

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, MONDAY, JULY 29, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Wildlife Division Jammu cracks down on online illegal trade, arrests accused with rare articles

JAMMU, July 29 (Agencies): In a significant breakthrough, the Wildlife Division Jammu, in collaboration with the City Police and Forest Protection Force, has arrested an individual involved in the online illegal trade of wildlife articles.

The accused, Rishi Kumar, was apprehended from Green Lodge Hostel in Hari Market, Jammu, along with nine Hathijoda (Hemipenis of Monitor Lizard) and other prohibited wildlife articles.

Acting on inputs from the Wildlife Trust of India, a team led by Range Officer Wildlife Jammu, Sourabh Damral, and comprising SHO Bus Stand, Vikas Dogra, and Dy. Inspector, Rakesh Chib, of PPF J02 Jammu, conducted the raid.

The operation was carried out under the guidance and supervision of Dr. Kumar, MK, IFS, CCF/Regional Wildlife Warden Jammu, and Sh. Vijay Kumar, SFS, Wildlife Warden.

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India's Digital Economy Poised To Constitute 1/5th Of GDP By 2026: RBI Report

MUMBAI, July 29 (Agencies): India's digital economy is poised to constitute a fifth of GDP by 2026 from one-tenth at present, according to a Reserve Bank report released on Monday.

In the foreword of 'Report on Currency and Finance (RCF) for the year 2023-24', Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das emphasised that digitalisation in finance is paving the way for next-generation banking and improving access to financial services at affordable cost.

India is at the forefront of the digital revolution, the report said.

The country has embraced not just financial technology (FinTech) by speeding up digital payments but has also celebrated India Stack comprising biometric identification, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), mobile connectivity, digital lockers and consent-based data sharing.

The digital revolution is galvanising banking infrastructure and public finance management systems covering

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FM Nirmala Sitharaman to move Jammu and Kashmir appropriation bill in LS Today

NEW DELHI, July 29 (Agencies): As the Parliament is set to convene for the ongoing Budget Session on Monday, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will introduce the Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation Bill, 2024, in the Lok Sabha. "Nirmala Sitharaman to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir for the ser-



vices of the financial year 2024-25. Also to introduce and move the bill," the list of businesses stated. The Jammu and Kash-

mir Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2024, aims to authorise the payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir for the services of the financial year 2024-25. According to the agenda released, the discussion on the Union Budget 2024-25, presented on July 23, will continue in both Houses of Parliament on Monday. The discussion on the budget of Jammu and

Kashmir, 2024-25, which was also presented on Tuesday, will also continue. Meanwhile, Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, Raksha Nikhil Khadse will make the statement in the Lok Sabha regarding: the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 327th Report of the Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports on action taken by the government

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Over 1,800 pilgrims leave Jammu base camp for Amarnath Yatra

JAMMU, July 29 (Agencies): More than 1,800 pilgrims left a base camp in Jammu for the 3,880-metre-high Amarnath cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas amid tight security arrangements on Monday, officials said.

More than 4.55 lakh pilgrims have already paid obeisance at the naturally-formed ice lingam at the cave shrine, compared to the over 4.5 lakh last year.

The 32th batch of 1,832 pilgrims left the Bhagwati

Nagar base camp at 3.22 am in a convoy of 62 vehicles escorted by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), the officials said.

The group included 1,358 men, 363 women, two children, and 109 sadhus and sadhvis, they said.

While 1,263 pilgrims will reach Pahalgam to undertake the annual pilgrimage through the traditional 48-km route in Anantnag district, 569 have opted for the shorter but steeper 14-km Baital route in Ganderbal dis-

trict. Since June 28, when Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch of pilgrims from Jammu, a total of 1,38,816 pilgrims have embarked on the annual pilgrimage from the base camp here.

The 52-day yatra, which commenced formally on June 29 from the Baital and Pahalgam base camps in Kashmir, is scheduled to conclude on August 19.

Jammu and Kashmir: Mini Bus Overtakes, 30 Injured

SRINAGAR, July 29 (Agencies): About 30 people were injured after a minibus overturned on the outskirts of Jammu city on Monday, officials said.

The mini bus, on its way to Akhnoor from Maira Mandrian, was travelling at high speed when it skidded off the road and

turned turtle near Khuga Morh, they said.

About 30 people suffered injuries and were taken to hospital for treatment and first aid, they added.

Ten of the injured were shifted to Government Medical College, Jammu, for further treatment, the officials said.

Man's death after being beaten up by Police sparks protests in Jammu

JAMMU, July 29 (Agencies): A 27-year-old man died under mysterious circumstances after he was allegedly beaten up by police, sparking protests by his relatives and neighbours here on Monday, official sources said.

Shubam Sharma, a resident of the Bantalab



locality on the outskirts of

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Two children die, another injured in gas cylinder blast in Sopore

SRINAGAR, July 29 (Agencies): At least two people died and a third was injured after a gas cylinder blast occurred in the Sher Colony area of north Kashmir's Sopore, officials said.

An official told the news agency Kashmir Scroll (KS) that the two deceased teenagers were identified as Nazir Ahmad Nadur

and Azim Ashraf Mir, both residents of Sher Colony, Sopore. The injured individual was identified as Adil Rashid Bhat.

He added that all three were shifted to the hospital, where the condition of the third person is said to be critical.

Meanwhile, the police have initiated an investigation.

Rusted mortar shell recovered in Poonch

JAMMU, July 29 (Agencies): A rusted mortar shell was found and subsequently defused in a village in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Monday, officials said.

The mortar shell was noticed lying in a grass field at Draba village in

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Kashmir parts receive rains, ending unprecedented dry spell

SRINAGAR, July 29 (Agencies): Most parts of the Kashmir Valley, including Srinagar, experienced rainfall on Monday, bringing relief to residents after a prolonged spell of dry, hot, and humid weather.

While rains brought relief, Srinagar recorded its hottest minimum tem-

perature at 24.8°C during the intervening night of Sunday and Monday, marking the second highest minimum temperature in 132 years, a weather department official said.

Officials said light to moderate rain fell in Srinagar and its surrounding areas on Monday afternoon, providing

much-needed respite from the sweltering sun and oppressive weather. Residents and tourists alike were seen enjoying the rainfall.

On Sunday, Srinagar experienced its highest maximum temperature since 1997, reaching 36.2 degree Celsius.

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Ladakh getting two Districts, Empowered LAHDCs and an Army Battalion

SRINAGAR, July 29 (Agencies): Ladakh is on the cusp of significant changes to protect its unique land, culture, and employment opportunities. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is considering a series of measures, including empowering the Leh and Kargil Autonomous Hill Development Councils, creating four

new districts, establishing an additional battalion under the Ladakh Scouts, and incorporating the Boti language into the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, Jammu newspaper Daily Excelsior reported, adding the Ministry is expected to finalise these decisions shortly. The anticipated mea-

sures will address many of the demands raised by local bodies in Ladakh. However, the Ministry has almost ruled out granting Sixth Schedule status and Statehood to Ladakh. Officials argue that the enhanced powers of the Autonomous Hill Development Councils will sufficiently safeguard the

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MBA MOTORS

MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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

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

Trekker dies, companion rescued amid heavy rains in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, July 29 (Agencies): A trekker died, and another was rescued after they got stuck amid heavy rains in the upper reaches of Tangmarg, in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, on Monday.

Reports said the duo went trekking in the upper reaches of Tangmarg, where they became stranded amid heavy rains. "One person died, while the other, who was injured, was later rescued and has been shifted to a hospital for treatment," the reports added.

The deceased has been identified as Sahil Shabir Lone son of Shabir Ahmad Lone of Pariswani. Legal formalities for his body are being completed, after which it will be handed over to his relatives for the last rites.

Notably, after a prolonged heat wave, parts of Kashmir have been lashed by heavy rains since last night, bringing relief from the heat.

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SDRN. INDERJEET KOUR** W/O S. JOGINDER SINGH R/O H.NO 220, SEC 3 EXTN. TRIKUTA NAGAR JAMMU WHO LEFT US ON FRIDAY, 26 JULY 2024.



SDRN. INDERJEET KOUR

ARAMBH SRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB ON 30-07-2024, TUESDAY AT 9:30 AM AT OUR RESIDENCE. **BHOG SRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB** AT OUR RESIDENCE ON 01-8-2024, THURSDAY AT 9:30 AM. **SHABAD KIRTAN, ANTIM ARDAS** WILL BE PERFORMED AT GURDWARA SRI BALA PRITAM SAHIB TRIKUTA NAGAR JAMMU FROM 10:30 AM TO 12:00 NOON.

GRIEF STRICKEN

S. JOGINDER SINGH (RETD MANAGER P&S BANK)
S. SATWINDER SINGH (SON)
S. JAIVINDER SINGH (SON)
SDRN. RUPINDER KAUR (DAUGHTER)

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Brij Nath Dhar** S/o Lt Sri Kanth Dhar of New Qazi Bhag Anantnag Kashmir At present H No. 286 Lane No 16 Swaran Vihar (Police Colony) Bantalab, Jammu.



Sh Brij Nath Dhar

Tenth Day will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education office on 3.8.2024 Saturday at 9 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN :

Susheela Mob. 9596958382
Smt & Shri H L Dhar -**Son** Mob. 8717090262
Smt & Sh Bihari Lal Dhar - **Son** Mob. 9469191788
Smt Shoba Dhar (**Sister in law**)
Smt Kumta Dhar- **Sister in law**
Smt & Sh D P Dhar
Smt & Sh V K Dhar 9419331011
Smt & Sh A J Dhar 9419131398
Smt & Sh G L Pandit (**Sister & Brother in law**)
Smt & Sh R L Raina (**Sister & Brother in law**)
Grand Children : Himanshu, Neha, Ashi

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Mrs. Raj Sharma (Retired Head Mistress)**, D/o Lt. Sh. Jagan Nath Sharma.



Mrs. Raj Sharma (Retired Head Mistress)

The **TENTH DAY** will be performed on 29-07-2024 at 10 am, and **KRIYA** will be performed on 30-07-2024 at 12 Noon, at our residence 192-P, Sarwal, New Plot, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Adv. D. R. Khajuria (**Husband**)
Er. Rajeev Khajuria and Meenakshi Sharma (**Son & Daughter in Law**)
Dr. Ashwani Sharma & Dr. Neelu Sharma (**Son in Law & Daughter**)
Er. Neeraj Sharma & Adv. Neetu Sharma (**Son in Law & Daughter**)
Dr. Divya Sharma (**Daughter**)
Aarshi, Harshul, Kalpit, Andesha, Siddharth, Arpit (**Grandchildren**)

TENTH DAY /KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Kamla Sharma** W/o Late Sh. Jai Gopal Sharma R/o H.No. 12, Rehari Colony, Subhash Nagar, Jammu.



Smt. Kamla Sharma

10th Day will be held on 29-07-2024 (Monday) at 11.00 am at our residence.

Kriya will be held on 30-07-2024 (Tuesday) at 12.00 noon at our residence.

Uthala will be held on 31-07-2024 (Wednesday) from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Hari Mandir Rehari Colony, Jammu.

Grief Stricken

Son & Daughter-in-law
Mr. Rakesh Sharma & Mrs. Sunita Sharma
Late Mr. Rajesh Sharma & Mrs. Rashmi Sharma
Mr. Sham Badyal & Mrs. Shashi - **Son-in-law & Daughter**
Mr. Chaman & Mrs. Chander Prabha - **Son-in-law & Daughter**
Mr. Sunil Magotra & Mrs. Madhu Sharma - **Son-in-law & Daughter**
Grand Children: Mohin, Purvee, Gokaran, Akanksha, Mriganish, Basu, Rohin, Srijan & Sanidhya
R S Automobile
9419184539, 6006191199

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Dr. Kishan Lal Handoo**, son of Vedd Lal Handoo of Kalwal Mohalla, Rainawari, Srinagar (presently residing at Neel Padamkunj Apartments, Sector 1, Vaishali, Ghaziabad), on the 26th of July. He was a prolific scientist who served as a professor at the University of Sagar and the University of Kashmir. He was also a visiting professor at Utah State University, USA, and the University of Marseille, France.



The **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at **Dr. Kishan Lal Handoo** Gadh Ganga Ghat, Muradnagar, UP, on August 4th, Sunday, at 10:00 AM.

GRIEF-STRICKEN

Smt. Kishni Handoo - **Wife**
Sh. Vikas Handoo & Smt. Poonam Handoo - **Son & Daughter-in-law**
Sh. Rajesh Kalla & Pamposh Kalla - **Son-in-law & Daughter**
Grandchildren: Neelesh, Rithik, Shryya
ALL NEAR AND DEAR ONES
PH NO.: 9560069101, 9810314806, 9910666519

10TH DAY KRIYA

In our hearts Forever

Sh Trilokinath Miya (1931-2024)

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Karamyogi Sh Trilokinath Miya** resident of Rainawari, Srinagar, Kashmir presently residing at B-501, Great Value Shamam, Sec 107, Noida.

He took his last breath on 26th July 2024, on his way to Vaikunth. **10th Day Kriya** shall be performed on 4th August 2024 at Garh Mukteshwar, Distt. Moradbad from 7 am onwards.

Fondly Remembered By:

Nancy & Surendra Miya
Asha & Avinash Wangoo
Asmeeta & Jyoti Kachroo
Grand Children:
Jharna & Samit Watal
Sakshi & Rohan Miya
Rishika & Siddhant Kachroo
Sheersha & Anshul Wangoo
Kalpita Kachroo & Angreh Wangoo



Sh Trilokinath Miya (1931-2024)

Great Grand Children: Vaidehi & Aadee
9899505506

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Jawahar Lal Raina (Nana Jee)** originally from Bana Mohalla Srinagar. Presently residing in H No. 52 Pawan Endave Ploura Jammu left for heavenly abode on 24.07.2024.



Sh Jawahar Lal Raina (Nana Jee)

The **10th Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Education Department on 02 Aug. 2024 at 8.00 AM.
In Grief
Smt Sarala Raina **Wife**
Brother and Sister in law
Sh Vinod and Late Smt Veena Raina
Daughters and Son-in-laws
Late Smt Ruby and Sh Vijay Raina
Smt Neena and Vinod Dhar
Sister and Brother in law
Smt Phoola and Sh Surender Hakhu
Son and Daughter in law
Sh Ajay and Isha Rani
Grand Children
Vehu, Yash and Aarna
Also Sonast Munshi, Khar, Pandita, Koul, Sas Chirangoo, Matta, Kaship
In law Parivar
Cont No. 9469468655, 9958985685, 8493345752, 9870064545

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Rani Koul** W/o Lt. Sh. Brij Nath Koul on 21 July 2024 at H.No. 32/3 A Roop Nagar enclave Opp Asha Bhawan Jammu.



SMT. RANI KOUL

Her **TENTH DAY** will be performed on 30 July 2024 at Muthi Ghat Jammu at 08:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Son & Daughter-in-law
Vheela Ji Koul and Daitry Koul 9149562259, 7889928536
Daughter and Son-in-law
Sushoala Mattoo W/o Lt. Sh. Ashok Mattoo
Vijay Bama W/o Raj Kumar Bantari
Brother-in-Law and Sister-in-Law
Lt. Makhan Lal Koul and Mohani Noul
Moti Lal Koul and Usha Koul
Sister-in-law and Brother-in-law
Lt. Rupa Ma and Lt. Ma Khan Lal Ma
Krishni Kachroo W/o Lt. Moti Lal Kachroo
Dulari Bhan W/o Lt. Tribhuk Nath Bhan
Gambhira Bazaz W/o Bhushan Lal Bazaz
Lt. Phoola Bhan W/o Lt. Hira Lal Bhan
Pyari Kher W/o Lt. Surender Kher

Grand Children- Rahul, Vaishali, Komal, Ranjeet, Vibhuti, Niran, Kaja, Vinayesh, Aparna, Kavita.

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Brij Nath Dhar** S/o Lt Sri Kanth Dhar of New Qazi Bhag Anantnag Kashmir At present H No. 286 Lane No 16 Swaran Vihar (Police Colony) Bantalab, Jammu.



Sh Brij Nath Dhar

Tenth Day will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education office on 3.8.2024 Saturday at 9 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN :

Susheela (**Daughter**) Mob. 9 596958382
Smt & Shri H L Dhar -**Son** Mob. 8717090262
Smt & Sh Bihari Lal Dhar - **Son** Mob. 9469191788
Smt Shoba Dhar (**Sister in law**)
Smt Kumta Dhar- **Sister in law**
Smt & Sh D P Dhar
Smt & Sh B L Dhar 9419209859
Smt & Sh V K Dhar 9419331011
Smt & Sh A J Dhar 9419131398
Smt & Sh G L Pandit (**Sister & Brother in law**)
Smt & Sh R L Raina (**Sister & Brother in law**)
Grand Children : Himanshu, Neha, Ashi

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).



Sh Jagar Nath Pandita

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 Babli Pandita -**do**
Smt Santosh & Sh Biju Ji Pandit- **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, Jiya, Priya
Mob. 9469281512, 9797362298

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Late Sh Chhaju Ram Manhas** R/o H.No and Lane No. 1, Saraswati Vihar, Bamai behind Anuradha Public School, Bamai, Jammu on 20-7-2024 (Saturday).



Late Sh Chhaju Ram Manhas 91-07-1931 to 20-07-2024

TENTH DAY will be performed on 29-7-2024 at 11 AM at our residence.

KRIYA will be performed on 01-8-2024 at 12 Noon at our residence.

RASAMPAGRI/UTHALA will be performed on 2-8-2024 at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Joginder Singh Manhas & Smt Babita Rani (**Son & Daughter in Law**)
Mr Harshbardhan Singh & Mrs Sheetal Pawar (**Grand Son & Grand Daughter in Law**)
Smt Samruti Rajput and Sh. Sunil Singh Chib (**Grand Daughter & Grand Son in Law**)
Hony/Lt.Sh. Teju Ram Manhas and Smt Binla Devi (**Borther & Bhabhi**)
Sapna Rajput & L S Patharia - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Ph. 9419129027, 9596657134

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sudden sad demise of our beloved **Shri Maharaj Krishan Bhat (Bairaj)** S/o Late Shri Pem Nath Bhat native of Village Shuast Kulgam at present H.No.25, Lane A1, Lakshimpur Chirana, Jammu near Apple Kids School who left for heavenly abode on 25-07-2024.



