

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Search Operation launched after suspicious movement in Poonch

JAMMU, July 30 (Agencies): Security forces have launched a cordon and search operation following information about movement of two suspected terrorists in a remote village in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Tuesday.

The two armed suspects, dressed in black, were seen moving in Salampura village near Dehra Ki Gali late Monday night, they said.

Police assisted by the Rashtriya Rifles and CRPF launched a joint operation immediately after getting the information.

The suspected terrorists were seen moving towards lower Pangai, they said, adding the search operation is underway but there was no contact with the suspected terrorists so far.

The officials said security forces also launched a search operation at Sanai, Jangal, Pattan and adjoining villages in Surankote area of Poonch and Bangar-Saroor forest in Drabshalla area of Kishtwar district this morning.

Youth 'Hangs Self' to death in Poonch

POONCH, July 30 (Agencies): A youth hanged himself, resulting in his on spot death in Mendhar area of Poonch district, sources said on Tuesday morning. They said that one Mohammad Rukhsar, son of Mohammad Gafoor, a resident of Kasblari in Mendhar, took his life after hanging himself at his home. When contacted, a police official said that they have launched an investigation into the matter.

Jammu-Jodhpur express train halted in Punjab after bomb threat call

JAMMU, July 30 (Agencies): An express train going from Jammu to Rajasthan's Jodhpur was halted at Kasu Begu station in Firozpur, Punjab after police received a phone call regarding a bomb threat onboard, officials said on Tuesday.

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Wayanad landslide disaster toll reaches 70, many missing



KOZHIKODE, July 30 (Agencies): The death toll in the Wayanad landslide tragedy on Tuesday reached 70 and several people were reported missing in the worst affected areas,

said officials, adding that hundreds are injured and admitted to different hospitals.

The worst affected areas are Churalpara, Velarimala, Mundakayil and Pothukalu. The

locals from these areas who managed to escape are deeply shattered by the extent of the tragedy.

Bhavya, the principal of the VHSE School in Velarimala, has been frantically trying to reach

out to her students. So far she has been able to talk to 560 students and 22 remained unreachable.

"There are 582 students in my school and I am yet to contact 22. I hope they are safe and I only believe that their phones are out of charge. It's been raining heavily for the past two days. In the fury, there has been damage to our school. I spoke to many of my teachers also," said Bhavya.

Mundakayil is another area which has been badly affected by nature's fury. NDRF members have reached the area and have commenced search operations as the place has been devastated and numerous houses destroyed.

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State Bar Councils cannot charge exorbitant fees for enrolling Law Graduates as Lawyers: SC



NEW DELHI, July 30 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Tuesday ruled that state bar councils cannot charge more than Rs 650 and Rs 125 for enrolling law graduates from general and SC-ST categories, respectively, as lawyers.

The top court held that the Bar Council of India (BCI) and the state bar councils, which are authorised under the Advocates Act to enrol law graduates as law-

yers, cannot override the legal provisions which have been enacted by Parliament.

A bench comprising Chief Justice of India (CJI) D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra had reserved its judgement on a batch of pleas challenging "exorbitant" fees being levied by state bar councils for the enrolling lawyers.

Referring to Section 24 of the Advocates Act,

1961, the bench said the fee for a law graduate to be enrolled as a lawyer is Rs 650 and Parliament alone can increase it by amending the law.

On April 10, the top court had issued notices to the Centre, the BCI and other state bar bodies on the pleas, saying they had raised a significant issue.

The pleas alleged that charging "exorbitant" enrolment fees violated the legal provision and the BCI must step in to ensure it was not done.

"For instance, the petitioner alleges that the enrolment fee is Rs 42,100 in Odisha, Rs 25,000 in Gujarat, Rs 23,650 in Uttarakhand, Rs 21,460 in Jharkhand and Rs 20,050 in Kerala," the court had noted while issuing the

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Two killed, 20 injured as 18 coaches of Mumbai-Howrah Mail derail in Jharkhand



JAMSHEDPUR/RANCHI/KOLKATA, July 30 (Agencies): Two persons were killed and 20 injured as at least 18 coaches of the Howrah-

Mumbai Mail derailed in Jharkhand's Seraikela-Kharsawan district early on Tuesday, officials said.

The accident occurred

at 3.45 AM near Barabamboo, around 80 km from Jamshepur, under the Chakradharpur Division of the South Eastern Railway (SER), they said.

SER spokesperson Om Prakash Charan said that there was another derailment of a goods train nearby, but it was not yet clear whether the two accidents occurred concurrently.

"Two persons were

Turn to page 9

Amarnath Yatra 2024 | 4.66 Lakh devotees have 'Darshan' in 31 Days

JAMMU, July 30 (Agencies): Another batch of 1,477 devotees left Jammu for Kashmir on Tuesday, taking the total number to 4.66 lakh pilgrims who have performed the ongoing Amarnath Yatra so far, said the officials of the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB), which manages the affairs of the Himalayan Yatra.

The Yatra started on June 29 and will con-



clude after 52 days on August 19 coinciding with Shravan Purnima

and Raksha Bandhan festivals.

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Fake Gun Licenses | Jammu Police conducts raid on premises, seize documents



JAMMU, July 30 (Agencies): Police on Tuesday raided a premises in Talab Tillo area here in connection with recovery of fake and forged gun licences.

Police sources said that acting of specific inputs after recovery of fake gun licences on

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Shri Manoj Sinha
Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, J&K



J&K Film Conclave

1st August 2024 | 10:00 AM | SKICC, Srinagar

Inaugural Session

- Launch of Single Window Portal for film shooting permission and film subsidy
- Prize Distribution of Naya Jammu Kashmir Short Film Making Competition
- Launch of Frames of Transformation Photography Competition
- Inauguration of J&K Film Screening Series

Screening of Naya Jammu Kashmir Short Films

MELTING STONES | I AM VALMIKI
UNVEILING STRENGTH
THE WOMEN ATHLETES OF KASHMIR

Film Screenings

J L KAUL | NOOREH | SCHIZOPHRENIA
KHATTAY ANGOOR | UNICORN

Panel Discussion

Evolving Film Ecosystem in Jammu & Kashmir
A New Dawn in Cinema





Rahhat Kazmi | Paragg Mehta | Mir Sarwar

Film Making Workshops

Local Stories, Global Audience | Rahhat Kazmi Director & Writer
From Auditions to Screen: Blueprint for Aspiring Actors and Filmmakers | Paragg Mehta Casting Director & Producer

Premiere Screening
First Time Screening in India!
COUNTRY OF BLIND

DIPUJ-3546124

Department of Information & Public Relations, J&K

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)

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
Sakhshi & Rohan Miya
Rishika & Siddhant Kachroo
Sheersha & Anshul Wangoo
Kalpti Kachroo & Angreh Wangoo

Great Grand Children: Vaidhi & Aadeo
9899505506



Sh Trilokinath Miya (1931-2024)

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 Prem Nath Bhat native of Village Shuast Kulgam at present H.No.25, Lane A1, Lakshimpur Chinara, Jammu near Apple Kids School who left for heavenly abode on 25-07-2024. **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 02.08.2024 (Friday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 08 AM.



SHRI MAHARAJ KRISHAN BHAT (BAIRAJ)

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Jagan 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).



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

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Jaga Kumari (Wife)
Daughters & Sons-in-law
Dr. Alka Bhat & Shri Tushar Bhat
Smt. Sadhi Pandita & Shri Niran Pandita
Bhabhi & Brother
Smt. Mohan Bhat & Late Shri Radha Krishan Bhat
Smt. Mamohari Bhat & Shri Nand Lal Bhat
Smt. Rajni Bhat & Shri Anwar Krishan Bhat
Sisters & Brothers-in-law
Smt. Tapa Koul & Shri Mahantaj Krishan Koul
Smt. Jeevi Pandita & Shri Yegender Pandita
And **Samat Bhat, Pandita and Koul parivar**
9858507830, 9886019260

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 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. The **10th Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Education Department on 02 Aug. 2024 at 8.00 AM.



Sh Jawahar Lal Raina (Nana Jee)

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 Phool and Sh Surender Halkhu
Son and Daughter in law
Sh Ajay and Late Rani
Grand Children
Mehru, Yash and Aarna
Also **Samat Munchi, Khar, Pandita, Koul, Sas Chirangoo, Matto, Koship**
In law Parivar
Cont No. 9469468655, 9958985685, 8493945752, 9870064545

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAAS

ਜੇਹਾ ਚੀਰੀ ਲਿਖਿਆ ਤੇਹਾ ਹੁਕਮ ਕਰਮਾਰਿ ॥
ਪਲੇ ਆਵਰਿ ਨਾਨਕਾ ਸਦੇ ਊਠੀ ਜਾਰਿ ॥੧॥

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Gurmukh Singh (Retd. Head Astt. PHE Deptt.)** S/o Late S. Nand Singh Patwari originally of Kanahama Distt. Baramulla now R/o Shiv Puri, Lane No. 3 Kathua who left for heavenly abode on 23 July 2024.



