shopkeeper exactly matched with that of Oma.

Khair billets smuggling bid foiled, three arrested

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: In a significant operation against illegal forest produce transportation, the Forest Department successfully intercepted a Mahindra Bolero (registration number JK11A-5262) smuggling Khair billets.

Acting on specific intelligence, the forest field staff led by Block Officer Nagrota-I set up a Naka at the Karli Forest Check Post.

The vehicle, traveling from Khui Pangli to Karli, ignored signals to stop and attempted to flee towards Udhampur Highway.

A chase ensued, culminating in the vehicle's interception at Dhammi. Upon inspection, 24 illicit Khair billets were discovered concealed under a tarpaulin.

Three individuals were apprehended at the scene namely Naresh Kumar (son of Suraj Mani) and Mohd Latif (son of Mohd Gafoor), both residents of Showa, and Amanant Ali (son of Jamat Ali) from Khui Pangli.

They were arrested under Section 64 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, for violating Sections 26 and 42 of the Act and subsequently produced before the Chief Judicial

Magistrate.

The Mahindra Bolero bearing registration number JK11A-5262 alongwith 24 illicit felled khairwood billets were seized under relevant sections of Indian Forest Act and confiscation proceedings are initiated by the Authorized Officer, Jammu Forest Division. Further investigation has been entrusted to the Range Officer Jammu.

In a statement, the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Jammu emphasized the department's commitment to curbing illegal forest produce trading and appealed to public to refrain from such activities.

The Forest Department's vigilant efforts continue to safeguard forest resources and uphold the law.

JKGPA delegation meets Lotika Khajuria, discusses pharmacists' grievance

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 25: A delegation of Jammu Kashmir Government Pharmacist Association (JKGPA) led by Bharat Bhushan Bhagat President along with Sushil Sudan President Jammu Kashmir Medical Employees Federation and member Pharmacy Council of India met with Lotika Khajuria Drug controller and exofficio president of state pharmacy council and Surinder Mohan Tickoo Registrar of pharmacy and apprised with the grievance of pharmacist.

The registration of Pharmacists who applied many months ago but their certificate is not yet issued, we request that the registration should be time bond and pending registrations may be issued at their earliest.

Minimum formalities for issuing Drug licenses .The formalities regarding issue of Drug license may be curtailed to minimum.

On the World Pharmacy Day i.e.25-09-2024,request from the State Pharmacy Council may be issued from your



end for Lieutenant Governor, Chief Secretary, Administrative Secretary Health to issue message on 25-09-2024 to promote the knowledge of Pharmacy among the Public and the Patients.

As per the Pharmacy Act 1948,the Pharmacy education and profession in India up to graduate levels is regulated by PCI.We also submit that Diploma/Degree in Pharmacy should be regulated by JK State Pharmacy Council and Board should be constituted to regulate Pharmacy Education and all Exams should be brought under the control of JK State Pharmacy Council instead of JK Para Medical Council and all Govt and Private Colleges get registration from Registrar of JK

State Pharmacy Council for imparting Pharmacy Education.

The Jammu Kashmir State Pharmacy Council election should be made as soon as possible.

Madam Lotika Khajuria President Jammu Kashmir State Pharmacy Council and Drug Controller and Surinder Mohan Tickoo Registrar JKSPC keenly listened the grievance and assured that genuine grievance will be addressed at the earliest.

Those who accompanied the deputation are R.P.Singh.Yougal Bakshi, Bahadur Singh, Ashwani Gupta, Rajinder Sharma, Subhash Choudhary, Sourabh Bakshi, Vinod, Ram Lal, Vikas Sabharwal, Sanjay Choudhary, Vishwa Bandu, Sandeep Pandita and Others.

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