SHRI MAHARAJ KRISHAN BHAT (BAIRAJ)

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 02.08.2024 (Friday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 08 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Smt Jiga Kumari (**Wife**)
Daughters & Sons-in-law
Dr. Alka Bhat & Shri Tushar Bhat
Smt. Sudhi Pandita & Shri Nalin Pandita
Bhabhi & Brother
Smt. Mohan Bhat & Late Shri Radha Krishan Bhat
Smt Marmohani Bhat & Shri Nand Lal Bhat
Smt Rajni Bhat & Shri Avtar Krishan Bhat
Sisters & Brothers-in-Law
Smt. Teja Koul & Shri Mahraj Krishan Koul
Smt. Jeevi Pandita & Shri Yegendra Pandita
And Sonast Bhat, Pandita and Koul parivar
9856507830, 9806019280

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 22.7.24 (Monday).



Sh Jagar Nath Pandita

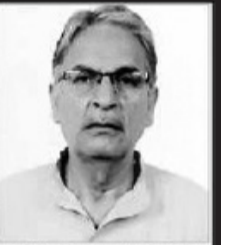
TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 31.7.24 (Wednesday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 8.30 AM. **Mourning** will be performed at Community Hall Lane No. 24 Backside.

GRIEF STRICKEN :

Lt Sh Amar Nath Pandita & Lt Smt Sheela Pandita -**Brother & Bhabhi**
Sh Paray Lal Pandita & Lt. Smt Mount Pandita -**Brother & Bhabhi**
Smt Kamlewat Kanti & Lt. Smt Durgini Sisters
Sh C L Pandita & Smt Jyoti Pandita- **Son & Daughter-in-law**
Sh Kisan Pandita & Smt Babli Pandita -**do**
Smt Santosh & Sh Biju Ji Pandit- **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, Jiya, Priya
Mob Nos 9469281512, 9797362298

TENTH DAY

With a heavy heart, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved and everloving father **Sh Bushan Lal Jinsi** S/o Late Raghu Nath Jinsi R/o Malik Angan Fateh Kadal Srinagar Kashmir presently residing at: Flat B 408 4th Floor Tower B Apex. Our Home Society Sec 37C Gurugram Haryana 122001 on 23-07-2024.



Sh Bushan Lal Jinsi

Tenth Day will be performed at Ganga Ghat, Garh Mukteshwar Bridge Hapur UP at 8.30 am onwards on 1st August, 2024.

Deeply missed and remembered by :

Smt Sarita Jinsi (**Wife**)
Smt Sheela Jinsi W/o Late Sh Pyara Lal Jinsi
Daughter-in-laws and Sons
Smt Sheeta Raina and Neera Jinsi
Smt Shikha Bhat and Dhoojai Jinsi
Smt Purnima Jinsi and Late Moti Lal Jinsi
Smt Sunita Jinsi and Sunil Jinsi
Smt Raj Dhulair Koul W/o Lt G K Koul (**Sister**)
Daughters and Son-in-law
Smt Sunita Jinsi and Rahul Doss
Smt Sanjini Koul and Kamal Krishan
Grand Children : Shoen, Vansh, Sakshi
7653990065, 9818002014

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Susheela Devi** W/o Late Shri Kalyan Singh Manhas R/O E-23 Shiv Nagar Jammu who expired on 21.07.2024 (Sunday)



Smt Susheela Devi

Tenth Day will be performed on 30th July (Tuesday) at 10.00 A.M at Shaktinagar Ghat Jammu

Kriya will be performed at our residence on 2nd August 2024 (Friday) at 10.00 AM onwards

GRIEF STRICKEN

Son and Daughter in law
Er.Surjit Singh Manhas and Bindu Jammaal
Daughters and Son-in-Law
Sarita Kumari and Ratan Thakur (**Election Officer Rtd.**)
Sushma Rani and Dr. Kuldeep Singh Bhadwal
Grand Children: Dr.Anchal, Priyanshu, Ashish, Manya, Indrakshi and Ranbir

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you about the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Prem Nath Mahajan** S/o Late Sh. Boddh Raj, R/o Ward No. 1 Akhroor opp. Kid's planet school



Sh. Prem Nath Mahajan

TENTH DAY will be performed at Kamleshwar mandir Akhroor on Tuesday 30th July 2024 from 10.00 am to 11.00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt Pooja Gupta -**Wife**
Sons & Daughters in law
Vivek Mahajan & Rosy Gupta
Varun Mahajan & Surshi Gupta
Daughter & Son in law
Dr. Parul Gupta & Dr. Sonia Gupta
Brothers & Sisters in law
Sudesh Gupta & Late Neelam Gupta
Pasorni Lal Gupta & Sudha Gupta
Sanjay Gupta & Archana Gupta
Sisters & Brothers in law
Shakuntala Gupta & Late Tilak Gupta
Kalash Gupta & Late Ashok Gupta
Veera Gupta & Ashwani Gupta
Grandson & Granddaughter : Kartik, Baruni, Maulik and Kashi
Mob.no. 9205476888, 9906197143

SHADMOS AND MASAWAR

Six Months since you left for heavenly abode but your memories are still fresh and we feel your presence everywhere. Though the pain of losing you will never fade but your memories and love are always there with us. We devotedly pray to Almighty God to grant eternal peace to your noble soul in Heaven.



LATE MRS NIMI RAINA

SHADMOS AND MASAWAR of our beloved **Karamyogi Late Mrs Nimi Raina** W/o Mr T. N Raina (originally resident of Reshi Mohalla Habba Kadal Srinagar Kashmir) and 63 Lal Nagar Chanapora will be performed on July 29th and July 30th 2024 at our residence H. No 231 Sector 46 Faridabad

Deeply Remembered By

T N Raina (**Husband**)
Anand Raina and Rachna Raina
Ankit Raina
Anusha and Archi Raina
Zutshi Punjabi Saral Jawansher Bhat/ Mushfi's, Razdan's and all who love and care for Noble soul.

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.



SMT. ANITA PANDITA

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:-
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OBC Communities will unite, support BJP in upcoming assembly elections: Braham Jyot

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: BJP OBC Morcha organized OBC Sammelan at Sunderbani- Kalakot constituency. Braham Jyot Satti, Incharge BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir was present in the program.

Program was organised by Som Nath Verma District president OBC) and huge number of OBC people attended the program with high enthusiasm.

Neena Sharma (Dist President Nowshara Sunderbani) , Capt Ramesh Chand (Senior leader BJP) , Kasturi Lal (dist vice president BJP) , Krishan Lal (State executive member OBC Morcha) , Nayav Singh (Mandal President BJP Sunderbani) , Madan Paul (Mandal President Siot OBC) , Babu Ram (Incharge OBC Sammelan) , Ashok Kumar Nagi (mandal Gen sec OBC) , Dr.Thoru Ram , Retd. S.P. Depty Lal .



Organisers gave a warm welcome to Braham Jyot and felicitated him . After that dignitaries lighted lamp and started the program.

Speaking on the occasion Braham Jyot praised the support of OBC communities in parliamentary elections and said OBC Communities Will unite and support Patriotic

Party BJP in the upcoming assembly elections.

He said OBC Communities are arms of BJP and the heart of BJP always beat for our OBC public. OBCs always support BJP in both provinces of Jammu Kashmir and under the dynamic leadership of our PM Narendra Modi, BJP is doing effective work for OBCs and

OBC communities are enjoying their all Constitutional rights in Jammu Kashmir.

He said OBC communities are backbone of our nation and they are patriotic and always works in National interest.

He said that PM Modi also belongs to OBC community and government is doing effective work for OBCs and few couple of years ago OBCs got effective reservation in educational institutions in Jammu Kashmir which was a great step by PM Modi .

He said Central Government is running lot of schemes for OBC Students like Pre Matric and Post Matric Scholarship, Hostel for OBC Students, Assistance for Skill development, National Fellowship, 27% reservation in admission in educational institutions which are highly beneficial.

He said OBCs are enjoying 27% reservation in other states/UTs in India

but in Jammu Kashmir they are not getting their all Constitutional rights.

He said under the dynamic leadership of PM Narendra Modi and with the positive efforts of senior leadership of BJP JK-UT our demands of 27% reservation will be fulfilled.

He said it a first time in history when all OBCs Communities participates together in a event which makes this massive rally a historic event.

"OBC communities cover a large amount of population and OBCs always works for nation's interest and vests their trust in BJP.

So we always put our genuine demands in front of BJP because BJP is our family and we are its family members.

He said with the indefinite support of OBCs BJP will get a full mandate in upcoming assembly elections and will form government at its own in Jammu Kashmir.

Ravidass Mahapeeth doing splendid service to the society: Kavinder

Former Dy CM praises Mahapeeth's mission of strengthening social fabric

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: Showering praises on Guru Ravidass Vishwa Mahapeeth for doing great service to the society through its fieldwork, former Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Kavinder Gupta, said that the social organisation is moving forward in its mission of strengthening sanatam culture in the country.

The former Deputy Chief Minister said this while receiving the portrait of Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidass from Balbir Ram Rattan, the National General Secretary of the Mahapeeth at Jammu, in presence of prominent social activists Prabhath Singh Jamwal and Subhash Gupta.

Kavinder Gupta said that India is a land of great saints, who devoted their entire lives for the cause of the society. These saints have always influ-



enced society through their teachings and ideals and contributed in giving a right direction to the misguided and misled individuals and masses. "Guru Ravidass was one such saint, who worked to spread the message of equality of all the people regardless of caste, creed or gender", Kavinder said and added that the path shown by Guruji leads to peace, prosperity and brotherhood.

Kavinder Gupta further said that it is not only

the Ravidassia community which follows teachings of Guru Ravidass but His devotional verses are included in the holy book of Sikhs known as Guru Granth Sahib, which speaks of the wider acceptability of the wider acceptability of what Guru Ravidass preached.

Balbir Ram Rattan presented the portrait of Guru Ravidass to Kavinder Gupta when he was greeted on being elevated as National General Secretary of Guru Ravidass Vishwa Mahapeeth.

J&K youth inspired from PM's vision of Aatmnirbhar Bharat: Sat



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: Vaishnavi Restaurant and Caterers, a fast food joint was inaugurated by Former Minister and Ex MLA Sat Sharma (CA) at Santra Morh, Pounichak area of Ward 32 in Jammu West Assembly segment. Accompanied by a large number of people including Mandal President BJP Keshav Chopra, District General Secretary BJP Rajesh Gupta, Owner Nikhil Suri and others, Sharma said that the young owner is inspired from the PM Narendra Modi's vision of Aatmnirbhar Bharat.

Speaking on the occasion, Sat Sharma said that the restau-

rant boasts an innovative menu, vibrant and quirky decor, and an experience to relish. He said the owner is offering unique and unforgettable experiences to the foodies and the delicious dishes & heart warming service will make it the most sought after eating destination in the city.

He stated that Jammu and Kashmir is known for its iconic food dishes and foodies love to explore new food dishes and Vaishnavi Restaurant will go a long way in satiating their taste buds for long. He wished the owner best for his endeavour. Sat also stated that PM has inspired the youth of J&K to become Job Creators instead of Job seekers and the owner

has also provided jobs to 5 people which will benefit the same number of families, he added.

Keshav and Rajesh congratulated the owner for opening up the new venture and said that it is located at an ideal location and apt place to spend quality time with family and friends while dining on sumptuous dishes.

Nikhil Suri thanked the dignitaries for inaugurating his venture and said that we are ready to treat people with lip smacking food and flavours and that too at reasonable prices.

Raman Sharma, Ravinder Khajuria, Sumit Malhotra Binny and several others were also present on the occasion.

KP leaders condole demise of revered brother of Ravi Thusoo

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: Notable & prominent Kashmiri Pandit leaders and social activists profoundly condole the sad and untimely demise of revered brother of Ravi Thusoo former Relief and Rehabilitation commissioner J&K and expressed heartfelt grief and shock on this sad occasion.

In a condolence message issued today these leaders namely M.K Yogi, Vinod Pandita, Ashok Kumar Koul, Balkrishan Bhat, Vinod Bhat , Vishal Jotshi and many others in a joint condolence message



expressed great shock and grief on this sad occasion and expressed solidarity and sympathy with the bereaved family in this hour of grief.

They further prayed to Almighty God to grant eternal peace to the departed noble soul, give courage and fortitude to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

Bus Carrying 31 Topples, Indian Army Provides Assistance at Tanda Akhnoor

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, July 29: A bus carrying 31 people including school students toppled after losing control near Tanda, on the morning of 29 July 24. The bus was moving towards Akhnoor when the incident occurred. A prompt response by Indian Army in evacuating the passengers and transporting them to Sub District Hospital, Akhnoor helped in saving lives of the critically injured. Indian Army also managed the traffic and ensured continuous flow of traffic on the National Highway. The locals, families of victims and civil administration appreciated the efforts of Indian Army.



Inter-Zone District Level Competitions concludes

Top News Report

KATHUA, July 29: The final matches of the U14 boys and girls Inter-Zone District Level Competitions were held at the Sports Stadium Hiranagar and Naz Ground Billawar, showcasing young athletes across a variety of sports.

At the Sports Stadium Hiranagar, competitions in Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, and Volleyball took place, while Chess, Badminton, Wrestling, Table Tennis (TT), and Rope Skipping were featured at Naz Ground Billawar.

The events highlighted the talents and sportsmanship of the participants. District Youth Services and Sports Officer Sunil Singh Sambhal addressed the players, stressing the importance of fair play and sportsmanship.

He also urged officials to select the best district teams for the upcoming division-level competitions. The successful



execution of these events emphasized the dedication to nurturing young

sporting talent and preparing them for higher levels of competition.

JKPSC should remove deficiencies found in advertisement issued for filling government vacancies: BSP

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: Bahujan Samaj Party Jammu Kashmir (BSP) President Darshan Rana has appealed to the Chairman of Jammu Kashmir Public Service Commission and said that the advertisement issued recently for filling vacant government posts has some deficiencies which should be removed soon.

He said that the advertisement issued by Jammu Kashmir Public Service Commission on 27 July for filling 90 posts has some deficiencies.

He said that in the advertisement, seven posts should be reserved for Scheduled Castes whereas only six posts have been reserved in the advertisement. Apart from this, 8 posts should be reserved for OBC category whereas only six posts are reserved in the advertisement issued. Apart from this, 6 seats have been shown instead



of three seats for LAC/IB posts. In such a situation, the Public Service Commission needs to improve this advertisement as soon as possible and a new advertisement should be issued.

He said that due to this flaw, there is a dilemma among the candidates as well. The BSP chief demanded the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu Kashmir and the Chief Secretary of Jammu Kashmir to intervene in this matter so that the situation can be clarified. He said that the Jammu Kashmir Public Service Commission needs to correct its mistake as soon as possible.

HPS confers "Lifetime Achievement Award" to Dr. Shreyansh Jain

Top News Report

KATHUA, July 29: Hari Prabhu Sanstha (HPS) celebrated its 20th Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Foundation Day at the Indian Institute of Public Administration in Gujroo Nagrota (Billawar), Kathua.

The event was marked by the conferral of the prestigious "Lifetime Achievement Award" to Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, honoring his significant contributions to the field of yoga over a distinguished career spanning 50 years.

The ceremony was graced by Col (Retd) Mahan Singh, Chairman DDC, who served as the Chief Guest. Shri DK Vaid, Former Director of Education, presided over the event. Special guests included ID Soni, Chief Patron; Harinder Gupta, Chairman; Jagmohan Gupta, Patron; and Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner and President of Vichar Kranti Manch International.

The event commenced with a Vedic prayer and the lighting of the traditional lamp by the chief guest and other dignitaries. Kuldeep Gupta, General Secretary of HPS, introduced the dignitaries, and Sansar Chand Gupta, President of HPS, delivered the welcome address.

Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain was honored with



the "Lifetime Achievement Award in Yoga" in recognition of his extensive work in the field. Dr. Jain began his yoga career in 1972 and has since taught at Jammu University and Central University Jammu, training students through various yoga courses.

He has been referred to as the "Ramdev of Jammu" for his contributions. His work exemplifies the holistic benefits of yoga, including disease prevention and health promotion.

Meritorious students were awarded mementoes, including Arjun Mahajan, who was selected for Indian Administrative Services (IAS) and Indian Police Services (IPS). Donors who generously supported Hari Prabhu Sanstha were also recognized.

Kuldeep Gupta, Financial Secretary, present-

ed the financial report for 2023-24, which was approved by the attendees. SC Gupta, President, outlined the aims and objectives of the Sanstha, activities conducted over the past 20 years, and proposed the budget for the upcoming year.

Several individuals, including Sh Harinder Gupta, ID Soni, Jagmohan Gupta, SC Gupta, Anil Sharma, Vijay Verma, and Dev Kumar, were applauded for their dedicated service.

The program included chanting of Vedic mantras and Shanti Path, as well as a yoga session led by Anil Sharma. The event concluded with the National Anthem.

Vijay Verma delivered a vote of thanks, encouraging participants to provide feedback on the Sanstha's operations to help improve its services.

Mysterious blast leaves four dead in Sopore

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 29 (Agencies): Four persons died after a mysterious blast took place in north Kashmir's Sopore afternoon on Monday, officials said.

Officials told GNS that

a mysterious blast took place at Shair Colony Sopore in which four persons received critical injuries and were subsequently shifted to nearby hospital where doctors declared three of them brought dead. Another person who

was critically injured has been referred to SKIMS Soura, however on way to hospital he also succumbed to his injuries.