S. GURMUKH SINGH (Retd. Head Astt. PHE Deptt.)

Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahab and Antim Ardaas shall be followed as per programme - **Arambh Shri Akhaad Paath Sahib** at residence on Monday, 29 July 2024 at 9 AM. **Bhog Shri Akhaad Paath Sahib** on Wednesday, 31 July 2024 at 9 AM. **Antim Ardaas and Kirtan** at Gurudwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha Main Chowk Kathua on July 31 from 10 AM to 12 Noon at Gurudwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha Main Chowk Kathua followed by Guna Ka Langar.

GRIEF STRICKEN :-
S. Davinder Singh (Master) & Manbir Kour (Son and Daughter in law) 7006589326
S. Daljeet Singh (Dy SP JKP) & Advocate Nishi Suman (Son & Daughter in law) 7006069140
Dalbir Kour Seema & Avtar Singh (Daughter & Son in Law)
Navya Nishi, Azad Arjan, Amandeep, Rajdeep, Rohan Preet & Hamam Preet (Grand Children)
SANGRAAL FAMILY
ALL NEARS AND DEARS

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Champa Manhas** W/o Late Roop Chand Manhas R/o H.No. 96-B Sector 7 Channi Himmat Jammu on 22nd July 2024 at Mumbai.



Smt. Champa Manhas

Tenth Day on 31-07-2024 at 9.00 am at Channi Himmat Cremation Ground.

Kriya on 03-08-2024 at H.No. 96B Sector 7 Channi Himmat.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Daughters & Son-in-Laws
Smt. Meena & Mridupawan Sonowal
Smt. Leena & Sandeep Sethi
Sister-in-Laws & Brothers
Smt. Rita & Surinder Rathore
Smt. Sushma & Ravinder Kotwal
Smt. Sonia & Ajay Kotwal
Dr. Meenakshi & Dr. Rajive Kotwal
Smt. & Sh. Mansa Ram Manhas
Smt. & Sh. Vishwa Nath Manhas
Smt. Jhansa Devi Manhas -**Sister-in-Law**
Sh. Rajinder Manhas -**Brother-in-Law**
Miss Nihira Sonowal - **Grand Daughter**

Mob. 9967505113, 9419180873

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 Bedyal & 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, Mrigansh, Basu, Rohin, Srijan & Sanidhya
R S Automobile
9419184539, 6006191199

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

MASWAR & VAHARWAR

In Remembrance of our Beloved Mother It has been one year since you left for your heavenly abode, and not a day goes by that we don't feel your absence. Your love, wisdom, and kindness continue to inspire and guide us. We remember you with heartfelt gratitude and cherish the beautiful memories we shared. Your legacy lives on in our hearts and the lessons you taught us. Though you are not physically with us, your spirit remains a constant presence in our lives. We miss you dearly and honor your memory today and always.



LT SMT. INDIRAWATI AMBARDAR (BHABI)

MASWAR & VAHARWAR of our beloved mother, Late Smt. Indirawati Ambardar, wife of Late Shri Sham Lal Ambardar, will be performed at Indira Niwas, 195, Old Rehari, Jammu on July 31st and August 01, 2024.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:
Children:
Shama & Krishen Lal Ambardar
Suman & Tej Krishan Ambardar
Santosh Dhar W/o Late H L Dhar
AND BY ALL NEAR AND DEAR
CONTACT: 9419351114 / 9419115109

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, Barnai behind Anuradha Public School, Barnai, Jammu on 20-7-2024 (Saturday).



Late Sh. Chhaju Ram Manhas 91-07-1937 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 Sheela Pawar (Grand Son & Grand Daughter in Law)
Smt Samrati 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

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.

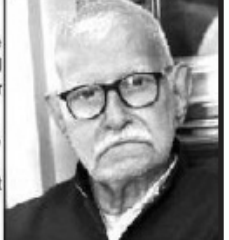
Kriya will be performed at our residence on 2nd August 2024 (Friday) at 10.00 AM onwards.

GRIEF STRICKEN

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

KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Rattan Lal Langer** (Retd. Head Master) R/o Ward No. 4, Akhnour (Jammu).



Sh. Rattan Lal Langer (Retd. Head Master)

Kriya will be held at our residence Ward No. 4, Akhnour at 12:00 noon on 31-07-2024 (Wednesday).

Uthala will be performed at Jia Pota Mandir Akhnour at 4:00 to 5:00 pm on 31-07-2024 (Wednesday).

GRIEF STRICKEN

Brothers and Bhabhis:-
Smt. Dandna Devi W/o Late Sh. Jagdish Raj Langer
Smt. Kamta Devi W/o Sh. Krishan Lal Langer
Daughters and Sons in law:-
Smt. Jyoti Gupta and Sh. Vijay Gupta
Smt. Mohini Langer and Sh. Rajinder Gupta
Smt. Rajni Langer and Sh. Naveen Gupta
Smt. Pooja Langer and Sh. Raj Kumar Gupta
Smt. Poonam Gupta and Sh. Vikram Gupta
Sons and Daughters in law:-
Smt. Ekta Gupta W/o Late Sh. Uttam Gupta
Smt. Deepika Gupta and Sh. Sarjeyv Gupta
Smt. Sheetal Gupta and Sh. Raveer Gupta (9489050603)
Smt. Sakshi Gupta and Sh. Abhinandan Gupta

FIFTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, it is to inform that the **Fifth Day** of our beloved **Jeeja Ji Sh. Ajay Kumar Mahajan** H/o Smt. Pinki (Mama Mahajan) & S/o Sh. Jia Lal Mahajan R/o Amritsar (Pb.) who left for heavenly abode on 27-07-2024 will be performed on Wednesday 31-07-2024 at Shiv Mandir, Sec - 3, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu from 10.00 to 11.00 am.



Sh. Ajay Kumar Mahajan

Grief Stricken

Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law
Sh. Sanjay Gupta & Smt. Payal
Smt. Sapna (Monika) & Sh. Satish Gupta
Smt. Anju & Sh. Rakesh Gupta
Smt. Renu & Sh. Deepak Gupta
Ms Jai Datti Papers (G.J.) Trikuta Nagar
Ms Sarda Ram Madan Lal (Shaheed Chowk Jammu)
Ms Shankar Electronics (Residency Road, Jammu)
Ms Langar Karyana Store (Christian Colony Jammu)
Mob.: 9419195694, 9858275330, 908605194, 9419187930, 9419236430

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:-
PANDITA FAMILY
CONTACT NO: 6005764650, 7889912715

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Sukesh Khajuria seeks indulgence of LG J&K in implementing Govt orders in health sector

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: Sukesh. C. Khajuria, a senior social activist pursuing public issues especially relating to health and medical services, for the past more than four decades in J&K has sought the intervention of LG Manoj Sinha in implementing various government orders related to health services which remain unimplemented due to bureaucratic complexity with vested interests.

He brought to the notice of LG Manoj Sinha certain facts which pertain to the health sector and are directly affecting the general masses of J&K.

"There are certain decision and issues which were taken by the government for the welfare of the masses pertaining to their health and wellbeing but were not implemented on the ground due to unknown reasons," he said.

Seeking indulgence of the LG Manoj Sinha for the overall welfare of the people, Sukesh Khajuria requested him to look into these important issues and got these implemented.

He further said that the foremost issues is the non-implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between Government Medical College, Jammu and Tata Memorial Centre (TMC),



Mumbai for starting oncology services at State Cancer institute (SCI) at Jammu on February 23, 2022 aimed at providing better cancer care and up gradation of oncology services from the single department of Radiotherapy at GMC Jammu to Multidisciplinary oncology services for the Jammu region at State Cancer Institute and for streamlining the Oncology services following the practice guidelines carried out at TMC Mumbai and other Satellite Tata cancer hospitals across India. Khajuria lamented that unfortunately there was no clear implementation of MOU guidelines so that different oncology specialties practice in their own area of specialization and not to venture into the areas of other specialties as it's strictly done at all Tata cancer hospitals, AIIMS, New Delhi. State Cancer Institute, Jaipur and other reputed corporate hospi-

tals across India. He wrote that the Principal GMC, Jammu, who has been blatantly practicing as Medical Oncologist, despite being a Radiotherapist, doing chemotherapy in Radiotherapy department, using MO (Medical Oncology) Packages prescribed in Ayushman Bharat Scheme (PMJAY) to be used by Medical Oncology, as someone who is not a radiation Oncologist cannot use RO (Radiation oncology) and SO (Surgical Oncology Package). Raising another important issue of private practice by senior by the senior doctors and teachers working in the state medical college and government hospitals, Sukesh Khajuria wrote that he had been waging a lone battle against this practice of fleecing poor common masses by these doctors who get fat salaries from state exchequer and are minting money from their own

private practices.