The deceased have been identified as Nazir Ahmad Nadroo a resident of Shair Colony, Azam Ashraf Mir a resi-

dent of Shair Colony and Adil Rashid Bhat; while as the identity of the fourth one is being ascertained.

Meanwhile police has registered a case in this regard and investigations have been taken up.

EDITORIAL

Save Earth: A
Call to Action

Our planet, Earth, is a marvel of nature, teeming with life and natural wonders. Yet, it faces unprecedented challenges that threaten its health and sustainability. Climate change, deforestation, pollution, and loss of biodiversity are some of the pressing issues that demand our immediate attention. To preserve the beauty and functionality of our planet, it is imperative that we adopt a unified approach to environmental conservation and sustainability.

The impact of human activities on the environment is profound. Industrialization and urbanization have led to significant increases in greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to global warming and climate change. This has resulted in more frequent and severe weather events, such as hurricanes, floods, and droughts. Additionally, deforestation, driven by agriculture and urban expansion, has led to the loss of vital forests that act as carbon sinks and habitats for countless species.

Pollution, another major issue, contaminates our air, water, and soil. Air pollution from vehicles and industries leads to respiratory problems and contributes to global warming. Water pollution from industrial runoff, agricultural chemicals, and plastic waste threatens aquatic life and contaminates drinking water. Soil degradation and contamination reduce agricultural productivity and harm ecosystems.

The loss of biodiversity, driven by habitat destruction, pollution, and climate change, endangers numerous species and disrupts ecological balance. Biodiversity is crucial for ecosystem resilience, providing essential services such as pollination, soil fertility, and climate regulation.

To address these challenges, a multi-faceted approach is required. Individual actions, community initiatives, and governmental policies all play a role in environmental protection.

Each person can contribute to environmental conservation through simple yet impactful actions.

Minimize waste by reducing consumption, reusing items, and recycling materials. Opt for products with minimal packaging and support businesses that prioritize sustainability.

Use energy-efficient appliances, switch to renewable energy sources, and adopt energy-saving practices such as turning off lights and unplugging devices when not in use.

Fix leaks, use water-efficient fixtures, and practice water conservation techniques, such as taking shorter showers and using drought-resistant plants in landscaping.

Walk, bike, use public transportation, or car-pool to reduce your carbon footprint. Consider electric or hybrid vehicles to further minimize emissions.

Community efforts can amplify individual actions and create a broader impact.

Promote awareness about environmental issues and sustainable practices through educational programs and community workshops.

Organize or participate in local clean-up events to tackle litter and pollution in parks, rivers, and streets.

Encourage the use of locally-produced and sustainably-sourced goods to reduce the carbon footprint associated with transportation and support local economies.

Engage in or support tree-planting initiatives to combat deforestation and enhance green spaces in urban areas.

Governments play a crucial role in shaping environmental policies and regulations. Enforce laws and regulations that limit emissions, reduce pollution, and protect natural habitats. Invest in and incentivize the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power, to reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Establish and maintain protected areas, such as national parks and wildlife reserves, to conserve biodiversity and ecosystems. Encourage practices and technologies that promote sustainable economic growth while minimizing environmental impact.

Saving Earth requires a collective effort from individuals, communities, and governments. By taking responsibility for our actions, supporting community initiatives, and advocating for effective policies, we can contribute to a healthier and more sustainable planet. The challenges we face are significant, but with commitment and collaboration, we can create a future where Earth's natural beauty and resources are preserved for generations to come. Let us act now to ensure that our planet remains a vibrant and thriving home for all living beings.

By: G Parthasarathy

Chancellor, Jammu Central University, & Former High Commissioner to Pakistan

EYEBROWS were raised in the Western world over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Moscow at the invitation of Russian President Putin just when the NATO alliance was meeting in Washington to take decisions on the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Like his past visits to Russia, this one was successful in addressing a number of issues — most importantly, energy and defence cooperation. The trip came weeks after the US Department of State published a report on alleged human rights abuse in India. The report described India as a country where human rights were violated routinely. It asserted that Manipur had been shaken by instances of rape, armed conflict and assaults, accompanied by the destruction of homes, shops and places of worship.

One has to take note of the growing readiness and confidence of the Democratic Party to confront Trump in the presidential elections.

The US report noted that activists and journalists in India had reported violence in the northeastern state. This can happen in any democracy when sections of the people take to arms. Media coverage of such happenings is not new in India. The media is free to cover incidents across India. The Modi government predictably deployed security forces to enforce curfews in

Shifting realities of India-US ties

response to the growing violence in Manipur. The Supreme Court has also intervened over the developments in Manipur, calling for effective measures for restoration of peace.

The violence in Manipur, which is located near the border with China, has largely ended. There has been criticism of the government's policies in Manipur by the Opposition. Such issues are resolved within the framework of the country's Constitution, with the active participation of the Opposition and often the involvement of the Supreme Court. The US report on the developments in India, however, appears one-sided, unrealistic and undiplomatic. It can only be described as an ill-advised effort, set to lead to a downward spiral in the India-US relationship.

The main question for India now is whether Kamala Harris, if she wins the presidential race, will follow the confused and somewhat less-than friendly path of her mentor Joe Biden or focus on the strategic ties that have taken the US-India relationship to a new high. One can only hope for a new beginning in India-US ties.

Interestingly, The Wall Street Journal has noted: "Democrats are newly energised as they rally behind Kamala Harris for President." One has to take note of the growing readiness and confidence of the Democratic Party to take on former President Donald Trump in the presidential elections.

The US Administration's major attention in the coming months

will be on the Russia-Ukraine conflict; the Western world, led by Biden, continues to pour in money, arms and ammunition to the Ukrainian government. According to a German institute, the US and the European Union have pledged or provided "more than \$380 billion" in military, financial and humanitarian aid to Ukraine since 2022. The impact of the Ukraine conflict is being felt across Europe. Even Azerbaijan has supplied bombs to the conflict zone via Sudan. Not to be left behind, Pakistan has also reportedly provided Ukraine with Kamikaze drones, man-portable air-defence systems and surface-to-air missiles. One wonders how long this conflict will continue, with the loss of lives mounting. This is a war that will go on, unless Trump, who has opposed US involvement, is elected President. Trump has left no doubt that he is not interested in spending US taxpayers' money on the conflict in Ukraine.

There are, however, serious challenges ahead if Harris chooses to continue the Biden policy of pouring in money and armaments into a seemingly unending conflict. While Russia may be willing to cede some territory it has taken over, it will never agree to a settlement without retaining a firm control of its access to the sea, which it has historically controlled. The Russian military intervention in Ukraine started only after it became evident that Ukrainian President Zelenskyy was joining the US in measures which would compromise Russia's territorial integrity and national security.

India certainly has no interest in getting drawn into the rival-

ry and ambitions of European powers. But it cannot afford to turn the other cheek when a foreign power seeks to promote a propaganda barrage against it. New Delhi has, after all, been dealing with a ruler (Biden) in Washington, who, as Vice-President, had chosen to travel all the way from Islamabad to Rawalpindi to call on a Pakistani four-star General.

The US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, meanwhile, commenced his reference to human rights from the days of his July 2021 visit to India. He had then said: "There are few relationships in the world that are more vital than the one between the US and India. We are the world's two leading democracies and our diversity fuels our national strength... Both of our democracies are works in progress. Sometimes that process is painful. Sometimes it's ugly. But the strength of democracy is to embrace it."

It is not clear how Harris will run the State Department if she becomes President. One hopes that the people in Washington realise that there is a contradiction between referring to India as a strategic ally on the one hand and then criticising its alleged human rights violations in official documents on the other.

Interestingly, Harris has moved ahead with campaigning against Trump, whose candidate for Vice-President is 39-year-old Senator JD Vance; the latter's wife is Indian-origin Usha Vance. We are headed for interesting times as the election gathers steam.

Health Support

By: Vijay Garg

Found once in life, obviously the body is also found only once. The body itself supports a person till the end. A rare and very useful thing which is found only once, should be loved immensely. It is the responsibility of the parents to take care of the children's body. They are able to take care of children not only within the framework of their economic system but also within the framework of family habits. Children take inspiration from their parents and take physical care by being active in neighborhood and school sports activities in the company of other children. Start doing. Walking, cycling and many outdoor sports play an important role in this. Such children remain active and busy, but this happens in very few families. Even if such facilities are available in the neighbourhood, most families remain indifference towards physical care. Many times a person becomes thin before marriage. Generally this is seen in case of women. But after marriage, this situation may change due to change in lifestyle and eating habits. Actually, the beginning of life before marriage. The format adopted changes due to the new environment of the in-

laws' house, changing routine as per the husband's habits, climate of the new place etc. If coordination is established wisely, one's body can be kept in order. Your body can be stopped. It is true that in many cases genetic genes play an important role in controlling our body or making us sick, among which obesity harms not only the body but also the life. Causes many diseases. No matter what can be done, take as many power pills as you want. Be it soup or juice, obesity does not go away in most lives. It is a matter of fact that the businessmen of the health world have run an industry worth crores in the name of reducing obesity, but it is not easy to be healthy and slim. If the tough vines of obesity get wrapped around the natural tree of the body, it proves painful. In normal families, women who have to take care of the household chores, take care of their husband, children and even in-laws and usually do not care about their body at all. In their body Gradually the diseases take over. Medicines become a means of staying healthy. Some people often say that they do not get time, but most of us are such people who have time to watch the programs running on TV. Similarly, watching reels or other content on smartphones

has now been considered an essential task. There is plenty of time to talk on the phone. If serious advice is given to them to take a walk or run for some time in the morning, then such things seem like useless talk to them. Many people think that healthy and attractive is important for the body to go to the gym and exercise. Accordingly, clothes, especially foreign clothes and equipment, attract them a lot. People who exercise in the gym are envied for how conscious they are about their health and body. But what can be achieved just by jealousy? In some homes, equipment is available, but after using it for a few days, there is no change in the body, because to correct obesity or it can be said that the deteriorating proportion of the body requires solid exercise, controlled eating habits and more time. hM restless people want to get back a slim, attractive, well-built body in just a week which can be possible only in movies. As a result, the appliance is left standing sadly in some corner of the house. Actually, the benefits of exercising in the gym are mentioned, but in a way it can also be called unnatural. We have harmed nature a lot and do not even like natural and completely free methods of physical exercise. Food

has a special role in this context. Especially the modified food. Surprising fakes are present. The tongue has got into the habit of chasing different tastes. Here again it is proved that we do not love our body, but want to take advantage of it, just like any delicious, favorite sweet or food. We consider negligence when it comes to visiting a doctor. Then the mind thinks that I wish I had taken care of my diet and done proper exercise. In many cases it is too late. Whatever has to happen in life, happens. This kind of thinking also makes us sad and inactive., inspires one to become careless. Besides, increasing facilities have also harmed life. The body remains better controlled in less facilities. Stamina increases. The more you feed the body the offerings of hard work, the more disciplined the body remains. Loving the body does not mean being comfortable, decorating with fake cosmetics, eating and drinking everything.

(Vijay Garg Retired
Principal Educational
Columnist Malout
Punjab)

Dimple leads protest against PDD, PHE deptt

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: Under the leadership of President Sunil Dimple, Mission Statehood workers, accompanied by a large group of women, children, and elderly residents, staged a vigorous protest on Janipur High Court Road.

The demonstration was directed against the Public Distribution Department (PDD) and Public Health Engineering (PHE) departments, focusing on grievances related to incorrect electricity bills, frequent and prolonged power cuts during the sweltering summer, and severe shortages of drinking water.

Addressing the gathering, Sunil Dimple criticized the PDD for its lack of accountability. He claimed that incorrect bills were being issued, resulting in harassment



for poor families, and that extended power outages were becoming a norm.

Dimple accused the PDD and PHE of overcharging and issuing high tariff bills.

He also pointed out that power was being cut off if bills were paid even a day late, leaving the residents of Jammu city without electricity and drinking water.

Dimple highlighted sev-

eral infrastructure issues, alleging that transformers and jumpers in various wards, including those in the Gladni Grid and Janipur, were either defunct or malfunctioning.

He claimed that these problems were causing damage to electrical appliances like fans and air conditioners due to power fluctuations.

He further criticized the

billing process, stating that there were no SMS notifications about paid bills, and that the website failed to update or accurately reflect payments, leading to confusion and repeated incorrect billing.

He called for the return of the Salal, Uri, and Ratli power projects to Jammu and Kashmir. He demanded that electricity bills for poor families be waived.

Dimple urged that J&K power projects' electricity supply be restricted from being sent to other states and focus instead on fulfilling the needs of J&K residents.

Dimple requested the government to provide 500 units of free electricity per month to the people of Jammu and Kashmir and to provide free drinking water.

He appealed to LG Manoj Sinha to waive old electricity bills and ensure the provision of free drinking water in the region.

The protest saw active participation from leaders including Ashok Sharma, Reka Devi, Koushlya, Rani Devi, Shakuntla, Poomam S. Mangu Singh, Partap Singh, Vikram Singh, Sudershan Sharma, Rinku Sharma, and many others, all voicing their support for the demands and concerns raised.

'Nigeenpora Premier league 2024 concludes, Danar Capitals cricket team lifts trophy



Top News Report

KULGAM, July 29: The Nageenpora Premier League Tournament held in Nageenpora playfield Kund in Kulgam district concluded on today and the tournament was lifted by Danar Capitals cricket team by defeating Batangoo eleven.

32 teams participated in the tournament and the final match was attended by Manager ICICI Bank Parvaiz Ahmad, Secretary Auqaf Committee Waltangoo Kund and President Journalist Union Kulgam Gh Nabi Khanday, AIP Incharge

Devser constituency and GM Vira foods and feeds Dr Suhail Ahmad Bhat, who was the Chief Guest on occasion Auqaf members of the area, and senior citizens of kund valley and hundreds of spectators participated in this grand final

Batting first, Batangoo eleven scored 156 runs in 15 overs, and Danar Capitals achieved the target in just 12 overs and 3 overs remaining and won the final by 8 wickets. Man of the Match was goes to Shoaib Ahmad who scored 64 runs in just 17 balls and the man of tournament

was goes to Ubaid Bashir for his brilliant performance throughout the tournament who belongs from Nigeenpora of the finest all rounder in Kund Valley.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Suhail Ahmad Bhat said that sports activities keep youth fit and develop their overall wellbeing. He said that while participating in sports activities youth should not lose focus on education.

Khanday thanked the organising committee members and spectators for making the tournament successful,

Seven-day Minjar fair concludes in Zamanabad



Top News Report

KANGRA, July 29: The seven-day Minjar Fair, held in Zamanabad, Kangra from July 22 to 28, concluded with a lively celebration.

On the final day, MLA Pawan Kajal attended as the chief guest. He commended the fair committee for their successful organization of the event in a small village and expressed his support for elevating the fair to a district-level event in the future. MLA Kajal also donated Rs 1 lakh to the fair committee and praised the organizers and anchor

Sandeep Chaudhary for their contributions in bringing recognition to both Zamanabad and the Kangra district.

During the closing ceremony, MLA Kajal honored several individuals and teams for their achievements. The awardees included the winners of various sports competitions, such as the tug of war, as well as participants in singing and dancing contests. Notable individuals recognized were social workers Poojan Bhandari, Trilok Nath, and Sumit Gupta (Chairman of Apna Kangra Entertainment), and Dr. Rajiv

Dogra, a young poet and writer.

Ashok Kumar, the Head of the Minjar Mela Zamanabad Committee, presented MLA Kajal with a memento as a token of appreciation. The event also saw the participation of Deputy Head Kuldeep Panyari, Balbir Patrawal, various committee members, and special guests including Ashok Gautam, Savin Singh, Bhagya Thakur, and Sunny Rana.

In the evening, the Minjar Mela Committee, accompanied by a band, floated the Minjar tied to their wrists in the nearby Manuni ravine, marking the conclusion of the fair.

Samsung India launches new range of ACs featuring WindFree and 360 degree bladeless technology

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, announced the launch of its latest innovation – the new WindFree Air Conditioners in the Chilled Water Indoor category. This new range features the Wind-Free and 360 degree Bladeless Technology in Chilled Water-based Cassette Units, designed to offer a superior cooling experience without the discomfort of direct cold draft for the user.

The chilled water-based cassette units allow users to set a desired temperature, and the WindFree cooling technology gently disperses cool air up to 15,000 micro-air holes at wind speed of 0.15m/sec. In addition, the advanced airflow system cools rooms faster while operating quietly, generating only 24 dB(A) of sound at its lowest level, akin to a whisper, making it ideal

for bedrooms, studies, and baby rooms.

The new Fan coil unit WindFree ACs are connected to a Central Chilled Water System using water pipes and associated valves. These Hydronic Fan Coil Units circulate hot or cold water through coils to heat or cool large spaces. These units can be used with Samsung Air-cooled Chillers or any third-party air-cooled and water-cooled chillers.

"At Samsung our objective is to provide convenience and durability to end users through our cutting-edge product offerings. The Chilled Water Fan Coil units provide superior cooling at a faster pace while operating quietly. The cooling units are most appropriate for large spaces and our endeavor is to make airflow systems more advanced, soothing and accessible", said Vipin Agrawal, Senior Director, SAC Business, Samsung India.

Bhagwat Katha Vachak Bhardwaj wins hearts of devotees



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: A 7-day grand event of Shrimad Bhagwat Katha Gyan Yagna was concluded in North East District Delhi Arvind Nagar Shiv Mandir Dharmsala, in which Katha Vachak Vyasa Pandit Rahul Krishna Bhardwaj narrated the Bhagwat Katha.

Hundreds of Sanatan lovers took advantage of the Katha with great devotion for seven weeks and listened to the Katha.

On this occasion, on the last day, at the conclusion

of the Katha, BJP District President Poonam Chauhan, BJP Senior leader Raju Chandel, Corporation Councilor Anil, BJP Senior Vice President Deepika Chandel were present.