He said that the Government order no. 43- HME of 2013 dated January 17, 2013 by the government stated that "in the interest of administration and patient - care, it is hereby ordered that the Heads of the Departments in Govt. Medical colleges and Associated Hospitals and Govt. Dental colleges of the state shall not indulge in private practice henceforth". But it is surprising that in spite of the Govt. order all the HODs are still practicing while senior authorities are turning Nelson's Eye to these brazen violations of Govt. instructions. There was a government order dated January 17, 2013 which prohibits the head of the departments in Government medical college, associated hospital and Government dental Colleges of the state from private practice. But nobody cared about that order and it was never implemented by the state health authorities.

Sukesh said that the Chawla committee formed to submit recommendations for the betterment of the services in the government medical college, besides numerous other recommendations had also strongly opined against private practice by senior doctors in these institutions. But, the Chawla committee recommendations were also conveniently ignored by the health

bureaucracy. Sukesh.C. Khajuria requested the LG to issue an order through Administrative Secretary HME to strictly implement all MOU guidelines signed with Tata memorial cancer Hospital, Mumbai in true spirit especially, Integrate State Cancer Institute into ational Cancer Grid Tata Memorial Centre and establish standard management guidelines similar to evidence- based medicine guidelines of TMC For Organ- Based treatment in Different Disease Management Groups. He also demanded that the Govt.order no. 43/HME of 2013 dated January 17, 2013 by virtue where of private practice of Heads of the Departments (HODs) in GMC, Associated Hospitals and dental colleges of the state has been banned, Govt. Order No.612-JKHME of 2022 dated 12-08-2022 regarding doctors to restrain themselves from private practice during official hours / duty hours in health institution and other malpractices, notification dated 23rd April ,1998 and the recommendations of the Chawla committee should be adhered to and implemented in letter and spirit so that the revered motto of your government of "Sabka Saath and Sabka Vikas", "Health for All" with effective services could truly benefit common people.

28 killings in 11 terror incidents, 24 encounters in J&K till July 21 this year

JAMMU / NEW DELHI, July 30 (Agencies): A total of 28 people, including civilians and security personnel, were killed in 11 terror-initiated incidents and 24 encounters or counter-terror operations up to July 21 this year, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) told the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

Responding to the query of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Pradeep Kumar Singh on behalf of the MHA, Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai submitted a written reply in the Lower House pointing that there is a "decline in the number of terror incidents in Jammu and Kashmir" compared to previous years.

Rai shared data that mentions that a total of 14 security personnel and 14 civilians were killed up to July 21 this year, while the number of killings was 44 (30 security personnel and 14 civilians) in 46 terrorist-initiated incidents and 48 encounters or counter-terror operations in the Union Territory in 2023.

As per the data, 146 people (91 security personnel and 55 civilians) were killed in 228 terrorist-initiated incidents and 189 encounters or counter-terror operations in the erstwhile state in 2018. "There were 1328 organized stone pelting incidents and 52 organized Hartals in 2018," said the Minister, citing the data received from the Jammu and Kashmir government.



The minister said the decline in terror incidents in Jammu and Kashmir is the result of the "zero tolerance" policy of the central government against terrorism.

"The approach of the Government is to dismantle the terror ecosystem. Security measures are being strengthened to sustain peace and stability in Jammu and Kashmir," Rai further said.

The strategies adopted and actions taken to contain acts of terror incidents in Jammu and Kashmir include effective, continuous, and sustained actions against terrorists and support structures, as well as the dismantling of the terror ecosystem using a whole-government approach, said the MoS.

involve identifying the strategic supporters of terrorism and initiating investigations to expose their mechanisms of aiding and abetting terrorism, multi-pronged strategy to prevent infiltration, enhancement of counter-insurgency grid, and special focus on modernization and strengthening of security equipment, are among key steps that have been taken by the government to vanish terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir.

Besides, round-the-clock naksas at strategic points, intensified Cordon and Search Operations (CASO) to effectively deal with the challenges posed by terrorist organisations, and sharing of intelligence inputs on a real-time basis, among all security forces, operating in Jammu and Kashmir, as well as day and night area dominance are other strategies adopted and actions taken for containing acts of terror incidents in Jammu and Kashmir, said the Minister.

Manjit Singh expresses concern over poor implementation of civic-works in Bari Brahmana

Top News Report

SAMBA, July 30: Continuing the public outreach program across the district, the Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh has expressed concern over poor implementation of civic-works in Bari Brahmana.

"The state in which the people have been forced to live is inhuman, and intolerable without proper roads, and basic amenities," said S. Manjit Singh, while speaking at a meeting in ward number 13, Municipal Committee, Bari Brahmana in Samba District.

The Former Minister was accompanied by Ex-Corporator, Shamsher Chand.

The participants in the meeting informed about their displeasure over the ignorant attitude of the



authorities, and respective departments which are responsible for developing the infrastructure. Addressing the meeting, the Former Minister expressed his concern, while assuring that the people will not be left helpless, and voiceless as the Party is committed to work for their overall development.

"We are committed to ensure equitable devel-

opment in all the regions of Jammu as well as Kashmir. The administration has disappointed the people with their autocratic attitude," he said. The circumstances have widened the gap between the people and the administration that showcases the failure of the Govt to work for the public welfare, he added. On the other hand, he said that the people are

also concerned over the weakening of an elected Govt in Jammu and Kashmir with the empowerment of the Governor of J&K. "The statehood restoration of J&K is must as well as the full empowerment of the elected Govt following the assembly elections that are proposed to be held in the erstwhile state," he stated.

KP leaders demand high level probe into gutting incident of 4 heritage houses at Mattan

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 30: Many notable and prominent socio Political activists and leaders of Kashmiri Pandit Community have expressed serious concern and resentment over the mysterious fire incident that took place at Mattan Town Anantnag Kashmir in which four houses of Kashmiri Pandits and a Kothar got burnt down recently and have demanded an immediate high level probe into the incident to identify those anti social elements who have committed such heinous crime in order to initiate stringent action against such elements as per the law of the land who are bent upon creating communal canard, spreading fear psychosis among displaced community and attempting to sabotage proposed rehabilitation

move of Kashmiri Pandits back in valley with honour and dignity.

In joint statement issued on Tuesday by notable community leaders and activists namely Rakesh Koul senior BJP Leader and Vice President BJP District Anantnag and Vinod Pandita notable social activist and others have termed this burning incident at Mattan Town in which four heritage houses of our community people were gutted down as heart breaking and painful.

Koul senior BJP leader has appealed Lt. Governor union Territory of J&K to immediately order a time bound high level probe into this incident so that people behind this incident are identified and brought to justice.

Koul further added that such elements who aim to disturb peace and communal harmony here

need be dealt with iron hand once for all so that peace and communal harmony is maintained at all costs.

Koul also demanded adequate compensation for the owners of the houses who have suffered huge financial losses in this incident.

Pandita notable social activist and Vijay Raina (General Secretary BJP Kulgam) have appealed for beefing up immediate safety and security measures at all such places including temples and shrines in Kashmir Valley forthwith as well as at all such locations where heritage houses of Kashmiri Pandits still exist in a good shape.

They also added that concerned deputy commissioners who are the sole custodians of migrant property including movable and immovable under the migrant act

1997 must immediately take necessary steps as custodians to preserve, protect, and restore the migrant properties forthwith to thwart the nefarious designs of such anti-social elements who aim to sabotage the Government of India's proposed move of rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits back to the valley.

Both further said such painful incidents need to be probed thoroughly to find out the culprits and identify the forces behind them so that they are brought to justice.