Katha Organizing Head Bharti Joshi along with hundreds of mothers and sisters were present and enjoyed Bhagwat Geeta and Katha Vachak Pandit Rahul Krishna Bhardwaj was honored by Chief Guest District President BJP Poonam Chauhan, Raju Chandel, Deepika Chandel, Anil by giving

Ang Vastra.

Chandel said that the region will benefit from organizing such religious Sanatan events from time to time, peace will prevail and knowledge will spread, Sanatanis will gain wisdom and Sanatan Dharma will be propagated, such events spread the message of Sanatan Dharma all over the world and today our country has become Vishwa Guru. The country will soon become Akhand Bharat and such religious events will bring Ram Rajya in the country.

KDP Wing of DPAP highlights demands of displaced people

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: In a joint statement issued by KDP Wing of DPAP through its President Sanjay Dhar, Piaray Lal Pandita Chairman, Raj Kumar Ticku General Secretary and Naveen Gosani Youth President have demanded that Govt of India as well as UT Govt of J&K must work out a concrete resettlement, Rehabilitation Policy with all Constitutional admissible packages and compensations of 34 years property and gutting, losses but in consultation with real sufferers of genocidal exodus after 1990 especially languishing in Camps.

The Leaders after recent visit to Valley have conveyed it's dismay regarding allotment of Accommodation to PM Package Employees as the pace of construction, completion of quarters in Valley for the purpose is very slow, resulting in sufferings to these employees and quarters although allotted to employees at Udina and Barramulla are having mechanical problems paving a way to unhygienic, frequent movement in these quarters and their faced problems require to be addressed on priority basis.

The Leaders have appealed to the Authorities to complete the con-

struction of these quarters for allotment before setting in this year winter.

The Leaders have appealed to redress the problems of P.M. Package employees viz, Suitable safe zone postings, promotions and for merger of PM Package Employees Cadre at Par with U.T. Govt employees to remove the disparities and so that their salaries are brought on U.T. exchequer as they are rendering their services to the Public in Valley.

The Leaders have appealed for earliest taking over of Water supply scheme of Jagti Migrant Camp by Jal Shakti Department as per Govt.order NO.381 dated: 21.04.2021, to save the residents fur. Irregular unhygienic water supply by Private Contractors and to save the Lacs of Rupees per month from Govt.exchequer.

The Leaders have appealed to enhance Cash assistance from Rs.108/- per day per soul to Rs.300/- per soul per day for survival in view of the more than 200% hike in essential commodities since last enhancement during 2018.

The Leaders have stressed for earliest renovation, repairment of Buildings, Lanes, By Lanes, Parks and drains in Jagti and other Camps on war footing basis, including repairs and

metallic of road leading from Jagti to Kandoli.

The Leaders have demanded to release the Atta to Ration Holders and release of Ration to Pensioners and low paid employees.

The Leaders have appealed to deploy at least fifteen Armed Personal in JAGTI Camp as only four Personal are deployed in Police post Jagti to cater 25000 souls and have demanded to deploy police guard at exit and entry guard Huts of the Camp and Lacs of Rupees have been incurred on these Guard rooms, besides installation of 27 CCTVs although sanctioned since one year back have not been installed require priority.

The Leaders have demanded that for smooth digitization works, a Computer operator requires to be deployed in Relief Zone Jagti for online usual works of Camp people especially for issuance to necessary certificates required by wards of Migrants.

The Leaders have demanded to deploy at least 6 need based people for maintenance of inner Electric maintenance faults who stand already engaged by Relief Organisation as electricians, but deployed in offices as only one lineman is presently working in such a congested Camp.

All party protest on August 3, appeals public to participate

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: All party protest will be held in Jammu on August 3 to demand restoration of democratic rights and full statehood.

The final decision regarding the demonstration was taken in the all-party core committee meeting held here today under the chairmanship of Sheikh Abdul Rehman. On this

hash Kumar (CPI-M), Narendra Khajuria were present.

All the above leaders allege that the amendments recently implemented in the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, under which the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir was increased, have almost hollowed out the right to vote of the people.



occasion, committee conveners ID Khajuria and Manish Sahni along with co-conveners Narendra Gupta (Congress), Vijay Lochan (NC), Sohil Sharma (PDP), Ramesh Sarman (DOM), Rakesh Singh (NC), Nirmal Mahana (AAP), Narendra Singh (S Akali Dal), Comrade Sukhdev Singh (DBYC), Sunny Kant chib(HRC) Sub-

With the demands to immediately roll back the above amendments, all party protest and dharna will be organized on August 3 at Maharaja Hari Singh statue site in a peaceful manner. All the leaders have appealed to the people to participate in the protest in large numbers to maintain the power of their voting rights.

Sahil releases devotional album "Bawe Wali Maa Pagat Matha Takdai"



Top News Report

JAMMU July 29: At a event held at the Writer Club in Jammu on Monday, Sahil Mahajan, the Co-Convenor of the BJP J&K UT Sanskriti, Art and Culture Cell, released a new devotional album titled "Bawe Wali Maa Pagat Matha Takdai."

The album release ceremony was a collaborative effort with Ramesh Jogi, Munish Punjabi, V Kaith, singer Master Manish, and Rohit Gupta.

The album's launch was organized by singer Vijay Malhotra, who also produced the album. "Bawe Wali Maa Pagat Matha Takdai" features vocals by Nidhi Singh, music by

V Kaith, and a video created by Sonu Tenja. The lyrics were penned by Nidhi Singh, and the production was dedicated to Vijay Malhotra's parents.

The album is available on YouTube through the Singer Vijay Malhotra Music Channel.

During the release, Sahil Mahajan expressed his appreciation for the BJP Sanskriti Art & Culture Cell J&K's efforts in supporting young talent. He emphasized the importance of nurturing creative individuals, noting that such initiatives not only honor the rich cultural heritage of Jammu & Kashmir but also contribute positively to its reputation.

Mahajan lauded the

young talent of the region for their contribution to devotional music, highlighting the album "Bawe Wali Maa Pagat Matha Takdai" as a cherished piece that resonates deeply with the local community. He commended the entire production team, especially the singers and creators, for their dedication and hard work.

Vijay Malhotra also spoke at the event, noting that new opportunities are increasingly available for creative minds. He emphasized the significance of India's rich cultural heritage and the importance of guiding young talents towards nurturing their skills with a positive mindset.

Amitabh Bachchan statue in New Jersey listed as tourist attraction on Google Maps

Gopi Seth installed Bachchan's life-size statue in August 2022 outside his residence in Edison city, about 35 kilometres south of Manhattan in New York

A life-size statue of Bollywood superstar Amitabh Bachchan installed by an Indian-American businessman outside his New Jersey residence in the US has now been listed by Google as a tourist attraction.

Gopi Seth installed Bachchan's life-size statue in August 2022 outside his residence in Edison city, about 35 kilometres south of Manhattan in New York.

"Our home has become one of the most popular tourist attractions, thanks to the Amitabh Bachchan statue. Recognised by Google Search, this site attracts a growing number of visitors each day," Seth told agency.



In two years since then, fans of the Indian superstar have been coming to this place, taking pictures and selfies, with many of them posting on social media platforms like Instagram and X.

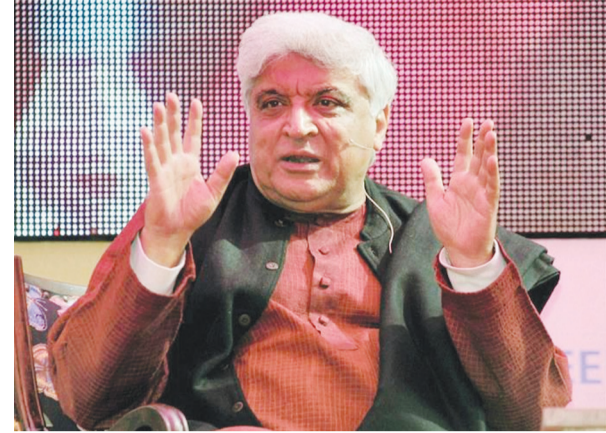
"Fans of Mr Bachchan from all around the world travel to see the statue, with 20 to 25 cars of families arriving daily. Visitors often leave greeting cards and letters, expressing their admi-

ration for the legendary actor," Seth said, sharing some of the videos of the fans visiting the statue.

Seth said the popularity of his home extends far beyond in-person visits. "Enthusiastic fans post videos, photos, and tweets about their experiences, flooding social media platforms like Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok. These posts have garnered significant attention, further boosted the site's fame and made it a trending destination on the internet," he said.

"Our home stands as a testament to Mr Bachchan's global appeal, and we are honoured to welcome fans from every corner of the globe," he said.

Javed Akhtar's X account 'hacked', lyricist says they are in process of complaining to authorities



Noted lyricist-screenwriter Javed Akhtar has said his X account was "hacked", following which a "totally harmless" message about the Indian contingent for the Paris Olympics 2024 was sent under his name.

The 79-year-old, who

actively uses the micro-blogging site to express his views on a range of topics, shared the update on his page.

"My X ID is hacked. There is a message ostensibly from my account about our Indian team for Olympics. It is totally harm-

less but not sent by me," Akhtar wrote.

He neither revealed when he found out about the alleged breach of security nor did he detail the contents of the alleged post that was sent out from his verified page.

The industry veteran also informed his 4.6 million followers on X that "we are in the process of complaining" to the concerned authorities at the social media platform.

His bio on the platform reads: "A poet, lyricist, scriptwriter, atheist and a die-hard optimist". His handle name, "@Javedakhtarjadu", is a combination of his real name and nickname.

Shehnaaz Gill 'felt a ghost' in her room: There were negative energies

Actress and social media sensation Shehnaaz Gill, who is currently touring the US, claimed she "felt a ghost" in her room and sensed some "negative energies" while in Miami.

Shehnaaz shared a vlog on YouTube, where she was seen exploring the streets of Miami with her brother Shehbaz and other family members.

The vlog showed her visiting a makeup store and stopping by a restaurant to enjoy some carrot juice.

During a brief walk, Shehnaaz asked her cousin to recount what had happened the previous night.

Her cousin responded, "There was a ghost in the room."

Shehnaaz then elaborated, "Guys, we experienced something. There were some negative energies in our room. She will explain it better and then share what Shehbaz did."

Her cousin explained how they all slept during the wee hours but were awakened by a strange sound.

Shehnaaz added that Shehbaz was so scared he refused to enter the room until everyone else was there. He justified his actions by saying, "How will I save you if I am not safe?"

The vlog continued with Shehnaaz showing herself spending time on the beach and meeting some fans.

Shehnaaz began her career in the world of glamour as a model and featured in a music video in 2015 titled



'Shiv Di Kitaab'. She entered the Punjabi cinema scene in 2017 with 'Sat Shri Akaal England'.

Her life took a significant turn in 2019 when she participated in the controversial reality show 'Bigg Boss 13', hosted by Salman Khan.

The actress gained a massive fan-base after finishing third in the show, which was won by the late actor Sidharth Shukla.

Shehnaaz has also appeared in films such as 'Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan' and 'Thank You for Coming'.

Nikita Dutta: I didn't pay much attention to PR machinery after Kabir Singh

As she completes 10 years in the film industry, actor Nikita Dutta is embarking on a new journey as she makes her Marathi film debut with Gharat Ganpati. Ask her about this new venture and she says, "I never thought I'd get into regional films. Since I have come in this industry, I have stuck with Hindi, be it TV, films or OTT. But when this film came to me, I loved the idea of it. I am speaking Hindi in the film, not Marathi. So, the whole idea of not knowing the language and still pretending to know, wasn't there and I just had to be myself. So, I felt I could do justice to the part and be a part of that world even without knowing the language."

The actor insists that artistes in regional cinema are more focused on their craft as compared to Bollywood. "A lot of my co-actors



are theatre actors. So, they come from a very hardcore acting-oriented school of thought. They aren't more about the

appearances but their performances, and I really appreciate it," she says, adding that while regional cinema

is making its way pan-India, it's only for the popular films. "Unless the film is talked about, it doesn't get the eyeballs. When Sairat (2016) came out, and people talked about it, that's when even I went to see the film. And that's what happens with any regional film out there. Once the release happens and there's a buzz around it afterwards, that's only when it is viewed pan-India," Dutta insists.

Ask the 33-year-old to describe her 10 years in Bollywood and she calls them "adventurous". "This is an unpredictable industry. I started with a film (Lekar Hum Deewana Dil, 2014) and thought it would continue there, but then I suddenly got into TV. Then I came back to films. So, you can't plan anything here," she shares.

The biggest success for Dutta in this

time has been Shahid Kapoor starrer Kabir Singh (2019). The film gave a boost to Kapoor and actor Kiara Advani's career a big boost. Does she feel she didn't get that kind of push from it as her co-stars did? "Everyone got their share and even I did get a push. Post Kabir Singh, I had five films in hand, but then lockdown happened and two of those films got shelved, two of them went instead from theatres to OTT and one film's release got pushed by three years. So, everything went haywire. Also, there is a lot of PR machinery that goes behind pushing you. And probably that's something I didn't pay much attention to after Kabir Singh came out. I am not saying I didn't get my due; everyone played their best cards, probably I didn't play them that well at the time," she ends.

Pashmina Roshan: When I was starting out, rejections would really bog me down

Actor Pashmina Roshan recently stepped into the limelight with her debut film Ishq Vishq Rebound. Despite the film's mixed reception at the box office, Roshan's performance has garnered attention, making headlines for her portrayal in the romantic comedy. Now, in an exclusive interview, Roshan reveals her deep-seated passion for acting and the arts, citing her early exposure to filmmaking on the sets of Koi Mil Gaya...!

"We visited (the set) almost every day. I remember feeling like it's Disneyland, like the happiest place on the planet Earth," she tells us.

However, her journey into Bollywood hasn't been without its share of hurdles. "It's definitely been an uphill climb, and I'm sure it's going to continue to be so, despite my last name," the 29-year-old shares candidly adding, "When I was starting out, rejections would really bog me down, I would be anxious and I remember crying a lot.

Countless rejections later, I began to develop a new perspective and take it less personally. It was only then that I realised that the rejections have developed certain valuable skills in me—Patience, perseverance, temperance and humility. It also gave me courage and confidence to get up after being rejected.

Now I think I can take rejection and setbacks with a lot more grace, and understanding."

Roshan reveals it's taken her years of auditioning, rejections, hard work and patience to be able to make an entry into films despite coming from a film family.

She also mentions feeling the pressure of living up to her last name. "I definitely do feel the pressure. I am very self-critical, so it's pressure that I mostly put on myself," she admits adding, "Pressure to be better, to perform better, and to evolve and make a place for myself in this industry like the rest of my family has."

When asked why she did not collaborate with her uncle, filmmaker



Rakesh Roshan for her debut film and if she's ever discussed a potential project with him, Roshan says, "It is my dream to work with him one day.

He is incredible and I admire his creativity and business acumen. We never discussed potential projects. But, one day I will be worthy enough of that discussion. I am waiting for that day with bated breath."

But why did she choose Ishq Vishq Rebound to mark her entry into films? Roshan says its for her love for romantic comedies and the iconic status of Ishq Vishq.

"The movie was so iconic and beloved that even the idea of being a part of the franchise was like a dream come true for me."

Looking ahead, Roshan says she's focused on her growth and aspirations. "I would like to work on a plethora of genres, and I hope to get more opportunities to do so," she shares optimistically. "I would love to do a thriller, action, comedy, romance...the list is truly endless," she wraps up.

Hina Khan goes organic amid cancer treatment, grows turmeric at home



Actress Hina Khan, who is currently undergoing chemotherapy for Stage Three breast cancer, has shared a glimpse of her home-grown turmeric and advocates for going

organic. The 'Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai' actress, who boasts 20 million followers on Instagram, took to her stories section and shared a video of a turmeric plant grow-

ing in a pot at her house.

The post was captioned: "Homegrown pure haldi in making #GoOrganic."

In another story, the actress offered a peek into her delicious meal, captioned: "Thani daar chochowor".

Another video showed Hina praying with a Tasbeeh in her hands.

The actress also shared a glimpse of her dinner, which featured 'shorshoi bata #mustardfish'.

For the unversed, Hina announced her breast cancer diagnosis on June 28.

Hina is best known for her role as Akshara in the popular TV show 'Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai'. She has also participated in 'Fear Factor: Khatron Ke Khiladi 8', 'Bigg Boss 11', and 'Bigg Boss 14'.

The actress has also been a part of movies like 'Hacked', 'Wishlist', and the short film 'Smartphone'.

Recently, Hina made her Punjabi film debut with 'Shinda Shinda No Papa', alongside Gippy Grewal. She also has 'Country of Blind' in the pipeline.

PM Modi to address industry leaders post-union budget

The conference is being organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and is aimed at presenting the outline for the government's larger vision for growth and the industry's role in this endeavour.

NEW DELHI, Jul 29 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the inaugural session of 'Journey Towards Viksit Bharat: A Post Union Budget 2024-25 Conference' at Vigyan Bhawan, in the national Capital on Tuesday (July 30), according to a PMO statement issued on Monday.

The conference is being organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and is aimed at presenting the outline for the government's larger vision for growth and the industry's role in this endeavour.

More than 1,000 participants from the industry, government, the diplomatic community, think tanks among others will attend the conference in person while many would connect from the various CII centres across the country and overseas.

PM Modi had stated that Union Budget 2024-25 "would be a catalyst for making India



the third-largest economy in the world and for laying the strong foundation for a Viksit Bharat."

He pointed out that the budget would ensure inclusive growth, benefiting every segment of society and pave the way for a developed India.

"This is a budget that will take the country's villages, poor and farmers on the path of prosperity. In the last ten years, 25 crore people have come out of pov-

erty," he remarked.

The address to India Inc. also comes in the backdrop of the NITI Aayog meeting chaired by PM Modi on Saturday with the theme 'Viksit Bharat@2047', that has its central focus on making India a developed nation.

The PM said that Viksit Bharat @ 2047 is the ambition of every Indian and states can play an active role to achieve this aim

as they are directly connected with the people.

He observed that India has achieved steady growth in the last ten years with the Indian economy, which was ranked the 10th-largest economy in the world in 2014, rising to become the 5th-largest economy by 2024.

India is on track to become the world's third-largest economy with the GDP crossing the \$5 trillion mark and the goal is now to reach a \$30 trillion economy by 2047.

The Union government has adopted a 'Team India' approach to achieve the goal of a 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047 by taking the states on board.

PM Modi emphasised that the country needs to take advantage of the opportunities that are emerging due to the technological and geopolitical changes taking place in the world.

Atmosphere of fear prevails in country, Opposition will break BJP's 'chakravyuh': Rahul Gandhi in Lok Sabha



NEW DELHI, Jul 29 (Agencies): Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Monday used the 'chakravyuh' metaphor as a leit motif to say that an atmosphere of fear pervades the country and allege that the budget's sole aim was to strengthen the framework of monopoly capital, political monopoly and the deep state.

Participating in the debate in the Lok Sabha on the Union Budget of 2024-25, Gandhi claimed the fear is spreading through a 'chakravyuh' with everybody trapped in it, including BJP MPs, farmers and workers.

"Thousands of years ago in Haryana, in Kurukshetra, six people killed a youth, Abhimanyu, in a 'chakravyuh'. A 'chakravyuh' has violence and fear. Abhimanyu was trapped and killed in the 'chakravyuh'," he said.

Gandhi's reference was to the Mahabharat legend according to which Abhimanyu was

killed in a 'chakravyuh' -- a multi-tiered maze and formation -- in which he was trapped.

He said the 'chakravyuh' is also called a 'Padmavyuha' which is a multi-tiered formation that looks like a lotus (the BJP symbol).

"You build a 'chakravyuh', and we break the 'chakravyuh'," Gandhi said, asserting that the opposition would break this cycle by carrying out a caste census.

"In the 21st century, another 'chakravyuh' has been prepared, it is in the form of lotus and the prime minister (Narendra Modi) wears the symbol on his chest. What was done with Abhimanyu is being done with youth, women, farmers and MSMEs," he said.

The Congress leader said the 'chakravyuh' that has captured India has three forces -- the idea of monopoly capital and concentration of financial power; institutions and agencies such as the CBI, ED and IT department; and

the political executive.

These three together are at the heart of the 'chakravyuh' and have devastated this country, Gandhi said.

"My expectation was that this budget would weaken this 'chakravyuh'. We expected that it would help farmers, labourers and small and medium businesses. But the sole aim of the business is to strengthen the framework of monopoly business, political monopoly and the deep state or the agencies," Gandhi said.

"This 'chakravyuh' attacked and destroyed the small and medium business -- this was done through demonetisation and tax terrorism. The budget did nothing to end this tax terrorism...the finance minister did not say a word on paper leak," Gandhi said.

In his address, Gandhi said the INDIA bloc will ensure that farmers get the legal guarantee for MSP.

Gandhi said the middle class always listened to the prime minister and even clapped and switched on lights of their phones when he asked them to during Covid. But now that class was turning towards the INDIA bloc having been disappointed by this government.

Woman found chained to tree in Maharashtra forest; cops recover US passport photocopy

MUMBAI, Jul 29 (Agencies): A 50-year-old woman was found tied to a tree with an iron chain in a forest in Maharashtra's Sindhudurg district, and a photocopy of her US passport as well as other documents, including an Aadhaar card with a Tamil Nadu address, were recovered from her, a police official said on Monday.

A shepherd heard her

cries on Saturday evening in Sonurli village, some 450 kilometres from here, and alerted police after finding her chained and in distress, the official said.

"The woman was rushed to a hospital in Sawantwadi (in the state's Konkan region) and then Oros in Sindhudurg. Considering her mental and health condition, she was shifted to Goa Medical College

for advanced treatment. She is out of danger. Doctors treating her said she suffers from psychiatric problems. We have found medical prescriptions in her possession," the official informed.

"We found her Aadhaar card with a Tamil Nadu address and a photocopy of her United States of America passport. She has been identified as Lalita Kayi. Her visa has expired.

We are getting all these documents verified to ascertain her nationality. Police is also in touch with the Foreigners Regional Registration office," he said.

As per initial information obtained by police, the woman has been in India for the past 10 years, the official said.

"The woman is not in a position to give her statement. The woman is weak as she has not

eaten anything for a couple of days and also as the area experienced heavy rains. We don't know for how long she was tied to that tree. We believe her husband, who hails from Tamil Nadu, tied her there and fled," he said.

The official said police teams have left for Tamil Nadu, Goa and some other places to trace her relatives as part of the probe.

Sena (UBT) leader's son dies of heart attack while arguing with autorickshaw driver

PALGHAR, Jul 29 (Agencies): The 45-year-old son of a Thane Shiv Sena (UBT) leader died of a heart attack during an argument with an autorickshaw driver in Vasai in Palghar district, after which police registered a case of culpable homicide not amounting to murder against an unidentified person, an official said on Monday.

Milind More, son of Raghunath More, former Thane district chief of the undivided Shiv Sena, was at a resort in Navapur with his family when the incident took place late Sunday evening, Deputy Commissioner



of Police Jayant Bajbale said.

"While moving out of the resort, he had an argument with a rickshaw driver, during which he collapsed and was rushed to a nearby hospital. Doctors there declared him dead on arrival and opined heart attack as the prima facie cause," he said.

Based on the com-

plaint More's kin, a case was registered under section 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita against an unidentified person, the DCP added.

Milind More is the deputy chief of the Thane unit of the Shiv Sena (UBT), party functionaries said.

"AAP's negligence led to old rajinder nagar incident": Bansuri Swaraj

NEW DELHI, Jul 29 (Agencies): BJP MP from Delhi, Bansuri Swaraj, on Monday, raised the Old Rajinder Nagar incident, where three UPSC aspirants lost their lives due to flooding in the coaching centre's basement and labelled it as the Delhi government's "criminal negligence."

Describing the incident as "heartwrenching," Bansuri Swaraj mentioned that water from drains flooded the basement of a coaching centre, claiming the lives of three students.

The BJP MP said, "These students came from Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala to



Delhi to prepare for the IAS examination and to brighten their future. But with sadness, I have to say that they lost their lives because of the negligence, or I would say criminal negligence, of the Delhi government."

Labelling the death of these three students as "utter and absolute apathy of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)," the first-time parliamentarian said, "The criminal negligence of the ruling dispensation of the AAP in Delhi has caused the

death of these three students."

"For the past decade, the AAP has been in power in Delhi but is not working for the people of Delhi. In the last two years, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), Delhi Jal Board and cleanliness of the drainage systems are under the jurisdiction of the AAP government, but they neither upgraded nor de-silted the drains," she added.

The Lok Sabha MP also mentioned that local residents had repeatedly complained to the local legislator, councillor, and administrative officers on July 22 and July 24, but

their concerns were not addressed. "The MLA was joking about it but did not take any action," she asserted.

Concluding her speech, Bansuri Swaraj called for the Home Ministry to look into the negligence of the Delhi government.

"I urge the Home Ministry to form an investigative committee which will look into the Delhi government, which solely focuses on publicity and corruption, to launch an enquiry on why the drains in the national capital are not cleaned and why the Delhi Jal Board is in such a bad condition," she said.

Bombay High Court imposes cost of Rs 4 crore on Patanjali for breach of court order in trademark infringement case

MUMBAI, Jul 29 (Agencies): The Bombay High Court on Monday imposed a cost of Rs 4 crore on Patanjali Ayurved Ltd for the alleged breach of a 2023 interim order that restrained the company from selling its camphor products in relation to a trademark infringement case filed by Mangalam Organics Ltd.

A single bench of Justice R I Chagla noted that there was a "wilful and deliberate" breach of the court order by Patanjali.

The bench said it has no doubt in its mind that Patanjali had an intention to flout the court order.

The bench disposed of a petition filed by Mangalam Organics Ltd seeking contempt action against Patanjali for selling its camphor products despite a restraining order from the court.

Justice Chagla directed Patanjali to deposit Rs 4 crore within two

weeks.

This was in addition to Rs 50 lakh the high court had directed the company to deposit earlier this month.

In August 2023, the high court, in an interim order, prohibited Patanjali from selling or advertising its camphor products.

Mangalam Organics had filed a suit against the company alleging copyright infringement of their camphor products.

Mangalam Organics later filed an application claiming that the Ayurveda firm was in breach of the interim order as it continued selling the camphor products.

The court took note of the June 2024 affidavit submitted by Rajneesh Mishra, director of Patanjali, tendering an unconditional apology and an undertaking to abide by the orders passed by the high court.



Mishra, in the affidavit, claimed there was a cumulative supply of the impugned camphor product amounting to Rs 49,57,861 after the passing of the injunction order.

The bench on Monday said while a case of imposing imprisonment on defendant Mishra was made out, it was refraining from passing such an order as his personal liberty was at stake.

The court said if Rs 4 crore is not deposited within two weeks, Mishra would be taken into custody immediately.

Customs seize Tramadol worth Rs 110 crore in Gujarat set for fraudulent export to west Africa

AHMEDABAD, Jul 29 (Agencies): The Customs department at Mundra port in Gujarat's Kutch district seized 68 lakh Tramadol tablets worth Rs 110 crore from two export containers destined for the West African countries of Sierra Leone and Niger.

Tramadol has gained notoriety in recent times as the 'fighter drug' after it was reported that ISIS fighters consume it to stay awake for long hours, said a PIB release on Monday.

Tramadol, an opioid pain medication, was notified as a psychotropic substance under the NDPS Act in 2018 and its export is restricted.

This seizure by Mundra Customs is among the



largest seizure of Tramadol since it was notified under the NDPS Act, said the release.

"Based on specific intelligence gathered by Special Intelligence & Investigation Branch of Mundra Customs, two export consignments of a Rajkot-based merchant exporter were intercepted and exam-

ined undeclared medicine strips having labels as 'Tramaking 225' and 'Royal-225', both containing Tramadol Hydrochloride Tablet 225 mg. Neither the strips nor the boxes had any details of the manufacturer," the release added.

A total of around 68 lakh tablets of Tramadol with an international street price of around Rs 110 crore were recovered by the Customs officers during the examination, and follow-up searches are underway at Rajkot, Gandhinagar and Gandhidham, said the release.

The synthetic opioid drug is reportedly in high demand in African nations like Nigeria and Ghana.

No country should dominate others: Quad in clear message to China

Without directly naming China, the four foreign ministers expressed serious concern over the situation in the East and South China Seas.

TOKYO, Jul 29 (Agencies): In a loud and clear message to China, the Quad on Monday reaffirmed its steadfast commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific, vowing to work towards a region where no country dominates others and each state is free from coercion in all its forms.

At a meeting here, the foreign ministers of the Quad countries called for upholding the free and open rules-based international order and respecting the principle of freedom, human rights, democratic values, sovereignty and territorial integrity of nations.

Without directly naming China, the four foreign ministers expressed serious concern over the situation in the East and South China Seas and reiterated the Quad's strong opposition to any "unilateral actions that seek to change the status quo by force or coercion."

The meeting was attended by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Japanese Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa and Australia's Penny Wong.

"All countries have a role in contributing to regional peace, stability, and prosperity while seeking a region in which no country dominates and no country is dominated, competition is managed responsibly, and each country is free from coercion in all its forms and can exercise its agency to determine its own future," the



ministers said in the statement.

The Quad also vowed to work towards a free, open and prosperous Indo-Pacific, a region that has seen increasing Chinese military muscle-flexing in the last few years.

"We reaffirm the Quad's steadfast commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific, which is inclusive and resilient, and are united in our commitment to upholding the free and open rules-based international order, with its strong support for the principle of freedom, human rights, the rule of law, democratic values, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and peaceful settlement of disputes," the ministers said.

The ministers also referred to increasing Chinese manoeuvres in the South China Sea, especially the "dangerous use" of coast guard and maritime militia vessels.

"We continue to express our serious concern about the mili-

tarisation of disputed features, and coercive and intimidating manoeuvres in the South China Sea," the joint statement said.

"We also express our serious concern about the dangerous use of coast guard and maritime militia vessels, the increasing use of various kinds of dangerous manoeuvres, and efforts to disrupt other countries' offshore resource exploitation activities," it said.

The ministers emphasised the importance of adherence to international law, particularly as reflected in the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), to address challenges to the global maritime rules-based order, including in the South and East China Seas.

The ministers also "unequivocally" condemned terrorism and violent extremism in all its forms including cross-border terrorism.

"We deplore the use of

unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), drones, tunnels and information and communication technologies by terrorists and terrorist entities," they said.

"We strongly reiterate our condemnation of terrorist attacks, including the 26/11 Mumbai and Pathankot attacks and call for bringing the perpetrators of these attacks to justice without delay," they added.

The Quad urged all countries to take immediate, sustained and irreversible action to prevent territory under their control from being used for terrorist purposes.

"We are committed to working together to promote accountability for the perpetrators of terrorist attacks and support implementation including through domestic designations of UN Security Council resolutions as they pertain to sanctions," the ministers said.

"We reiterate the call for concerted action against all UN-listed terrorist groups including Al-Qa'ida, ISIS/Daesh, Lashkar e-Tayyiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), and their proxy groups," they said.

The ministers said the Quad is committed to international cooperation and working together with our international and regional partners in a comprehensive and sustained manner to strengthen their capacity to prevent, detect and respond to threats posed by terrorism and violent extremism.

Pakistani woman saving money for her hernia surgery dies by suicide after she gets inflated electricity bill

She had carefully set aside funds for her treatment, but the sudden bill left her with no other option, leading to a tragic sequence of events

GUJRANWALA, Jul 29 (Agencies): A 65-year-old woman, Razia Bibi suffering from a hernia, committed suicide after using her treatment money to pay an unexpected electricity bill, agency reported.

She had carefully set aside funds for her treatment, but the sudden bill left her with no other option, leading to a tragic sequence of events.

She had diligently saved money for her hernia operation.

However, when faced with an unexpected electricity bill of Pakistani currency (PKR) 10,000, she had no choice but to use her medical savings to settle the payment, as per agency.

Following this, the son of Razia Bibi stated that his mother had gone out to buy medicine but was deeply distressed over the financial setback, overcome by despair, she jumped into a nearby drain, as per the police officials.

"My mother was a hernia patient and had saved money for her operation, but after

receiving the electric bill of Rs 10,000, she paid it with the money saved for her surgery and later committed suicide," Usman said.

Razia Bibi's daughter rushed to save her mother but was unsuccessful, while the local authorities are currently conducting a search operation to recover the woman's body.

Footage of the incident leading up to the tragedy has emerged. Meanwhile, The Gujranwala Police have initiated an investigation into the incident.

Recently, Pakistan's right-wing party Jamaat-i-Islami (JI) Emir Hafiz Naeemur Rehman issued a stern warning to the government, threatening to expand their ongoing sit-in protest in Rawalpindi to other areas of the country if demands regarding increased electricity bills and taxes are not met, as reported by Dawn.

According to reports, the sit-in, which is currently taking place at Liaquat Bagh, could see further escalation if the government does not respond to the

demands.

The news report quoted Rehman saying, "If the government is thinking that the sit-in would continue on Murree Road only, it is wishful thinking. If they do not reduce electricity bills in a genuine manner, do not address the matter of IPPs (independent power producers), and do not revoke the [tax] slab on the salaried class, then this sit-in would not remain limited to here; it would spread further to the entire country." Rehman criticized the government's handling of the economic situation, noting that even industrialists are struggling to pay their electricity bills.

"I met traders and industrialists here in the past week and they lamented, 'we are at our limits and cannot run our factories anymore,'" Rehman said, as reported by Dawn. He highlighted the broader economic impact, pointing out that the closure of a single factory results in thousands of people losing their jobs.

Venezuela President Nicolas Maduro wins re-election, gets 51.2% Of votes

CARACAS, Jul 29 (Agencies): Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro won reelection with 51.2 per cent of votes cast Sunday, the electoral council announced, after a campaign tainted by claims of opposition intimidation and fears of fraud.

Elvis Amoroso, president of the CNE electoral body, in its majority loyal to the government, told reporters that 44.2 per cent of votes had gone to opposition candidate Edmundo Gonzalez Urrutia who had been leading in polls.

Maduro, 61, won a third six-year term at the helm of the once wealthy petro-state where GDP dropped by 80 per cent in a decade, pushing more than seven million of its 30 million citizens to emigrate.

In office since 2013, he is accused of locking up critics and harassing the opposition in a climate of rising authoritarianism.



Independent polls had suggested Sunday's vote could bring an end to 25 years of "Chavismo," the populist movement founded by Maduro's socialist predecessor and mentor, the late Hugo Chavez.

Gonzalez Urrutia replaced popular opposition leader Maria Corina Machado on the ticket after authorities loyal to Maduro excluded her from the race.

Machado, who campaigned far and wide for her proxy, urged voters late Sunday to keep "vigil" at their polling stations in the "decisive hours" of counting amid widespread fears of fraud.

Maduro counts on a

loyal electoral apparatus, military leadership and state institutions in a system of well-established political patronage.

Sunday's election was the product of a mediated deal reached last year between the government and the opposition.

The agreement led the United States to temporarily ease sanctions imposed after Maduro's 2018 reelection, which was rejected as a sham by dozens of Western and Latin American countries.

But the sanctions were snapped back after Maduro reneged on the agreed condition.

Kamala Harris campaign garners support; hosts thousands of events over weekend

WASHINGTON, Jul 29 (Agencies): The Kamala Harris campaign held thousands of events across the country over the weekend, focusing on battleground states, making a case for the vice president's vision of the US driven by people's power.

Vice President Harris, 59, is the presumptive presidential nominee of the Democratic Party. She officially declared her candidacy for president last week after incumbent President Joe Biden withdrew from the race for a second term on July 20. She is, however, yet to be officially declared as the presidential candidate by the Democrats.

The Harris campaign said on Sunday it has intensified its effort after raising a whopping USD 200 million in a week and with 17,000 volunteers having signed up.