Other community leaders who expressed serious concern over this mysterious fire incident at Mattan and demanded a highly high-level probe in it are, Bharat Kachroo (social activist), I.K.Koul, Ashok Dhar, Shubam Koul, Maharaj Krishan, vishal Jotshi, Vinod Bhat and others

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, REW POONCH
TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 44 of REW POONCH 2024-25 Dated:-27-07-2024 1st Call

For & on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, the Executive Engineer REW Poonch, as his representative invites tenders by e-tendering mode from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Union Territory Govt/CPWD/MES for the following work under:

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estt. Cost (Rs in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor	Position of Funds
1	Community Soak Pit in Panchayat Arigam Panchayat Arigam Block Lorán Under SBM Year 2024-25	Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	1.31	200	2620	20 days	(1000 Hrs) on or after 09-08-2024 in the office of Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	DEE	Partially Available/ Demanded
2	Community Soak Pit in Panchayat Baltalkote Block Lorán Under SBM Year 2024-25		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
3	Community Soak Pit in Panchayat Brachar Block Lorán Under SBM Year 2024-25		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
4	Community Soak Pit in Panchayat Chikhruban Block Lorán Under SBM Year 2024-25		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
5	Community Soak Pit in Panchayat Chikhruban Block Lorán Under SBM Year 2024-25		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
6	Community Soak Pit in Panchayat Lorán Lower A Block Lorán Under SBM Year 2024-25		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
7	Community Soak Pit in Panchayat Lorán Lower B Block Lorán Under SBM Year 2024-25		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
8	Community Soak Pit Moh Chowana Bella Sethi Panchayat Lohli Bella Block Lorán Under SBM Year 2024-25		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
9	Community Soak Pit in Panchayat Plera A Block Lorán Under SBM Year 2024-25		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
10	Community Soak Pit in Moh. Qazian Panchayat Plera B Block Lorán Under SBM Year 2024-25		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
11	Community Soak Pit in Panchayat Tantraygam Block Lorán Under SBM Year 2024-25		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
12	Community Soak Pit at Moh. Tedha W.No. 1 Panchayat Murrah Lower Block Buffiaz Under SBM Year 2024-25		1.31	200	2620	20 days			

NOTE: The Contractors registered with DDC, Poonch in reference to GOVT. Order No: 238-F of 2021, Dated 07-09-2021 can participate upto an amount of Rs 3.00 Lacs, in local Panchayat works.

- The already defaulted contractors are not allowed to participate in any tendering work of REW Division Poonch.

NOTE: No PRI member shall be allowed to take part in Tendering process

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	27-07-2024.
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 27-07-2024 to 08-08-2024, 1855 Hrs

3	Bid submission Start Date	27-07-2024 from 1500 Hrs onwards
4	Bid Submission End Date	08-08-2024 up to 1855 Hrs
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) (in case of holiday, the bid shall be opened on next day)	09-08-2024 on or after 1000 Hrs in the Office of the Executive Engineer REW, Poonch
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online) (of only successful technical bidders)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.**
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website <https://www.jktenders.gov.in/> to acquaint bid submission process. No:- XEN/REW/P/574-82

Dated:- 27-07-2024

DIP/J-3529/24

Executive Engineer
Rural Engineering Wing
Poonch

EDITORIAL

SPAM CALLS

Spam calls, those unsolicited and often irritating phone calls, have become a pervasive nuisance in today's digital age. Despite advancements in technology, or perhaps because of them, spam calls have increased exponentially, affecting millions of people worldwide. These calls range from robocalls—automated messages that bombard you with pre-recorded information—to scams designed to extract personal information or money. The rise in spam calls has not only led to frustration and inconvenience but also to significant financial losses and privacy breaches.

One of the most common types of spam calls is the robocall. These calls use automated systems to dial numbers and deliver pre-recorded messages, often about debt collection, political campaigns, or fraudulent schemes. Some robocalls are merely annoying, but others are outright scams. For instance, you might receive a call claiming you owe money to the IRS or that you have won a free vacation, requiring you to provide personal details or pay a fee to claim your prize. These tactics are designed to exploit people's fears and desires, often leading to significant financial harm.

Phishing calls are another type of spam call that poses a serious threat. These calls typically involve a scammer pretending to be from a legitimate organization, such as a bank or a tech support service. The scammer's goal is to trick you into divulging sensitive information, such as your Social Security number, credit card details, or passwords. By doing so, they can commit identity theft or make unauthorized transactions, causing significant financial and personal distress.

The impact of spam calls extends beyond financial losses. They also erode trust in phone communication. Many people have become wary of answering calls from unknown numbers, fearing they might fall victim to a scam. This can lead to missed important calls from doctors, potential employers, or loved ones. The constant interruption from spam calls can also affect productivity and mental well-being, as individuals find themselves constantly on guard against potential scams.

So, what can be done to combat spam calls? There are several strategies and tools available to help mitigate the issue:

Many countries have a national Do Not Call registry where you can register your phone number to reduce the number of unsolicited calls you receive. While this won't stop all spam calls, it can significantly reduce their frequency.

There are numerous apps available for smartphones that can help block spam calls. These apps use databases of known spam numbers and sophisticated algorithms to identify and block unwanted calls before they reach you.

Many phone carriers offer call filtering services that can automatically detect and block spam calls. Check with your carrier to see if they offer such features and how to enable them.

Be mindful of where you share your phone number. Avoid entering it on suspicious websites or sharing it publicly online. The more places your number is listed, the more likely it is to be targeted by spam callers.

If you do receive a spam call, do not engage with the caller. Hang up immediately if you suspect it's a scam. Engaging with the caller can sometimes lead to more spam calls, as it indicates to scammers that your number is active.

Reporting spam calls to your phone carrier or the relevant authorities can help them track and shut down scam operations. In the United States, you can report spam calls to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

In conclusion, while spam calls are an annoying and sometimes dangerous aspect of modern communication, there are several steps you can take to protect yourself. By being vigilant and using available tools and resources, you can reduce the impact of spam calls on your life and safeguard your personal information. Staying informed about the latest spam call tactics and sharing this knowledge with others can also help create a more secure and less frustrating communication environment for everyone.

When aged leaders fail to see age as a handicap

By: KP Nayar

(Strategic analyst)

WITH octogenarian Joe Biden exiting the US presidential contest because of age-related frailties, the tables have been turned on septuagenarian Donald Trump, the Republican candidate in the November election.

Trump had not criticised Biden as being too old for the presidency — not in this campaign cycle nor in the one four years ago — despite calling him 'Sleepy Joe' and implying that he was not all there at the only debate this year between the two men. Trump, 78, knows he is vulnerable on the issue of his age. He is only three years junior to Biden. Old age had dogged Biden even during the 2020 election season because he has been chronically prone to gaffes and suffered from stutter as a child, which he overcame. Not many people have thought of Trump as a septuagenarian because he has talked in videos, leaked during his 2020 campaign, of groping women. And, strippers have given graphic accounts of sex with the real estate mogul who became President. The popular image of Trump is that of a man full of libido, notwithstanding his age.

Both Trump's approaching 80s and his convicted felonies and sexual escapades will be the stuff of an unfurling Democratic campaign. It will show the prowess of Kamala Harris as a former prosecutor when she is on the stump. Harris, who is Biden's presumptive replacement as the Democratic Party's candidate, is not yet 60 and can legitimately argue that Trump will soon be

too old to govern if he is elected President. After all, her party replaced its candidate entirely on that ground. A majority of the Americans agreed with that decision, polls showed.

Growing old is an inevitable fact of life, but everyone recognises this handicap, except the aged Heads of State or Government themselves. Partly, this is because these leaders tend to be in a bubble, surrounded by loyalists — with the usual sprinkling of sycophants — who will never tell their bosses uncomfortable truths about the seriousness of their cognitive decline.

Biden's is the most recent and widely publicised example. But there have been many before him. In India, then External Affairs Minister SM Krishna read the Portuguese Foreign Minister's speech at the United Nations Security Council in 2011. He was as old as Trump when he made the faux pas. Indian officials did not blame the gaffe on Krishna's reflexes or his agility. They said the UN staff routinely placed an English translation of a Portuguese minister's speech on top of Krishna's papers after the former had spoken immediately before it was India's turn. Pakistanis at the UN made the most of this mistake.

In 2013, LK Advani, then 86, had to be persuaded to not press his claim all the way to be the BJP's prime-ministerial candidate and make way for the incumbent, Narendra Modi.

Dinesh Singh became External Affairs Minister when he was only 68 in 1993. Tragically, he suffered a stroke shortly after his appointment, but the then Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao did not relieve him of the very demanding portfolio that

involved frequent travel. Singh could not even go to his office in South Block and files had to be sent to his home, where he was mostly bedridden. Delhi's grapevine was rife with speculation at that time about astrologers advising Rao that Singh's presence in the Union Cabinet was auspicious. The last straw was Singh's insistence in March 1994 that he would travel to Tehran as Rao's Special Envoy to deliver a message from the Prime Minister to Iran's then President, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. The mission was critical. India was seeking Iran's intervention at the UN Human Rights Commission to prevent a resolution on Kashmir being passed at the commission's annual session in Geneva. Shortly after he came back from Tehran, Rao made Pranab Mukherjee External Affairs Minister because Singh simply could not discharge his duties. But Rao retained Singh as minister without portfolio until his death in November 1995.

I first interviewed Mahathir Mohamad in 1988 in Dubai. By then, he had served seven years as Malaysia's fourth Prime Minister and was full of promise as an emerging leader of developing countries and as a moderate voice in the Islamic world. Maverick leaders like Libya's Muammar Gaddafi and unpredictable dictators like Iraq's Saddam Hussein were the flavours in the Organisation of Islamic Conference — as it was then known — and in the Arab League. Mahathir's time as Prime Minister spanned a total of 24 years, Malaysia's longest. When he gave up office in 2003, he was already 78 years old. His dramatic return as Prime Minister 15 years later, when he was

93, is stuff of political legends.

In 1988, Mahathir talked about his part-Indian ancestry on the condition that I will not publish it. He was then vigorously implementing the electorally rewarding 'Bumiputera' policy which gave preference to the Malays over the Chinese and Indians in Malaysia's multi-racial society. His Indian ancestry became less of a secret after he quit his first term as Prime Minister. The nonagenarian's return as Head of Government was hard fought. He had to resign from his political organisation and form a new party, whose Malay name translates as the Malaysian United Indigenous Party. It created a coalition, which swept to power, defeating the party which had ruled Malaysia since the country's formation in 1963. Sadly, Mahathir damaged his legacy by clinging to the PM's chair even at the age of 95 although he had promised to be an interim leader. The Malaysian people defeated Mahathir in the General Election two years ago. He lost his deposit from the Langkawi constituency.

Habib Bourguiba was a leader lionised by the Tunisian people for leading his country to independence. Tunisia is a remarkable country where the Arab Spring began in 2010. Unfortunately, Bourguiba, too, did not know when to retire. At the age of 84, as President, he forgot that he had signed a decree expanding his Cabinet and appointed the head of a state-run newspaper, only to fire him in 24 hours. He recalled an Ambassador a few days after the envoy presented his credentials. Bourguiba's peaceful ouster created the term 'medical coup d'état' after his doctors declared him unfit to be President.

Wedding Planner - How to become a Wedding Planner

By: Vijay GarG

Wedding Planner is a professional who makes life easier for the couple getting married. He does this by making sure that each and every element of the wedding either it is decoration, dresses, photography, food or flower arrangements. He coordinates and conducts these in such a way that the wedding day indeed becomes memorable for all the attendees. Before this, it was the friends and family of the couple who took on this responsibility of organizing the wedding for the couple. However, nowadays, as everyone wants a perfect, out of this world dream wedding, people prefer to hire the services of a professional to do the job.

Wedding Planners are ultra-gram professionals, whose only job is to give orders to the decorators, caterers and all other vendors, to do their work properly. They do hard work during wedding arrangements. They perform a number of duties, before the marriage, on the marriage day and even after that. To start with, when a wedding planner is hired, he/she meets up with the couple and tries to assess the kind of wedding they are looking forward to. Wedding Planners discuss with them about the budget, the number of invitees, any specific wedding theme they have in mind, some compulsory wedding traditions, etc.

Wedding Planner Eligibility Educational Qualification There is no special degree for becoming a Wedding Planner, but if you want some big busi-

ness then there are some courses for which the eligibility is a 12th class or its equivalent.

Wedding Planner Required Skills

Wedding Planners should have excellent organisational skills; the ability to work on more than one task at a time; good communication and peoples' skills.

They should have good customer care skills; problem-solving skills and the ability to deal with the unexpected and excellent attention to detail.

They possess the ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines; sales and negotiation skills; the ability to manage a budget.

They also have the ability to work as part of a team and also on your own initiative; enthusiasm, motivation and an outgoing, approachable personality and a confident and determined manner.

Wedding Planners must have a good fashion sense; know about colour, music, flowers and good knowledge of religions.

They also need to be an expert in hospitality, event planning, decorating and wedding trends and traditions.

How to become a Wedding Planner?

A person has to follow the given steps to become a Wedding Planner:

Step 1

Students should study the event planning profession closely and browse through various books, magazines and keep themselves updated on new trends in the industry. Several educational institutions offer wedding planning certifications/ degree

courses which can demonstrate to potential clients that you are qualified in this field. They can get either a bachelor's or associate degree in event planning.

Degree/Certificate/Diploma courses:

Certificate in Wedding Planning

Diploma in Wedding and Event Photography

Diploma in Wedding Planning B.A. (Hons.) (Event Management)

Step 2

Students who want to become more professional or wanted to have big wedding business management they have Masters' Degrees for them after their graduation. Here, you learn management skills with the use of modern technology in wedding arrangements.

Master Degree courses:

M.B.A. (Event Management)

Master of Event Management Institutes offering Courses for Wedding Planner

National Academy of Event Management and Development, Ahmedabad

Craft Film School, Delhi

Delhi School of Event Management, Delhi

The Wedding Academy, Mumbai

Wedding Planner Job Description

Some of their work activities are mentioned below:

To produce sketches and sample designs.

To use specialist computer software to assist with designs.

To attend and exhibit designs at trade fairs.

To present designs and samples to customers for evaluation.

To negotiate contracts.

To keep up to date with fashion and textile design trends.

Wedding Planner Career Prospects

After passing the course, students can undertake a management role in a large event organization or related sectors, or you will be able to fulfil their dream of being a wedding planner or designer. It is great if you work under someone to gain some experience before you start your own business.

Wedding Planners have also jobs options in religious functions, parties and other types of ceremonies conducted day to day.

They have also jobs prospects in catering, advertising and promotion.

Wedding Planner Salary

Wedding Planner's salary depends on the scale of the wedding. Normally, on an average, a professional in this field can charge anywhere between 10% to 15% of the cost of the wedding. Consulting fees depend on both talents and services and the local market rampant there.

Wedding Planners, initially, can get a salary ranging from Rs.15,000 to Rs.20,000 per month. With time and experience, they can have their own enterprise with an annual turnover many times than this.

*(Vijay GarG Retired
Principal Educational
columnist Malout)*

Summer camp concludes at GDC Darhal

Top News Report

DARHAL, July 30: Government Degree College (GDC) Darhal, Jammu and Kashmir, concluded its annual Summer Camp with great enthusiasm and success.

The ten-day event, which commenced on July 20th, 2024, offered a diverse range of engaging activities and educational experiences for the students.

The Summer Camp was inaugurated by the Principal of the college, Prof Zamir Ahmed Mirza, in the presence of faculty members, including Dr. Ghulam Abbas, Dr. Mohd Saleem Wani, Dr. Taseen, Dr. Mohd



Akhlaq, and Prof. Anzar Ahmed. The event was also graced by the presence of Dr. Sajar, who participated as a special guest, sharing his expertise and insights with the attendees.

During the camp, students had the opportunity to explore their interests, develop new skills, and engage in creative

and recreational pursuits. The program which was jointly coordinated by NSS wing and IQAC cell headed by Dr Mohd Akhlaq and Dr Mohd Saleem respectively, included workshops, cultural performances, sports competitions, and educational excursions, all designed to broaden the students' horizons

and foster their personal growth and development. "We are thrilled to have successfully concluded our annual Summer Camp," said Principal Prof Zamir Ahmed Mirza. "The enthusiastic participation of our students and the dedication of our faculty have made this event a tremendous success. We are confident

that the students have gained valuable experiences that will positively impact their academic and personal lives," he added.

The college administration ensured that all necessary precautions and safety measures were in place to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for the participants throughout the camp.

The successful conclusion of the Summer Camp reaffirms the college's commitment to providing holistic education and creating enriching opportunities for the students to explore their interests and grow beyond the confines of the classroom.

ASCOMS celebrates World ORS Day – 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: World ORS Day 2024 was celebrated in Acharya Shri Chander College of Medical Sciences & Hospital.

The event was organized by Department of Paediatrics in association with Indian Academy of Paediatrics (IAP) and NAMS, J&K Chapter under the guidance of Dr. Ravinder K Gupta, Prof & Head and Dr. Sushil Sharma, Assistant Professor, Department of Paediatrics. Dr. Pavan Malhotra, Director Principal, ASCOMS was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

A Symposium on various aspects of ORS was organized in which MBBS students namely Ipshta

Mahajan, Ayush Mago-tra, Amman Mushtaq and Roachak deliberated various aspects of Oral Rehydration Therapy.

Dr. Kritika Arora and Dr. Amber Sharma, PG students, Department of Paediatric also deliberated on practical issues and gave demonstration on "How to prepare home based ORS as well as readymade ORS".

A skit highlighting the significance of home-made ORS was performed and was directed by Prof (Dr.) Indra Moza, Principal, ASCCON Education in which the students of B.Sc. Nursing participated.

Dr. Ravinder K Gupta, while speaking on the occasion discussed the need regarding aware-

ness of benefits of ORS to public at large and described the Oral Rehydration Solution as one of the modalities in saving precious lives.

Dr. Pavan Malhotra, the Chief Guest while addressing the gathering appreciated the presentation made by the Undergraduate as well as Postgraduate students. He also appreciated the students of Nursing College who presented the skit on awareness about benefits of ORS. The programme was conducted by Dr. Aradita.

The event was attended by all Faculty members, Resident Doctors, Post-graduate students, MBBS students, Nursing and Paramedical Students and other staff.