Over the weekend, the campaign mobilised thousands of grassroots supporters who have signed up to volunteer since the campaign launch — through thousands of events, phone banks, and canvass launches across the battleground states.

Harris will be up against former president Donald Trump, the Republican Party's presidential candidate for the high-stakes November 5 general elections.

Taking to X, "Harris for President" Battleground States Director Dan Kanninen said, "100 days out! Our teams in battleground states have been building and were ready for it. 1,300+ staff (and growing), 250+ offices, (and) tens of thousands of volunteers. Talking to millions of voters. 2,300 events in battlegrounds. Just this weekend." "One hundred days before Election Day, Team Harris is leveraging the historic grassroots



enthusiasm we've seen for our campaign and putting it to work. For over a year, our team has been building the battleground infrastructure needed to reach and persuade the voters who will decide this election — and now, we're kicking it into overdrive," Kanninen said.

"We have an enormous battleground advantage over Donald Trump, and this weekend, that is going to be painfully clear to the Trump-Vance campaign. Our campaign is off to a running start and doing the work to defeat Donald Trump and send Vice President Harris to the Oval Office," he said.

The battleground states are Arizona, Nevada, Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Georgia and North Carolina.

According to the campaign, this weekend, Team Harris held Kamala coffee hours, soul food potlucks, Pride trivia nights, office openings and other events to reach voters wherever they are and talk to them about all that's at stake in the November 5 election.

Leaders like Second Gentleman Douglas Emhoff and many volunteers hit the doors to talk directly to voters.

In addition, "Harris for President" organised phone banks for bilingual Spanish speakers,

labour organisers, and senior citizens.

The campaign also held youth, women, labour, and LGBTQ+ national organising calls with thousands of supporters.

It also hosted watch parties so volunteers and supporters could watch Harris on RuPaul's Drag Race and learn more about how they can volunteer with and support her White House bid.

"In a close election and a fragmented media environment, our campaign is leveraging trusted messengers and preexisting community ties to break through to voters and drive home the stakes of this election," a statement by the campaign said.

In addition, dozens of high-profile surrogates representing the broad, diverse coalition the campaign represents were on the road and in their home states campaigning for Harris this weekend.

"While Donald Trump still has little to no infrastructure in the battlegrounds, the Vice President inherits more than 250 coordinated battleground offices and 1,300 staff who have been building strong relationships and volunteer bases on the ground for months," the Harris Campaign said.

"This week, the Vice President also raised more money in 48 hours than Donald Trump did in all of June — on top of the quarter billion war chest she inherited from the Biden-Harris campaign," it said.

"With a popular message, a strong record, multiple pathways to 270 electoral voters, and unprecedented funding and enthusiasm on her side, the Vice President is in a strong position to take on Donald Trump and win in 100 days," the campaign said.

Elon Musk claims Google placed search ban on Donald Trump

SAN FRANCISCO, Jul 29 (Agencies): Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk on Monday attacked Sundar Pichai-run Google, saying if the search giant is interfering with the US Presidential election, they are going to face "a lot of trouble".

Sharing a screenshot where a Google search on "president Donald" resulted in "president Donald Duck" and "president Donald Regan," the tech billionaire asked if the tech giant has placed a search ban

on the former US president and Republican presidential nominee.

"Wow, Google has a search ban on President Donald Trump! Election interference?" asked the X owner.

Musk further said Google is "getting themselves into a lot of trouble if they interfere with the election".

An X user posted that "Google is owned by Democrats".

Another Musk follower commented: "Elon, I'm sure they'll claim you're suppressing the Demo-



crats, but my algorithm shows me both parties posting their thoughts and opinions. Under the previous management, anyone who didn't share the same views

as the left was limited or banned".

However, some X users also slammed Musk, saying "You have a search ban on so many accounts you

don't like. What's the difference?"

Meanwhile, the presidential race between Kamala Harris and Trump is incredibly close, according to a new media poll, revealing a surge in support for Harris among non-white voters and a significant rise in enthusiasm among Democrats for her campaign.

Trump maintains a slight lead, garnering 49 per cent of the vote compared to 47 per cent for Harris, according to the Wall Street Journal poll.

Russia says it stopped a drone barrage on its soil while it pushes for a breakthrough in Ukraine

KYIV, Jul 29 (Agencies): Russian air defenses thwarted a nighttime barrage of 39 Ukrainian drones over five of the country's regions, Russian authorities said Monday, while Kyiv officials said the Kremlin's forces made a new push to overwhelm battlefield defenses on the front line in eastern Ukraine.

Russia's Defense Ministry said the drones were "intercepted and destroyed" in regions bordering Ukraine as well as in the Leningrad region roughly 700 kilometers (430 miles) north of the Ukrainian border. A power plant, a bridge and a power line were damaged by drone debris, it said.

Ukraine has employed high technology in its campaign of increasingly ambitious drone strikes deep inside Russia that target critical infrastructure in an attempt to make the war that is now in its third year more costly for Moscow and hinder its war machine.

Russian troops, meanwhile, are intensifying their weeklong drive to breach Ukrainian defenses around Pokrovsk, a town of around 60,000 people before the war, the Ukrainian General Staff said Monday.

Russia launched 52 attacks there over the previous 24 hours — almost twice the daily number in recent weeks.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy late Sunday described the situation in the Donetsk region, which includes Pokrovsk, as "extremely challenging." Russia's strategy of attritional warfare, with powerful glide bombs pulverizing Ukrainian defensive positions before infantry move in, has brought incremental gains for the Kremlin as it seeks a big breakthrough that has eluded it since capturing Avdiivka in February. Ukraine is significantly outgunned by Russia's bigger army on the roughly 1,000-kilometer (600-mile) front line.

J&K Masters Games Association Hosts Pivotal General Body Meeting in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: The J&K Masters Games Association (JKMGA) held a significant general body meeting today in Jammu. Presided over by Sh. Ranjit Singh Chib, former SSP and International Handball Player, the gathering marked a milestone with the announcement of JKMGA's affiliation with the Super Master Game Association.

Sh. Ranjit Singh Chib highlighted the transformative impact of master athletes on Indian society. "These athletes challenge stereotypes about ageing and inspire people of all ages to lead active lifestyles. They serve as role models, demonstrating that it is possible to remain fit and competitive well into later years," he stated.

The meeting also featured a presentation by the association's legal



advisor, Sh. Rakesh Sharma, who introduced the newly established bylaws for association registration. Additionally, the logo of the JKMGA was unveiled, symbolizing a new chapter for the organization.

Neete Kour, General Secretary and International Player, emphasized the inclusive nature of the Master Games, targeting individuals aged 35 and above. She announced

an upcoming tournament for 35+ players in Jammu & Kashmir, encouraging all athletes, both men and women, to participate and support the Fit India Movement.

The meeting saw valuable contributions from notable sports personalities, including Ravinder Singh (International Athlete), Akshay Khajuria (International Handball Player), Renu Rattan (International Handball

Player), Dr. Sonia Chib (Physiotherapist), Mamta Bajaj (International Handball Player), Praval Sharma (National Handball Player), Nishi Gupta (Basketball Player), Sanjay Puri (National Handball Player), Anjali Jain (Fitness Expert), Chandan Chouhan (National Handball Player), Ujjwal Malhotra (National Table Tennis Player), Pankaj Malhotra (National Kho Kho

Player), and S. Angad Singh (Player of Multiple Sports). Their suggestions aimed at strengthening the JKMGA and promoting a more inclusive and health-conscious society.

Despite their physical absence, several members, including Dhheraj Nagpal, Ashutosh Sharma, Kapil Sagotra, Somraj Gupta, Yojana Charak, Manpreet Kour, Sudesh Kumar, Tajinder Singh, Harinder Singh, Vinod Bhatia, Vinay Saraf, and Dr. Jagan Deep Singh, interacted virtually with the members, offering their support, suggestions, and best wishes for the JKMGGA's future endeavors.

This meeting marks a significant step forward for the JKMGGA as it continues to promote fitness and competitive spirit among older athletes, setting an inspiring example for the broader community.

'Save Earth'-World Nature Conversation Day Celebrations at Poonch, Rajouri, Reasi



Top News Report

POONCH/RAJOURI/REASI, July 29: World Nature Conversation Day is observed on 28 Jul 2024 each year to raise awareness about importance of preserving the environment and natural resources. The day emphasizes the need for sustainable practices to protect the planet for future gen-

erations. Indian Army organized lectures for the children on the topic 'World Nature Conversation Day' to spread awareness on environmental issues such as deforestation, pollution, climate change and loss of bio-diversity. Indian Army also organized tree plantation drives at Ichini, Keri & Darhal. The events were attend-

ed by school children during which role of the Armed Forces reflecting their personal experiences was highlighted and was appreciated by the locals. The ongoing and persistent efforts of the Army in conducting such events have helped establish a strong understanding between the Indian Army and the local community to save the mother earth.

Motivational Lecture by Gallantry Awardees at Kalal, Rajouri



Top News Report

RAJOURI, July 29: Army organized a Motivational Lecture by Gallantry Awardees, on 29 Jul 2024 at Government Higher Secondary School, Kalal, Rajouri district. He

shared first-hand experiences of sacrifices and the spirit of valour that Indian Army exhibited during Kargil War, which motivated and reminded the youth and locals of the accounts of dedication and courage. This event served as a tribute to the

heroes who defended our country and a source of motivation for those aspiring to join the 'Armed Forces'. A sense of patriotism was felt in the environment while the lecture was being delivered by the Veterans. Such lectures by the War Heroes, leaves a positive impact on young generation and motivates them to join Indian Army and become responsible citizens of our country. The program was very well received, appreciated and attended by total of 39 students (both girls & boys) and two teachers. The students & teachers were quite enthusiastic and keenly participated in the open views session. The local students paid keen interest and conveyed their gratitude for conducting such graceful event in a remote village in order to motivate the youth of the Area.

Baba Barfani's fourth Bhandara concludes

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: As the Amarnath Yatra commenced last month, Harnam Singh, President of the All India Manhas Sabha, organized a Langar for the devotees of Baba Barfani at Kunjwani, the entry point into Jammu.

This Langar provided essential services such as food and water for the devotees arriving by road for the entire month. Comfortable arrangements for sitting and resting were also made. The Langar concluded on Monday morning with



a satsang led by women and a special prayer to Lord Shiva.

Harnam Singh highlighted that this Langar service has been a tradition for the past four years. While they have typically set up the langar at Kunjwani Chowk, this year's construction work on the

Amritsar-Katra Expressway necessitated a relocation slightly behind the original spot. Despite this, the Langar continued successfully both day and night, providing valuable support and comfort to the pilgrims. Singh expressed hope that with continued blessings from

Bholenath, the Langar will be a yearly event.

The event also saw praise from notable figures, including State Congress Committee General Secretary and former Chairman of Jammu Municipal Corporation, Satish Sharma, who commended Harnam Singh and his family for their active involvement in religious activities.

The conclusion of the Langar was marked by the presence of various political leaders and dignitaries, further acknowledging the efforts and impact of the service provided.

FROM PAGE 1

FM Nirmala Sitharaman to move Jammu and Kashmir appropriation bill in LS Today

on the recommendations contained in the 317th Report of the Committee on 'Preparation for Olympic Games, 2021' pertaining to the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

He will also make a statement on "The status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 332nd Report of the Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 325th Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2021-2022) pertaining to the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports," it added.

Khadse will also make a statement on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 339th Report of the Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports on Demands for Grants (2022-2023) pertaining to the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

"The status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 344th Report of the Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 339th Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2022-2023) pertaining to the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. The status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 351st Report of the Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports on Demands for Grants (2023-2024) pertaining to the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports," the agenda stated.

"The status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 357th Report of the Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 351st Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2023-2024) pertaining to the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports," the list of business stated.

Union Ministers Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Pankaj Chaudhary, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, Kirtivardhan Singh, Raksha Nikhil Khadse, Sukanta Majumdar and Harsh Malhotra will lay papers on the table today. Moreover, Union Minister Bhupender Yadav will move the motion for the election of two members to the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the National Tiger Conservation Authority, subject to the other provisions of the said Act," it stated.

In the Rajya Sabha, Union Ministers Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu, Rao Inderjit Singh, Shripad Yesso Naik, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, Satish Chandra Dubey, Tokhan Sahu and Raj Bhushan Choudhary will lay papers on the table. Both Houses of Parliament took up discussion on the Union Budget 2024 on July 24, with opposition parties accusing it of being "discriminatory" to most states and lacking vision. The budget session of Parliament began on July 22 and, according to schedule, will end on August 12.

Rusted mortar shell recovered in Poonch

Surankote area, the officials said. According to the officials, the villagers informed a nearby army camp about spotting the explosive shell, which was subsequently defused by army experts without causing any damage.

Kashmir parts receive rains, ending unprecedented dry spell

The subsequent record night temperature of 24.8 degree Celsius made conditions particularly uncomfortable for the city's inhabitants.

Due to the soaring temperatures and intense heat, authorities have suspended school activities for primary classes till Tuesday in the Kashmir Valley.

Reports of light to moderate rainfall came in from various parts of the valley. The Meteorological Centre in Srinagar forecast rain and thundershowers for many parts of the Kashmir Division, including Gulmarg, Tangmarg, and parts of Baramulla, Doodh Pathri, Khan Sahib, and surrounding areas of Badgam. Additional areas expecting rain include Pulwama, Shopian, Qazigund, Anantnag, and parts of Srinagar and Ganderbal. Some areas may experience brief intense showers.

On Monday, the weather will remain generally cloudy with intermittent light to moderate rain and thundershowers in many parts of the Kashmir Division and most places in the Jammu Division, the weather office said.

Over the next two days, the weather will continue to be generally cloudy with intermittent light to moderate rain and thundershowers in many parts of the Kashmir Division and widespread areas of the Jammu Division.

From August 1 to 7, the weather is expected to remain generally cloudy with intermittent light to moderate rain and thundershowers in many places in the Kashmir Valley and most

areas in the Jammu Division, the weather office said.

The Meteorological Office has issued an advisory warning that intense showers for brief periods may cause flash floods, cloud-bursts, landslides, mudslides, and shooting stones in vulnerable areas of Jammu and Kashmir. There is also a possibility of heavy rainfall in a few places in the Jammu Division.

Ladakh getting two Districts, Empowered LAHDCs and an Army Battalion

interests of the region's residents. The Union Territory status, granted on August 5, 2019, was a long-standing demand, particularly from Leh district, and was fulfilled with the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Powers to the Hill Development Councils of Leh and Kargil will be given in such a way that the safeguards issue of the Ladakh bodies is adequately addressed," the newspaper quoted the sources revealing. The administration is also likely to approve the creation of four new districts, including Nubra and Zaskar, to manage the region's development needs better.

In response to the increasing defence and security needs, another regular battalion under the Ladakh Scouts is expected to be established. Including the Boti language in the Eighth Schedule is also a major demand likely to be fulfilled, highlighting the cultural significance of Ladakh's linguistic heritage. Infrastructure development remains a priority, with expedited work on the Kargil airport and expected permission for civilian aircraft to land at Thoise airport in Nubra. These steps aim to improve connectivity during the harsh winter months when the Srinagar-Leh National Highway is often closed.

Man's death after being beaten up by Police sparks protests in Jammu

Jammu, was playing cricket near his house when a police party raided the area in search of drug traffickers on Sunday evening, the sources said.

Sharma's family alleged he was detained and severely beaten up by the cops before they left the spot.

He was rushed to hospital where he died, the family said, adding the body was lying at the hospital's mortuary for postmortem.

The protesters blocked the main road at Bantalab on Monday morning, demanding an inquiry into the incident and seeking justice.

"He was working as an electrician and was the only earning hand in the family... we want justice," Sharma's younger sister Shivani said.

Senior police and civil officers were rushed to the scene to persuade the protesters to disperse, assuring an investigation into the incident.

Wildlife Division Jammu cracks down on online illegal trade, arrests accused with rare articles

A case has been registered against the accused under WLOR No.01/ROJ/2024-25, and further investigation is underway to dismantle the nexus of wildlife offence and its illegal online trade.

This successful operation highlights the commitment of the Wildlife Division Jammu to curb wildlife crime and protect India's precious biodiversity.

India's Digital Economy Poised To Constitute 1/5th Of GDP By 2026: RBI Report

both direct benefit transfers and tax collections, the report said. Vibrant e-markets are springing up and expanding their reach.

"It is estimated that the digital economy currently accounts for a tenth of India's GDP; going by growth rates observed over the past decade, it is poised to constitute a fifth of GDP by 2026," the report said.

Several enabling forces have come together to energise this revolution. Although internet penetration in India was at 55 per cent in 2023, the internet user base has grown by 199 million in the recent three years.

India's cost per gigabyte (GB) of data consumed is the lowest globally at an average of Rs 13.32 (USD 0.16) per GB. India also has one of the highest mobile data consumption in the world, with an average per-user per-month consumption of 24.1 GB in 2023.

In the foreword of the report, the RBI Governor also said the flagship UPI has revolutionised the retail payment experience for end-users, making transactions faster and more convenient.

In the digital currency arena, the Reserve Bank of India is at the forefront with pilot runs of the e-rupee, the central bank digital currency (CBDC).

The digital lending ecosystem is becoming vibrant with initiatives such as Open Credit Enablement Network, Open Network for Digital Commerce and the Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit.

He said fintechs are collaborating with banks and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) as lending service providers. They are also operating platforms to facilitate digital credit. BigTechs are backing payment

apps and lending products as third-party service providers.

"Digitalisation in finance is paving the way for next-generation banking; improving access to financial services at affordable costs; and enhancing the impact of direct benefit transfers by effective targeting of beneficiaries in a cost-efficient manner," Das said.

He noted that loans in the retail segment are being enabled by online payments and innovative credit assessment models with instant disbursements. Also, e-commerce is being boosted through embedded finance. "All these innovations are making financial markets more efficient and integrated," the Governor said.

At the same time, Das said digitalisation also presents challenges related to cybersecurity, data privacy, data bias, vendor and third-party risks, and customer protection.

"Increased inter-connectedness may lead to systemic risks. Additionally, emerging technologies can introduce complex products and business models with risks that users may not fully understand, including the proliferation of fraudulent apps and mis-selling through dark patterns," he said.

The report, on the theme 'India's Digital Revolution', said digitalisation is transforming India's financial sector by changing the way financial institutions operate and interact with their customers and provide financial products and services.

Amidst several benefits, digitalisation also brings new challenges in terms of complex financial products, greater interconnectedness, cybersecurity risks, financial frauds, and customer protection, with implications for macro-financial stability.

These issues need to be addressed to realise the full potential of financial digitalisation, it said.

The report, the central bank said, reflects the views of the contributors and not of the Reserve Bank.

Digitalisation can impact inflation and output dynamics, and monetary policy transmission in diverse manners and the overall impact could vary over time given the fast pace of developments, the report noted.

In this environment, it said central banks would need to incorporate digitalisation aspects comprehensively into their models for the continued efficacy of monetary policy and the achievement of their price and financial stability.

The report finds empirical support for the positive role of the regulatory framework in increasing the confidence of consumers in digital financial products, boosting operating and technical efficiencies of financial institutions and engendering more liquid and integrated financial markets. (Agencies)

Modi Govt always stood for rights of ST community: Rekha Mahajan

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan's address was met with enthusiasm and appreciation from the ST Morcha gathering here at Bhatindi of Bahu Constituency, who expressed gratitude for the Modi led government's commitment to their empowerment.

Rekha Mahajan highlighted the various initiatives and policies implemented by the central government to promote social justice, equality, and economic opportunities for ST community in a programme organised by BJP ST Morcha District Jammu South in presence of District Vice President Mohd. Alam, District Secretary Sadiq Choudhary, Liaquat Ali,



Morcha District President Rafiq Choudhary, Chairman Gujjar Desh Chairat-able trust Arshad Choudhary, Razak Ali Phutto, Riaz Ahmed, Noor Alam, Bashir Khatana, Mohd Yaqoob, Saudagar, Ramesh Sharma and other prominent attended the program.

Rekha Mahajan praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for an inclusive and equitable soci-

ety, where every citizen has access to opportunities and resources. Rekha emphasized that BJP ST Morcha's work is a testament to our party's vision of a prosperous and equitable India. "We are proud to have them as an integral part of our organization. She asserted that the Modi government has always stood for the rights and dignity of the ST community and BJP leader-

ship always committed to addressing the historical injustices and inequalities faced by our brothers and sisters from the ST community."

Rekha elaborated on the government's efforts to enhance educational and job opportunities, Promote entrepreneurship and economic empowerment, ensure access to healthcare and social welfare schemes, Protect

and promote ST rights and interests.

The ST Morcha program aimed to mobilize and energize the community, encouraging them to participate in the development process and take advantage of government initiatives.

Rekha said Viksit Bharat holds profound significance for India's socio-economic trajectory, offering a roadmap for realising its aspirations of becoming a global powerhouse. By setting ambitious goals and implementing bold reforms, PM Modi aims to unlock new opportunities for growth and prosperity. She added at the heart of Viksit Bharat lies the principle of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' (Collective Efforts, Inclusive Growth), emphasising the importance of inclusive development that leaves no one behind.

Dozens of people joined Congress party under Distt President Sanjeev



Top News Report

SAMBA, July 29: Congress Party's District Samba President Sanjeev Sharma said that the Bharatiya Janata Party has cheated the people of Jammu and soon the party will have to face the consequences.

These words were said by Congress' District Samba President Sanjeev Sharma in a meeting organized under Samba Assembly.

In this meeting, a large number of people joined the Congress under the chairmanship of District President Sanjeev Sharma and talked about

supporting the Congress party.

Addressing the people, Sanjeev Sharma told the people that the BJP made only false promises to the people, especially the Dalit community. The ground reality is that now the people of Jammu are fully aware of the real face of these leaders. The Dalit community has always been a victim of BJP's neglect.

He told the party workers that this is the time to go among the people and make them aware of the party's policies. Because the ground reality is that now the BJP's grip on the state is falling day by day.

He said that the employees working temporarily in different departments have also been cheated.

The unemployment rate in the country has been recorded to be the highest since independence. People from other states are being employed in AIIMS and our youth are wandering from door to door. Contracting is also going on in factories. Sanjeev Sharma said that only Congress can take all the sections along and the assembly can bring about equal development. Senior leaders Rashpal, Vinod Kumar, Avinash Atri, Manjeet also addressed.

Ex-CPMFWA urges Opposition to discuss their demands in Parliament session

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: A press conference of the Ex. Central Paramilitary Force Welfare Association (CPMFWA) was held today at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, under the presidency of Kuldeep Singh.

The conference addressed several pressing demands which were subsequently submitted in a memorandum to Rahul Gandhi, MP and Leader of Opposition in the Parliament, and Malika Arjun for raising in the Central Government.

The key demands highlighted during the conference include implementation of One Rank, One Pension (OROP) for paramilitary forces; Provision of CSD Canteen facilities for paramilitary forces; Enhancement of medical allowances from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 5000, as recommended by the



110th Parliament standing committee, which has not been responded to by PMO Dr. Jitendra Singh in two tenures; Reservation in government employment for children of paramilitary force personnel; Rectification of pay anomalies for ex-Central Paramilitary Force personnel; Extension of suitable benefits to ex-servicemen of CAPF personnel (BSF, CRPF, CISF, ITBP) by state and UT governments as per

the CCS GOI order No. 23-11-2012; Payment of 7th Pay Commission recommendations, including the 2.57 new advisory and 3.68 recommended by the 7th Pay Commission Committee, along with 18 months DA arrears pending for BSF, CRPF, ITBP, SSB, CISF, and Assam Rifles retirees; and fulfillment of pending demands concerning OROP and 18 months DA arrears for families of retired para-

military forces personnel, requested since December 2023.

These demands underscore the association's commitment to advocating for the welfare and rights of ex-Central Paramilitary Force personnel, addressing critical issues affecting their livelihood and well-being, Kuldeep Singh said.

He summarizing the comparison between the basic pay scales of Paramilitary Forces and Defence Forces at various ranks and years of service

The comparison of basic pay scales between Paramilitary Forces and Defence Forces reveals notable differences across equivalent ranks and service durations.

For instance, a Constable in the Paramilitary Force after completing 24 years of volunteer service earns a basic pay of Rs

10,500. In contrast, a Sepoy in the Defence Force, having served 17 years, receives a higher basic pay of Rs 22,175. Similarly, a Head Constable after 24 years in the Paramilitary Force earns Rs 12,500, whereas a Havaldar with 24 years of service in the Defence Force earns Rs 24,900.

These discrepancies continue across ranks such as ASI, SI, Senior Inspector, Naik Subedar, Subedar, and Subedar Major, reflecting varying pay structures and career progression paths between the two categories of forces, he added.

Chairman Ashok Kumar, Vice President Harbans Lal, General Secretary Samba Noor Mohammad, Gulam Nabi Shah (Baramulla) and Bachan Lal, Kamlesh Kumari, Yash Paul (Member) were also present in the press conference.

Chalo Panchayat Programme unveils critical issues in Chabba



Top News Report

RAMBAN, July 29: As part of the Indian Youth Congress's 'Chalo Panchayat' initiative, a significant meeting was held today in Chabba, Ramban, to address pressing local issues. The meeting was led by Fairoz Khan, former National President of NSUI and Youth Congress Working President of J&K, with the programme coordinated by senior Congress leader Ishaq Khanday.

During the meeting, several critical issues were highlighted by the local representatives and residents of Chabba.

There are currently no matadors or mini-buses plying the road from Ramban to Chabba. Residents rely on Tata Sumos, which charge fares that do not align with the approved fare list, causing significant financial strain.

The condition of the

PMGSY road from Ramban to Chabba is severely deteriorated, making travel difficult and hazardous. Immediate repairs and maintenance are required.

The Primary Health Centre (PHC) in Chabba is not functional, depriving residents of essential medical services. There is an urgent need to operationalize the PHC.

The need for a high school in Chabba was emphasized, as the absence of such an institution is hindering the educational development of local children. Establishing a high school would significantly benefit the youth.

The meeting was attended by several prominent figures, including Saladin Wani, Sarpanch Chabba; Sanjay Singh, Panch Chabba; Shaheen Khanday; Chain Singh; Ramesh Singh; Irshad Ahmed; Manzoor Wani; Shamas-u-din; Naseeb Singh; and

Dayan Singh. Fairoz Khan assured attendees that these issues would be brought to the attention of relevant authorities and pledged to work towards finding immediate solutions.

He criticized the current administration for neglecting the basic needs of residents and reaffirmed the Congress party's commitment to addressing these issues effectively.

In response to the unresolved issues, the local residents are planning to organize a protest to demand their rights and immediate action. The 'Chalo Panchayat' programme, an initiative of the Indian Youth Congress, continues to be held in every panchayat in Ramban, empowering local panchayats, strengthening grassroots democracy, and ensuring that the voices of the people are heard and addressed.

BJP miserably failed to uplift women folk in 10 year of its rule: Bimla Luthra



Top News Report

KISHTWAR July 29: A significant meeting of National Conference women wing was held at Kishtwar, under the chairmanship of Indu Bala, District President women wing of Kishtwar. The meeting saw the presence of JKNC State Vice President and former MLA Bimla Luthra as the chief guest and DDC Chairperson of Kishtwar, Pooja Thakur, as the guest of honour.

At the outset of the meeting, Indu Bala apprised senior party functionaries of the glaring absence of effective policies aimed at uplifting the women of Kishtwar district to most backward area of J&K. She highlighted that women in the region are deprived of basic amenities, a situation that demands urgent

attention and action. Bimla Luthra, in her address, strongly criticized the present dispensation for its failure to uplift the womenfolk. She stated that, apart from empty rhetoric, the BJP has done nothing substantial to improve the lives of women. She made a fervent appeal to women to come out in large numbers and actively participate in the democratic process to ensure their voices are heard and their issues are addressed.

Highlighting the achievements of the National Conference, Bimla Luthra said, "NC has always been committed to the empowerment of women. Our party has a proud history of implementing policies and initiatives that have significantly improved the status and welfare of

women in the region."

The former MLA urged the women workers to take inspiration from the past successes and work towards a better future for the women of Kishtwar.

In a moment of national pride, Bimla Luthra also congratulated Indian shooter Manu Bhaker for bringing laurels to the country in the Olympics. She praised Manu's dedication and hard work, viewing her success as an inspiration for all women in India.

DDC Chairperson Pooja Thakur expressed her concerns about the backwardness of Kishtwar and its rural areas, emphasizing the need for more funds to develop the area. She called on the women of Kishtwar to work hard and strengthen the hands of Party President Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Vice President Omar

Abdullah in the upcoming Assembly polls. "Kishtwar is a backward area and it needs more funds for development. The women here have the potential to bring about change, and I urge them to support our party's efforts and work towards strengthening our leadership," said Thakur.

The JKNC women workers reiterated their commitment to the party's vision and goals, pledging to work tirelessly

for the empowerment and betterment of women in the region said Pooja Thakur.

Among those who were present include:- Tanveer Ahmed Kichloo District President Kishtwar, Tahir Masood DDC Palmar, Imtiaz Ahmed Zargar, Ikhtlaq Butt District Youth President, Rajinder Sen Vice President Kishtwar, Payri Lal ex sarpanch, Naseer Bagwan City President.

Taekwondo trials on July 31

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: The Taekwondo Association of J&K is going to conduct selection trials for the sub-junior, cadet, and junior (Champions of Champion) teams under the aegis of India Taekwondo on July 31, 2024, from 5 to 7 PM at Kotli Bhawan Hall, Rehari, Jammu. According to a handout issued by the association, the selection trials are open to all sub-junior, cadet, and junior taekwondo players.

The selected players will represent J&K in the upcoming 3rd Sub-Junior and Cadet Taekwondo Championship 2024, which will be held in Uttar Pradesh from August 16 to 18, 2024.

"A selection committee has already been formed for the smooth conduct of the trials and the fair selection of players. The Taekwondo Association of J&K is committed to supporting the athletes of J&K and will conduct fair selection trials for the nationals. These trials are free of cost."

To fulfill the eligibility criteria, players should bring their Aadhar card and domicile certificate to the venue. All players can also register by contacting Qumiti Lal Jain (Mobile No: 9103439965), Mukesh Thakur (Mobile No: 9419122640), Ravinder Sharma (Mobile No: 9149826972), or Harshvardhan Raina (Mobile No: 6006131434).

Youth Engagement in Electoral Process: Awareness Programs Conducted under 2nd SSR-2024 in Ramban

Top News Report

RAMBAN, July 29: In an effort to promote electoral participation among the youth, a series of awareness programs were held at Government Higher Secondary Schools in Dhandrath, Gandhri, Rajgarh, and the Disha Paramedical Institution. These initiatives were part of the 2nd Summer Special Revision of Electoral Rolls for 2024.

On the directives of the District Election Officer (DEO) Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, and under the supervision of dedicated Assistant Electoral Registration Officer (AERO) Ramban, Rahul Gupta, the programs aimed to educate new and young eligible voters

about the ongoing voter registration process. The goal was to guide them in enrolling themselves in the electoral list to exercise their right to franchise, thereby strengthening the democratic system.

The events featured informative sessions where students were briefed on the procedures for enrolling in the electoral rolls, the significance of voting, and the impact of their votes on governance. Enthusiastic participation was observed from students, highlighting their keen interest in understanding their civic responsibilities.

In Dhandrath, a special session was conducted by the Electoral Literacy Club, emphasizing the role of youth in elections

and the steps involved in voter registration. The sessions in Gandhri and Rajgarh schools included interactive discussions and Q&A sessions, allowing students to clarify their doubts about the electoral process.

At the Disha Paramedical Institution, the focus was on reaching out to young medical students, who were encouraged to actively participate in the upcoming elections and contribute to the electoral process by enrolling themselves and spreading awareness among their peers.

These initiatives are part of a broader strategy to ensure 100% registration of all eligible voters in photo voter lists under Second SSR, 2024 in the district.

Players will fight tooth and nail to be there: Rahul Dravid on cricket's Olympic debut at Los Angeles 2028

Dravid hopes that India would win both men's and women's gold medals at the LA Games

PARIS, Jul 29 (Agencies): An ardent supporter of cricket's inclusion in the Olympics, former India head coach and batting legend Rahul Dravid says the "serious dressing room conversations" that he has heard indicate that players are going to "fight tooth and nail" to be there at the world's biggest sporting event.

Dravid was in the French capital to attend a panel discussion on 'Cricket at the Olympics: Dawn of a New Era', celebrating the sport's inclusion in the 2028 Los Angeles Games, at the recently inaugurated India House.

"I've already heard a few conversations in the dressing room. People are talking about the 2026 T20 World Cup, there is an ODI World Cup in 2027, and you hear people saying there is the Olympics in 2028," Dravid, who also caught up on some tennis action at the Games before coming for the event, said during the discussion.

"People are going to want to win that gold medal, stand on the podium, and be a part of the Games Village, a great sporting event, and interact with so many athletes.

"As you get closer, I have no doubt that teams will be preparing and checking out facilities. They will take this seriously, and players will fight tooth and nail



to be out there," he added.

The Test great had ICC CEO Geoff Allardice for company during the discussion at India House here.

"You grow up watching the Olympics, seeing Carl Lewis winning the gold medal, watching the great athletes perform. You always want to be part of great events like this. The environment, the energy -- it's a dream come true."

Dravid hoped that India would win both the men's and women's gold medals at the LA Games.

"The dream for me to have a fantastic cricket tournament, hopefully Indian men and women winning the gold which would be nice.

"Unfortunately, I won't be able to play, but I will make every effort to be in LA in some capacity or another. If not anything else, I will try to get a media job," joked Dravid, who ended his tenure as India head coach after the recent T20 World Cup triumph in the West Indies.

The men's and women's cricket competitions will run concurrently at the LA Olympics.

As far as Allardice is concerned, he said cricket will be one of the "star attractions" in LA four years from now.

"It's quite surreal to be here in Paris, seeing the energy around sport and how it's getting together. Cricket is starting to dawn on the global sporting

community.

"I think cricket will be one of the star attractions in Los Angeles...when you see global stars of big sports around the world competing in one city at a time -- watching Rafael Nadal at tennis this afternoon -- and then if you are in LA, you can watch the best tennis players, best golfers, and the best cricketers.

"We are going to be very, very strong come 2028," he said.

Women's cricket is going forward

Dravid also shared his thoughts on the growth of women's cricket, saying it is progressing well and increasing participation by young players is making the sport more inclusive and attractive.

"Women's cricket is already going forward. I don't think it needs anything else. It's fantastic to have it going on concurrently. Even when you talk to people at the grassroots level, to coaches, one of the things they constantly tell you is the level of participation from young girls.

"Every year in every academy, the percentage is growing exponentially, sometimes even more than the boys. Cricket is becoming a lot more inclusive and attractive. This could potentially be a career. You would not have said that five or six years ago. That's what we want to see."

DESTINY'S CHILD: Three years after pistol malfunction, Manu Bhaker becomes first Indian woman shooter to win Olympics medal



CHATEAUROUX, Jul 29 (Agencies): A resilient Manu Bhaker became the first Indian woman shooter to claim an Olympics medal by snaring the bronze in the 10m air pistol event here, a triumph that opened the country's account in the Paris Games and ended a 12-year wait for its much-hyped shooters.

Rifle shooters Ramita Jindal and Arjun Babuta further lifted the spirits of the contingent at the scenic range, located nearly 300km away from Paris, by securing final spots in the 10m air rifle women's and men's events, respectively, to keep India in the hunt for more medals.

The scene here was in complete contrast to the Tokyo Olympics three years back when only 10m air pistol shooter Saurabh Chaudhary, from the 15 who had gone from India, made it to the final, only to fade into oblivion in the ensuing years.