Journalist Mohd Taskeen Wani, Adv Sheikh Nasir bereaved

Top News Report

DODA, July 30: The Doda's Civil Society has expressed its deep shock over the demise of Mohd Afzal Wani, the father of Sr Journalist Mohammad Taskeen Wani of Banihal and Sakina Begum (Rtd Teacher) Mother of Sr Journalist & President Kishtwar Bar Association Adv Sheikh Nasir Hus-sain who passed away few days ago, following prolonged illness, leaving behind a legacy of love and cherished memories.

In a statement issued to the media, the members of Doda Civil Society extends their heartfelt condolences and pray for peace to the departed

souls. They also offer strength and support to Mohd Taskeen Wani & Adv Sheikh Nasir Hus-sain and their families during this difficult time.

At this hour of grief, we stand and empathise with the grieved families, they said.

While expressing condolences, the Civil Society members described the passing of both the deceased as an irreparable loss which cannot be fulfill.

The statement also read that both the deceased persons were very noble and social personalities of their region who with their public good have inspired many and will be remembered for long.

The members who have expressed their solidarity with the bereaved families included Naseer Ahmed Khora (President Chenab Valley Journalist Association), Ishfaq Ahmed Dev (President Development Front Doda), Manzoor Ahmed Batt (Patron YSCC Doda) Prof Zaheer Abass Hashmi (Chief Advisor YSCC Doda), Faizan A Tramboo (Sr NHM Leader), Niaz Ahmed Rahi (President Low Paid Employees Federation), Mohd Iqbal Balwan (President Doda Welfare Society), Hafiz Ullah Khora (Social Workers Forum), Sr LPEF Leader Gh Hassan Pampori, Shakeel Ahmed Dev and others.

GDC Mahanpur organizes Poster Making Programme

Top News Report

MAHANPUR, July 30: NSS Unit of GDC Mahanpur has organized a Poster Making Programme on the theme "Environment Preservation and Rain Water Harvesting" on Tuesday.

Environment conservation is the protection and management of natural resources, such as air, water, soil, plants, and animals.

Rainwater harvesting (RWH), a part of Environment preservation is the collection and storage of rain, rather than allowing it to run off. Rainwater is collected from a roof-like

surface and redirected to a tank, cistern, deep pit (well, shaft, or borehole), aquifer, or a reservoir with percolation, so that it seeps down and restores the ground water.

The event was organized by NSS P.O. Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia under the supervision of Dr. Sangeeta Sudan, Principal of the College. NSS Volunteers Monika Sharma, Amisha and other students participated in the Poster Making.

The faculty members present in the programme were Dr. Mohinder Nath Sharma, Nisha, Dr. Jog-binder Singh Soodan and Dr. Sapna.

Sajjad Kichloo offers condolences to families of Daksum accident victims

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, July 30: Sajjad Ahmad Kichloo, Zonal President of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) for the Chenab Valley Zone, accompanied by other senior leaders of the party, visited the villages of Haynan, Changer, and Nowgam in Marwah.

The purpose of the visit was to express their heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the bereaved families of the victims of the recent tragic accident in Daksum.

During their visit, Kichloo and other JKNC delegation met with the families affected by the



tragedy, offering their unwavering support and sympathy during this difficult time. They conveyed the party's collective grief and solace and assured the families that they stand in solidarity with them in this heartwrenching moment. Kichloo emphasized the

need for improved road safety measures in letter and spirit and improved road infrastructure including installation of crash barriers/signages at vulnerable points/ black spots to prevent such accidents in future order to save precious human lives.

DDC Member Bhushan Bral donates 200 Hybrid Plants to SGWF under "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam"

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: In a significant contribution towards environmental sustainability, Bhushan Bral, District Development Council (DDC) member from Bhalwal Brahmana, has donated 200 hybrid plants to the Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation (SGWF) under the theme "Ek ped maa ke naam" (A tree in the name of mother).

This initiative aims to honor mothers and promote environmental conservation through tree planting.

The "Ek ped maa ke naam" initiative is designed to encourage people to plant trees in the name of their mothers, symbolizing gratitude and respect for the life-giving and nurturing role that mothers play.

By linking the act of planting a tree to the honor of one's mother, the initiative hopes to foster a deeper personal connection to environmental conservation.

Trees planted under this theme not only contribute to the green cover but also stand as living monuments of love and respect.

Dr. Sonia Verma, Director of the Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation, expressed her appreciation for Bral's dedication to fostering a sustainable green environment.

She highlighted the importance of such initiatives in combating climate change and enhancing the green cover of our region.

"Bhushan Bral's contribution is a commendable example of how individuals can make a significant impact on our environment," said Dr. Verma. "The 'Ek ped maa ke naam' initiative not only helps in greening our surroundings but also instills a sense of personal responsibility and emotional connection towards environmental conservation."

Sandeep Sharma, Treasurer of SGWF, encour-

aged others to follow Bhushan Bral's exemplary gesture and contribute to the foundation's mission for a greener Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized that donations like these are crucial in achieving the NGO's environmental goals.

"We invite everyone to come forward and plant trees in the name of their mothers," said Sharma. "Such acts of love and respect towards our mothers can transform our landscapes and combat the environmental challenges we face. In recognition of each donor's contribution, SGWF will provide a certificate and receipt, including the donor's name, at the time of planting the donated trees."

The Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation remains committed to environmental sustainability and invites individuals and organizations to join hands in their efforts to create a greener and healthier future for all.

GDC Udhampur emerges winner of Hackathon 4.0 organised by CSIR-IIIM

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, July 30: The students of the Department of Biotechnology of the Government Degree College, Udhampur participated in the comprehensive 10-days hands-on workshop titled "Yuva Kaushal Karyashala" organized by CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), through its Technology Business Incubator (TBI) BioNEST Bio incubation Centre from 15th July 2024 to 25th July 2024.

This workshop focused to train participants about Industrial Biotechnology, Medical Microbiology, and Natural Products Chemistry thus providing them with practical training and exposure in these crucial fields.

The workshop saw active participation of a total of 160 students across the various col-



leges of Jammu Division. The students of B.Sc. Biotechnology of Government Degree College, Udhampur participated under the able guidance of Dr. Sanjay Verma, Principal, GDC, Udhampur and supervision of Dr. Richa Sharma (Head, Dept. Of Biotechnology) taking part in both the 10-day training and the associated Hackathon 4.0.

During the workshop, students were engaged in various practical sessions and lectures conducted by eminent scientists and researchers from CSIR-IIIM.

In addition to the training, participants were encouraged to apply their learnings and Skills in the Hackathon 4.0 organized by the Host institute focusing on incubation of innovative ideas for StartUps in the Young minds for a better future and the Society. In 1st Round of Hackathon 4.0, a total of 38 groups took part out of which 9 were shortlisted for 2nd Round amongst

whom 3 groups of GDC, Udhampur reached in Top 9.

Two student groups from Government Degree College, Udhampur excelled in the Hackathon 4.0 in the 2nd Round by claiming 1st Prize awarded to Yoshita Bhuri, Simran Khajuria, Shabnam Akhter, Priksha and Minu Sharma for their innovative idea about BAMBOO SALT which has its numerous medicinal properties, anti-cancerous, Anti-microbial and anti-inflammatory

effects which offers a healthy lifestyle and prevent many diseases like anaemia and hypertension when used in a long run.

The Second Prize was secured by Shivansh Bhogal, Akshita, Sunakshi Raina, Aastha Katoch and Akriti Verma for their idea was about CHIRAYU which is a startup dedicated to providing high-quality, authentic Ayurveda medicines and aspires to be a leading name in Ayurveda, offering a healthy and holistic approach to healthcare.

Shivansh Bhogal was also recognized as the meritorious student for his outstanding performance during the 10-day training workshop.

The awards were presented to the winners by the Chief Guest of the event, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM along with the eminent Scientists.

BMS nominates conveners, co conveners for daily wagers in Chinab Valley belt

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: A meeting of prominent daily wage workers' leaders from the Chinab Valley belt was held at the Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) office in Jammu, led by Ashok Choudhary, BMS Paradesh Sangathan Mantri.

The discussions centered on the ongoing agitation by daily wagers, issues surrounding their regularization, pending wages, and social security benefits.

Harbans Choudhary, a senior state BMS leader, raised concerns that while daily wagers in departments like PHE, PDD, PWD, and irrigation were previously covered under the Employees' Provident



Fund (EPF), their contributions were transferred to the General Provident Fund (GPF) upon regularization.

However, in recent years, contributions to EPF have been halted, depriving workers of crucial social security benefits. To address these issues, the meeting decided to appoint district-level conveners and co-conveners. Rajesh Kumar Sharma and Altaf

Hussain were nominated as convener and co-convener for District Kishtwar, respectively; Ravi Bushan Sharma and Sajid Aslam Qazi for District Doda; and Gulam Nabi and Ashiq Ali for District Ramban.

These leaders will work to update the status of daily wage workers, address their demands for regularization, and ensure the implementation of social securities.

Defunct street lights irk Kund residents, concerned authorities in deep slumber, allege locals

Top News Report

KULGAM, July 30: The residents of Kund area in South Kashmir's Kulgam district on Tuesday complained of faulty street lights causing inconvenience to commuters and passers-by, especially during late hours.

Residents of Kund area told Top News JK correspondent Gh Nabi Khanday that as soon as dusk sets in, the entire kund valley plunges into darkness as the streetlights erected at various places were lying defunct.

"Maximum of the street lights in batangoo, wari-pora, Nowbugh, Waltangoo, Nageenpora, Kraloo, Razloo Oriah,



Kanchloo and other areas defunct soon after installed under DDC Fund Unfortunately, the street lights have not been repaired since then," a local told.

"The matter was brought into the notice of PDD Department Quazigund officials several times but all in vain," locals said.

They also said that they fear to walk in the evening hours and usually prefer to offer evening prayers at home due to the fear of stray dogs in darkness.

Locals appealed to concerned authorities to look into the matter and redress their genuine grievances at

Meanwhile when contacted to AEE PDD Quazigund Mohd Yousuf told Top News JK that some lights have been repaired in the last month which are functional now and in coming days other defunct lights will also be made functional.

"We are expecting more streetlights to be installed very soon," he said.

Govt Polytechnic Jammu organizes certificate distribution function under PM Vishwakarma Scheme

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: Government Polytechnic Bikram Chowk Jammu on Tuesday organised Certificate Distribution Function under PM Vishwakarma Scheme in which certificates were distributed to 248 trainees in Fifteen Batches of Assistant Barber-Salon Services, Carpenter (Suthar), Blacksmith (Lohar), Brick Masson-Basic (Rajmistri) Trade/Job Role, on the successful completion of the Basic Skill Training under PM Vishwakarma Scheme.

Er. Arun Bangotra, Principal Government Polytechnic Jammu highlighted the basic objectives of the scheme by recognition of artisans through PM Vishwakarma Certificate as well basic training of five to seven days.

On this occasion, Varinder Dhotra, Deputy Manager SBI FCL Jammu along with his staff member conducted a banking cum awareness session for loan scheme under PM Vishwakarma Scheme and also informed trainees on how to apply for loan under this scheme.

Speaking on the occasion, several trainees expressed their gratitude towards the administration of the college for the successful and smooth conduct of their training.

Other presents on the occasion were Inderjeet Singh Workshop Superintendent, Sukhdeep Singh HOD Civil Engineering/ SPOC, Sanjay Koul HOD Computer Engg, Paramjit Singh Demonstrator Civil Engg, Amit Kapoor, Dinesh Kumar, Sandeep Singh, Sunil Sharma, Itika Sharma, Kanta Baloria, staff of Government Polytechnic Jammu and various trainees under PM Vishwakarma scheme.

Actress Aishwarya Sushmita, who plays Kiki in Bad Cop, says she likes to do her own stunts, even if that means getting hurt at times

Indian cinema is a dynamic world. It takes more than just talent to thrive here. One has to be ready to chart one's path with a blend of dedication and versatility, top it up with determination and passion. To become a new character each time can be both exhilarating and daunting.

Take for instance, Aishwarya Sushmita's experience. From her latest role in *Bad Cop*, in which Aishwarya plays the main protagonist, to her aspirations and insights gained from her journey, this conversation with her reflects the essence of her craft and what goes into it. Aishwarya, who plays Kiki in *Bad Cop*, says, "It was exciting to play Kiki. The character is multi-dimensional, and portraying her allowed me to explore a wide range of emotions and situations."

Reflecting on her role in *Special Ops 1.5*, she explains, "Every character requires a certain kind of research and script analysis. For Karishma, my character in *Special Ops 1.5*, I delved into the world of espionage. Watching films and studying spy tactics helped me understand the mindset required for the role." Discussing the physical demands of her roles, she admits to facing risks and challenges, particularly during action sequences. "I had my share of intense moments," she reveals. "From enduring



injuries during stunts to navigating the pressure of high-stakes scenes, each experience taught me resilience and the importance of safety measures."

When asked about landing roles, Aishwarya credits her confidence and consistent preparation during the lockdown period. "While it takes a lot of confidence to crack an audition, the source of that confidence is preparation. I put in a lot of effort at it during the lockdown period. I would watch and analyze around four to five films every day. That has extensively boosted my con-

fidence," she explains. "It led to my audition for *Special Ops 1.5*, where my dedication was recognised." Reflecting on her growth through different projects, Aishwarya attributes her success to her evolving skills and the opportunities each role brings. "From *Runway 34* to *Khakee* and *Bad Cop*, every project has been a stepping stone," she says. "Each role taught me something new, enhancing my understanding of characters and the human experience."

Learning from industry veterans has been invaluable for

Aishwarya. "Working with directors like Neeraj Pandey, Bhav and Aditya has exposed me to diverse styles and visions," she says. "Understanding their approach has broadened my perspective on filmmaking and enhanced my adaptability as an actor." Looking ahead, Aishwarya hints at her upcoming projects, including a promising pilot for Netflix. "Exploring themes of pseudo-feminism, this project promises to be both challenging and enlightening," she reveals with enthusiasm.

Expressing her aspirations, Aishwarya says, "I would love to play any of the three lead men from *Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara* in a similar female-centric film." And when it comes to her desire to collaborate with artists, she names Leonardo DiCaprio, Timothee Chalamet and Vicky Kaushal. "Leonardo has been my childhood crush," she blushes and continues, "On a serious note, it's their commitment to roles and transformative performances that inspire me. I aspire to challenge myself alongside such talented individuals."

As our conversation draws to a close, Aishwarya reflects on her journey with gratitude and determination. "Every role, every experience has shaped me," she concludes. "I look forward to pushing boundaries, exploring new horizons, and contributing to the rich tapestry of cinema."

Shabana Azmi: Actors shouldn't get into trap of looking like factory products



Know that feeling when a screen icon like Shabana Azmi posts your picture on their Instagram profile and "vouches" for you as a young actor? Shweta Prajapati, who comes from the village Mijwan (Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh), does.

Talking to us, the veteran says, "I saw her photograph and found it extremely evocative. Casting directors have told me in the past that all girls like to dress

up and look glam and pout- this is not what they are looking for at all. They are looking for faces, they would rather see girls without their makeup or pre conceived notions basis what their Instagram posts look like."

Azmi shares that she had seen the girl ever since she was in class six. "After school, I sent her to Mahatma Gandhi University of theatre in Vardha, she was there for three years and got

good results. Now she has come to Mumbai and been struggling for the kind of look she should project herself in. This picture was correct. It's amazing the number of people who have called me up for this post. It's a question about the right time," says the 73-year-old.

Given the avenues at the disposal of aspiring actors to showcase their talent today, we ask if it is easier to become an actor today compared to the time when she started off. Azmi quips, "This is a fallacy, that only if you have connections you can reach anywhere now. It will definitely help in the first break, but after that you could be the son or daughter of the biggest director or actor... if the audience rejects you, it rejects you. It's just a question of chance. My advice to young people would be what a casting director also told me. They are looking for faces and not glamour or models. Don't get into the trap of trying to look like a factory product. It is your individuality. When you are going for glam looks, thousands of boys and girls are like that!"

Rahul Vaidya, Disha Parmar's daughter achieves first milestone in technology

Actor Disha Parmar Vaidya, who is known for television shows like 'Bade Achhe Lagte Hain' and 'Pyaar Ka Dard Hai Meetha Meetha Pyaara Pyaara', and her husband Rahul Vaidya have an exciting life update to share.

Disha took to Instagram and posted a picture of her daughter, Navya. It turns out the picture is a selfie clicked by Navya herself.

The image shows her daughter in a side frame with the phone camera aimed at the ceiling.

Disha captioned the picture, 'Someone has learned to take selfies'.

Meanwhile, Rahul, who was recently in Delhi, was seen shopping for his daughter. The singer visited a toy store and explored various options.



Selena Gomez shuts down plastic surgery rumours: Leave me alone

Selena Gomez often faces extra scrutiny over her changing looks and weight fluctuations. And the singer is fed up with all the rumours around her going under the knife, and wants people to leave her alone.

Selena hits back

The 32-year-old singer addressed the speculations while responding to a TikTok video about the buzz around her changing looks in the comment section. The video was shared by a physician's assistant working in a plastic surgeon's office.

The original video was posted back in 2023. However, Selena commented on it on July 27.

"Honestly, I hate this. I was on stripes because of flare up. I have Botox. That's it. Leave me alone," wrote the Only



Murders in the Building actor.