Bhaker was part of that team and had gone home in tears after drawing a blank. "After Tokyo I was very disappointed and it took me a very long time to overcome that. Frankly speaking, I

really can't explain how good I am feeling today," Bhaker, whose pistol malfunctioned during the qualification of the same event three years ago, said with a wide smile on her face.

"In Bhagwat Gita, Krishna says to Arjuna that 'you focus on your karma and not on the outcome of the karma'. Only that was running in my head," she revealed when asked about her state of mind during the final.

The last time India won shooting medals at the Olympics was in 2012 London where rapid-fire pistol shooter Vijay Kumar and 10m air rifle marksman Gagan Narang clinched silver and bronze, respectively. Narang is the chef de mission of the Paris contingent.

The 22-year-old Bhaker, who hails from Jhajjar in Haryana, fought hard to get the bronze with a score of 221.7. South Korea's Kim Yeji claimed the silver with a total of 241.3 while her compatriot Jin Ye Oh bagged the gold with a Games record of 243.2.

"I was fighting with all the energy I have. Really grateful that I could win the bronze. I read Bhagwat Gita and always tried to do what I am supposed to do, left everything else to God. We can't fight destiny," said the world champion in the 25m pistol event.

Bhaker was in the second position till the second-last shot but the Indian fell behind after Yeji shot 10.5 in response to her 10.3, ruling her out of the gold medal shoot-off.

"India deserves many more medals. As many as possible. The feeling is really surreal, it takes a lot of effort," she said.

Lakshya Sen's win over Cordon 'deleted' after his opponent's withdrawal; Satwik-Chirag's match cancelled

PARIS, Jul 29 (Agencies): Star Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen's victory over Kevin Cordon in the opening men's singles Group L match won't be counted as his Guatemalan opponent pulled out of the Paris Olympics due to a left elbow injury.

"Guatemalan men's singles player Kevin Cordon has withdrawn from the Paris 2024 Olympic Games Badminton Competition due to a left elbow injury," Badminton World Federation (BWF) said in an update.

"His remaining Group L matches against Indonesia's Jonatan Christie (Court 2, 2pm local time, 29 July 2024) and Julien Carraggi of Belgium (Court 3, 'Not Before' 9.20am local time, 31 July 2024) will not be played. Matches on these courts in each respective session have been rescheduled.

"As per BWF General Competition Regulations for group stage play, the results of all matches played, or yet to be played, involving Cordon in Group L are now considered deleted," the sport's global governing body added.

The withdrawal of Cordon, a Tokyo Olympics semifinalist, means Group L will now be



considered a three-player affair, involving Christie and Carraggi of Belgium besides Sen.

The 22-year-old Indian will be the only player in the group to have played three matches as the other two will need to compete in two matches to make it to the knockout stage.

Sen will face Carraggi on Monday and take on Christie in his final group match on Wednesday.

Satwik-Chirag's clash against Mark Lamsfuss and Marvin Seidel cancelled

Satwiksairaj Rankiredy and Chirag Shetty's men's doubles Group C clash on Monday has been cancelled following the withdrawal of German player Mark Lamsfuss due to injury.

The Indian pair was scheduled to meet the German duo of Lamsfuss and Marvin Seidel on Monday.

"German men's doubles player Mark Lamsfuss has withdrawn from

the Olympic Games Paris 2024 badminton competition due to a knee injury," the BWF informed.

"Lamsfuss' and teammate Marvin Seidel's remaining Group C matches against India's Satwiksairaj Rankiredy/Chirag Shetty (Court 3, 8.30am local time, 29 July 2024) and Lucas Corvee/Ronan Labar of France (Court 1, 'Not Before' 2.50pm local time, 30 July 2024) will not be played," it added.

Satwik and Chairag had opened their campaign with a 21-17 21-14 win over the French combination of Lucas Corvee and Ronan Labar on Saturday.

They will take on Indonesia's Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto in their final game on Tuesday.

Due to the withdrawal of the German pair, the Indonesians' win over Lamsfuss and Sseidel on Saturday has been deleted.

Clinical India eye series whitewash against wobbly Sri Lanka in third T20I

India secured a seven-wicket victory on Sunday in a rain-shortened match in the second T20I, thwarting Sri Lanka's charge once again.

PALLEKELE, Jul 29 (Agencies): There will be no let-up in intensity as a ruthless India, under the leadership of new coach Gautam Gambhir and captain Suryakumar Yadav, seek to exploit Sri Lanka's weaknesses and push for a series whitewash in the inconsequential third and final T20I here on Tuesday.

The fate of the series was decided after India swept aside Sri Lanka in the first two games, leaving the possibility of an embarrassing whitewash hanging over the hosts' heads.

India secured a seven-wicket victory on Sunday in a rain-shortened match in the second T20I, thwarting Sri Lanka's charge once again.

Despite the hosts' flying start, their fight fizzled out for the second consecutive game due to subpar batting.

On the same day, the Sri Lankan women's team beat tournament-favourites India in the final for their maiden Women's T20 Asia Cup title in Dambulla but it seemed to have no impact on the men's side which continued to grapple with existing issues.

Sri Lanka's embarrassing batting collapses in the middle overs is the prime reason of their undoing in this series so far, while India have gone about their business like a true world champion side.

India has proven to be the superior side by a significant margin, demonstrating greater confidence in their plans, skills,



and execution, and never faltering under pressure.

There have been moments when Sri Lanka have appeared to be running away with the contest but each time India has found their way back, particularly with their incisive bowling, to keep their upper hand.

The 'bowlers' captain' Suryakumar has not only marshalled his troops with precision to make effective bowling changes, but he has looked to lead from front with the bat having scored 58 and 26 in the two outings so far.

India have remained aggressive right from the word go to reap rich benefits, putting a 200 plus score in the opener.

In the second game, a slight change in the batting line-up delivered a seven-wicket win which helped them seal the series.

It remains to be seen if vice-captain and opener Shubman Gill is fit in time for this contest

after he missed the second game due to a stiff neck.

His replacement, Sanju Samson had to wait for over an hour to face his first ball due to a rain break and when his chance arrived, the right-hander missed one from Maheesh Theekshana for a golden duck.

Samson and India will be seeking improved performances from the batter, who has been a fixture around the T20I squad for some time, including serving as a non-playing member of the World Cup-winning team.

But at the other end, Yashasvi Jaiswal has looked to go all-out with his attacking game to rake up 70 runs in two outings and he remains one of the biggest threats for the Lankans.

For the hosts, Pathum Nissanka (111 runs) and Kusal Perera (73) have provided the fireworks at the top but Sri Lanka's middle-overs struggles have led to their downfall.

India spinner Ravi Bishnoi,

who helped script a win in the second game with 3/26, highlighted Sri Lankan batters' inability to navigate spin bowling in the series.

"They play spin really well but I do not know what (has) happened, they are collapsing in the middle overs," Bishnoi said after the second T20I.

"They are known as a good spin-batting team but I think something has gone wrong, said Bishnoi, possibly hinting at the lack of skills and aptitude among Sri Lankan players generally which has led to their struggles across formats.

With the ball, Matheesha Pathirana returned an expensive 4/40 in the opening game but Sri Lanka will want a lot more from their bowlers.

Teams (from): India: Suryakumar Yadav (c), Shubman Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rinku Singh, Riyan Parag, Rishabh Pant (wk), Sanju Samson (wk), Hardik Pandya, Shivam Dube, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Arshdeep Singh, Khaleel Ahmed, Mohammed Siraj.

Sri Lanka: Dinesh Chandimal, Avishka Fernando, Kusal Mendis (wk), Pathum Nissanka, Kusal Perera, Charith Asalanka (c), Wanindu Hasaranga, Kamindu Mendis, Dasun Shanaka, Chamindu Wickramasinghe, Binura Fernando, Asitha Fernando, Dilshan Madushanka, Matheesha Pathirana, Maheesh Theekshana, Dunieth Welalage.

PV Sindhu opens campaign with dominant victory

PARIS, Jul 29 (Agencies): Two-time Olympics medallist PV Sindhu began her campaign with a resounding straight-game win over Maldives' Fathimath Abdul Razzaq in a women's singles match. The gulf of class between the two players was evident as Sindhu took just 29 minutes to dispatch her lower-ranked opponent 21-9 21-6 in the Group M fixture.

"It was a good start, I am happy. I was able to get used to the court and the atmosphere. It has been a long time, coming back after three years, it's a very special one," said

Sindhu.

Sindhu has been mentored by the legendary Prakash Padukone in the past few months. "I have been with Prakash sir for more than six months now and it's going on very well. Everything is coming together. We have to know each other very well to work together," she said.

HS Prannoy opened his maiden Olympics campaign with a straight-game win over Fabian Roth of Germany in the men's singles competition. The 32-year-old from Kerala, who was down with chikungunya



for almost two weeks ahead of the Games, won 21-18 21-12 in a 45-minute Group K match.

Paris 2024 Olympics: Ramita Jindal finishes 7th in women's 10m air rifle final

PARIS, Jul 29 (Agencies): Indian shooter Ramita Jindal finished seventh in the women's 10m air rifle final at the 2024 Paris Olympics, with a total score of 145.3 points. Ramita was involved in a shoot-off with France's Oceanne Muller for elimination but bowed out after scoring 10.5 to Muller's 10.8. Ramita initially held third place after nine shots but slipped to seventh after a 9.7 on her 10th shot. She then rallied with scores



of 10.4 and 10.5 to avoid the first elimination. In the following shots, she scored 10.2 twice, tying with Muller before losing in the shoot-off. Meanwhile, Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh advanced to the 10m air pistol mixed team final. Manu Bhaker, who secured India's first medal of the Games on Sunday, and Sarabjot Singh qualified for the bronze medal match with a score of 580 in the qualification round.

Survey Camp organised at SMVDU

Top News Report

KATRA, July 29: The School of Civil Engineering at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) took a significant step in empowering students with practical skills by organizing a successful survey camp from 22nd -26th July, 24.

This camp offered third and fourth-year Civil Engineering students the opportunity to apply their classroom knowledge to real-world scenarios, enhancing their practical skills and knowledge. The survey camp was meticulously planned with Dr. Bharat Bhushan Jindal leading as the Coordinator, Dr. Vaibhav Sapkal as the Faculty-in-Charge, and Gautam Narula as the



Co-coordinator.

The camp provided practical training in fly leveling, traversing the Administrative Block, measuring the area of the SMVDU stadium, and contouring the enchanting green ground with cutting-edge equipment like Auto Level and

Total Station.

This hands-on experience enabled students to comprehend the complexities of surveying and its real-world applications. The camp culminated in an engaging session between the students and the Dean of Academic Affairs,

Prof. Balbir Singh, and the Head of SoGE, Dr. V.K. Dogra. Prof. Balbir Singh commended the students' enthusiasm and the camp's role in enhancing their skill set. Likewise, Dr. V.K. Dogra lauded the organizing team and students for the camp's success.

Edu Leaders Summit & Awards Function held in Srinagar to celebrate educational excellence



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 29: In a groundbreaking event that brought together over 250 schools, the Universal Mentors Association, in collaboration with the Private Schools' Association Jammu & Kashmir (PSAJK), hosted the first-ever Edu Leaders Summit & Awards function in Srinagar. This prestigious event aimed to recognize and honor the invaluable contributions of school leaders in fostering educational excellence, innovation and technology.

The summit featured a crucial discussion titled "Inclusive and Diverse Learning Environments" and "A Dialogue for School Leaders" in two sessions, where esteemed speakers delved into the significance of creating inclusive and diverse learning environments within schools. The dialogue focused on strategies to promote diversity among students and staff, develop inclusive curricula and policies, address equity

and access issues, and cultivate a culture of respect and understanding.

PSAJK President G.N. Var said, "We are thrilled to see such a diverse and passionate group of educators come together to share their experiences and strategies for creating inclusive learning environments. This summit marks a significant step forward in our collective effort to ensure that every student has access to a high-quality education, regardless of their background. By fostering a culture of respect and understanding, we can build a brighter future for all our children in Jammu & Kashmir."

Var also emphasized that the Private Schools' Association Jammu & Kashmir (PSAJK) is committed to advocating for the needs and interests of private schools in the J&K region. PSAJK works tirelessly to promote educational standards, provide resources and support for school leaders, and ensure that all students

receive a high-quality education.

"The Universal Mentors Association is dedicated to supporting and empowering educators and school leaders through innovative programs, professional development opportunities, and collaborative initiatives. Our mission is to foster educational excellence and leadership in schools across the nation," said Sandeep Gulati, Chairman of the Universal Mentors Association.

Panelists shared their insights, successes, and challenges in promoting inclusivity, providing valuable perspectives for educators and administrators striving to create more equitable learning spaces.

The event also showcased leading service providers in education, including OMO Tech, Next Education, Bonton, MIT Pune, Sanfort Group of Schools, Horizon Magazine, Nature Nurture, View Sonic, Rockspout, Bluegate Publishers, SKID and School Decor.

GDC Kathua organizes plantation drive under 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign



Top News Report

KATHUA, July 29: NCC unit of GDC Kathua organized a plantation drive under the guidance of principal, Prof. Seema Mir based on the theme "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" on Monday in an approach to make mother Earth Planet Green and Clean.

On this occasion Principal addressed students and highlighted the importance of organizing such events, as the temperature on earth raised day by day due to increased industrialization and deforestation so it is necessary for all to plant at least one sapling in a year.

The event began with a plantation of a sapling

by the principal in the College campus. Then several species of fruits and flowering plants were planted by NCC Cadets in different departments of the college.

The main motto to organize such an event is to develop the feeling of affection towards plants among mankind. As all of us aware with the fact due to increase in temperature, our earth became a ball of Fire and led to different problems like global warming, Glacier depletion, Soil erosion etc and it's the time to rectify our mistakes which we have made earlier in the name of Industrialization and so called Socio-economic development.

The whole event was organized under the supervision of Raj Kumari.

HoD 's and faculty of different departments Jagdish Kumar (HoD Chemistry), Dr. Dinesh Jasrotia (HoD Physics), Dr. Sanjeev Gupta (HoD Botany), Shrdha Anand, Dr. Shivani Kotwal, Dr. R.K.Manhas, Dr. Pinkey Dr.Shiv, Rakesh Sharma, Arun Kumar joined hands together to make the drive successful. Cadets showed a feeling of Joy and enthusiasm during the entire drive.

The event was made possible because of continuous motivation and guidance by Muneesh Jasrotia (CO NCC 2nd J&K Girls Battalion) to GDC Kathua NCC unit.

Kaith Biradari hails Kanav for winning gold in State level handball tournament

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: Members of the Kaith Biradari on Monday hailed winning of Gold Medal by Kanav Kaith in State level handball tournament held in Jammu University.

R.L.Kaith said, his sincere and earnest efforts have paid off extremely well by winning the Gold Medal.

Members advised all parents to provide their wards with all opportunities to excel in academic, sports and cultural activities.

Hony Captain Kamal



Dass Kaith, Havildar Des Raj Kaith, Naresh Kumar Kaith, Madan Raj Kaith, Jagdish Raj Kaith and many others congratulated Kanav, his family and grandfather Hans Raj Kaith for this achievement and wished Kanav unlimited success ahead.

Batwal community members meet DDC Chairman Bharat Bhushan

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: A deputation of Batwal community members led by R.L.Kaith, called on the District Development Council Jammu Chairman Bharat Bhushan on Monday.

The deputation discussed with him the problems being faced by them on various accounts and sought their solution. The Chairman listened patiently and assured the deputationists that would look into the same in an expeditious mode. The deputationists included Messrs Subedar Baldev Chand, Puran Chand, Harkrishan Lal, Dev Raj, Sewa Ram, Jagdish Raj and Gulshan Kumar.

Apni Party takes out protest rally against worst kind of power crises in Jammu

Manjit seeks white papers from JPDCL for excessive bills, unscheduled power cuts

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 29: Apni Party today staged a massive protest demonstration against the Govt for unscheduled power cuts that has impacted the normal life as well as irregular drinking water supply in Jammu.

The protest of the Party was led by its Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, Manjit Singh along with leaders from various frontal organizations, and wings that started from Panama Chowk.

While shouting slogans in support of their demands, the protesting Party leaders marched in a peaceful manner holding placards, and Party flags towards the Managing Director, Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited to express their anguish against Govt for its failure.

The protesting Party leaders gathered in the office premises of the JPDCL to resent its failure in fulfilling the demand of adequate electricity supply



even as meters have been installed in vast areas of Jammu plains.

"The Govt has completely failed on all fronts, particularly on providing adequate electricity supply to the consumers in Jammu in the summer season that has affected the normal life," said the Former Minister S. Manjit Singh, addressing the protesters during the sit-in in the complex of JPDCL.

As the protesters continued their slogans against the Govt, Manjit Singh said that "The JPDCL has put additional burden on the pocket of the power con-

sumers with the excessive bills although they do not get the charged electricity."

"These power cuts are imposed in a phased manner that goes up to eight to ten hours in a day in the Jammu plains. Unfortunately, the villagers are worst affected, and no one is ready to speak for the poor people," he added, while condemning the Govt as it failed to purchase the required power and did not fix responsibility on the erring JPDCL officials.

Moreover, he stated that the drinking water supply system has also collapsed

because of the power cuts even within Jammu City, Samba, Vijaypur, Kathua towns, Udhampur towns.

He warned that "If the JPDCL did not improve the power supply system, the Party would intensify its agitation against the Govt for its failure."

He said that the JPDCL / KPDC will be held accountable, if the Party forms the next Govt in Jammu and Kashmir as they have forced people to face the problem.

"During winters, they fail to provide electricity in Kashmir, and winter zones of Jammu region,

and during the summers, the Jammu plains face the worst kind of power cuts that needs to be improved, but the present Govt has shown no interest," he added.

He said that the voice of the people of Jammu cannot be silenced with the 'autocratic attitude' of the authorities. However, the people of Jammu are ready to come on the roads to fight for their constitutional rights.

Later, the protesters dispersed peacefully.

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