Following the outburst by Selena, who suffers

from lupus, the TikToker, who goes by the name Marissa Barrionuevo, posted an apology note.

"You don't owe it to anyone to tell us why you don't look the same as what you did when you were a teenager or in your 20s," said the creator.

And Selena responded to it by sending lots of love and warmth. "I love you. Not about you. I just get sad sometimes," Selena replied in the comment section.

About Selena's health complications

In the year 2014, Selena was diagnosed with lupus, an autoimmune disorder, which comes with symptoms such as joint pain.

She underwent a kidney transplant in 2017 as a consequence

of her lupus diagnosis. She has refrained from publicly disclosing the specific prescription medications she takes to manage the condition.

In January, she addressed fan concerns regarding her health via the TikTok platform, saying, "I shake because of my medication of lupus".

However, she continues to face criticism over her changing looks.

Since then, the *Calm Down* hitmaker has used social media to share body positivity messages. "Today I realised I'll never look like this again," Selena wrote one.

In another post, Selena said, "I'm not perfect but I am proud to be who I am—sometimes I forget it's ok to be me."

Nayanthara reacts after backlash from The Liver Doc for post on hibiscus tea

Nayanthara shared a post about drinking hibiscus tea and the health benefits of doing so on Instagram and called the beverage a cure for everything from diabetes to acne. Soon, hepatologist Cyriac Abby Philips, popularly known as The Liver Doc on social media, called her out for misleading her fans. Now Nayanthara has shared a cryptic post on her Instagram Stories which seems to be a response to the backlash.

Nayanthara's post Nayanthara shared a quote post, which read: "Never argue with stupid people, they will drag you down to their level and then beat you with experience." It is originally said by author

Mark Twain.

Nayanthara on Hibiscus tea

In her now-deleted post, Nayanthara had credited her health care expert Munmun Ganerwal and said, "Hibiscus tea is great for the monsoon season as it is rich in vitamins and keeps our immune system in equilibrium. It has antibacterial effects that protects from seasonal infection/ illness. P.S. anyone who needs the recipe can check with @munmun.ganerwal. Stay healthy. Stay happy."

Reacting to the post on his X account, The Liver Doc said: "If she had stopped at hibiscus tea is kind of tasty, that would have been ok. But no, they have to



go ahead and blow their health-illiteracy trumpet and also claim that hibiscus tea is helpful in diabetes, high blood pressure, acne, antibacterial and protects against the flu. Well, none of the above claims have been proven."

He further said that there was no apology from Nayanthara after she deleted the post. "Post deleted. But no apology. No accountability. Like a surgical strike on public health. Need laws to curb this kind of behavior from celebrities community and empower and support registered medical practitioners (non-Ayush) to provide evidence-based scientific education to improve informed public health choices," he said.

Guns N' Roses' Slash pens heart-wrenching note on stepdaughter's death at 25



Guns N' Roses legend Slash is experiencing profound heartache following the death of his stepdaughter, Lucy-Bleu Knight, at the age of 25.

He shared a heart-wrenching tribute to his stepdaughter, whose untimely passing has left him with a "permanently fractured" heart, reports *Mirror.co.uk*.

The 59-year-old guitarist took to Instagram to express his deep grief over Lucy-Bleu's loss on July 19, posting a touching message alongside her photo.

According to *Mirror.co.uk*, Slash wrote: "My heart is permanently fractured. I will never ever stop missing you and remembering what a beacon of happiness, laughter, creativity, and beauty you have always been. And still are."

Slash concluded: "The brightest light

in the lives of so many who loved you so much. I find solace in the hope that you are at peace now. I will love you eternally. #LBK."

His famous friends and fans were quick to comment on the post and send their condolences to the grieving guitarist.

Lenny Kravitz wrote: "My deepest condolences, brother. And yes, she still IS! Love to the family."

Aquaman star Jason Momoa added: "I'm so sorry. Deepest condolences to Meegan and you, brother."

Black Eyed Peas singer Fergie shared: "I am so sorry. Sending angel prayers."

The rock icon had previously informed his followers on July 22 about Lucy-Bleu's death, which came just after he canceled four gigs from his 'S.E.R.P.E.N.T.' festival tour due to "unforeseen circumstances."

The medical examiner's office has concluded the autopsy but has deferred the cause of death pending further tests, while an investigator delves into the case.

Slash told his followers that Lucy-Bleu "passed away peacefully" through an announcement on her Instagram Stories.

India's growth, stability an exception in an uncertain world: PM Modi in first post-budget address

Says India the only country today with high growth, low inflation, lists Union Budget 'merits', terms industry 'principal driver of growth story'

NEW DELHI, Jul 30 (Agencies): In his first post-budget remarks on Tuesday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi described himself as an "exception to the rule of political class forgetting promises once elections are over", and assured the industry that it won't be long before India became the world's third largest economy.

Highlighting strong macro fundamentals of the economy, PM Modi said the BJP led NDA dispensation had brought the industry "out of the mega crisis in which the Congress led UPA had left it".

He said India's growth and stability was an exception in today's world fraught with uncertainties and its fiscal prudence a role model for all.

"Even in these uncertain times, our forex has grown considerably. Today, when most nations are struggling with low growth and high inflation, India is the only country with high growth and low inflation. India today contributes 16 per cent to global growth. We have achieved this despite several setback encountered by the economy over the past ten years—once in a century pandemic, global conflicts, and natural calamities at home," the Prime Minister said asking industry to "seize the golden chance when global investment interest in India is peaking."

Addressing a CII conference, PM Modi went on to list 'merits



of the just announced Union Budget" adding: "Often early debate around the Budget is driven by media and agenda but when you see the takeaways calmly you realise the depth."

"Some less talked about budget takeaways are raised allocations for nuclear power generation; focus on digital public infrastructure in agriculture with plans to issue identity cards—Bhoo Aadhar—to farmers for their lands; Rs 1,000 crore venture capital fund for space economy, preparations for auction of offshore mining blocks. These budget announcements will unleash further growth potential," the Prime Minister said, calling industry leaders "the principal drivers of India's growth story and important pillars of Viksit Bharat."

The Prime Minister was speaking a day after Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi attacked Gautam Adani

and Mukesh Ambani while targeting the union budget as anti-people.

Countering the opposition narrative the Prime Minister today said "unlike past governments that believed in hogging headlines by making lofty budget announcements and never implementing those, the speed and scale at which we are today growing is unprecedented."

PM Modi compared the budgets of BJP led NDA government with those of former PM Manmohan Singh led UPA saying "The last Budget of the UPA in 2014 was Rs 16 lakh crore. Today, our budget is three times at Rs 48 lakh crore."

The Prime Minister also said capital expenditure under the BJP rule had grown six times as against twice in the ten years of UPA.

"Capital expenditure, the most productive medium of resource investment, was Rs 90,000

crore in UPA's first budget in 2004. They could only take it to Rs 2 lakh crore by 2014. We have provided Rs 11 lakh crore for Capex in this budget—a five-fold rise since 2014," PM Modi said adding that the NDA had pulled the industry out of "mega crisis and sustained 8 per cent growth in the past three years despite Covid, wars and a range of natural calamities at home."

The Prime Minister also said the Rs 2-lakh crore package for jobs and skilling of youth was an "end to end solution and not a fragmented policy".

Listing lower taxes under NDA, PM Modi said budgets have risen across sectors—eight times in railways and highways, and four times in agriculture since he took over.

On taxes, the Prime Minister said MSMEs earning Rs 50 crore annually had to pay 30 per cent tax under UPA as against 22 per cent today. Companies earning Rs 400 crore today invite corporate tax rate of 25 per cent against 25 per cent in UPA times.

"The issue of not just lowering taxes and raising budgets but also of good governance. Past governments believed in headline grabbing through budget announcements and had no care for timely completion of projects. The speed and scale at which we are growing today is unprecedented," PM Modi said to frequent applause.

People Will Break Modi's 'Chakravayuh': Rahul On PSBs Collecting Crores As Penalty



NEW DELHI, Jul 30 (Agencies): Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday slammed the Government over public sector banks collecting crores in penalty from customers for not maintaining average monthly balance, saying the "penalty system" is that door of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "chakravayuh" through which efforts are being made to break the back of the common Indian.

His attack on the Government came after it emerged in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha that public sector banks collected around Rs 8,500 crore under this head in five years starting from FY 2019-20.

Minister of state in the Finance Ministry Pankaj Chaudhary also informed the Lok Sabha on Monday that state-run banks have charged depositors Rs 2,331 crore penalty for not maintaining average monthly minimum balance in FY24.

In a post in Hindi on X, Gandhi said, "During Narendra Modi's amrit kaal, the 'empty pockets' of common Indians are also being robbed. The Government, which had forgiven Rs 16 lakh crore of friendly industrialists, has recovered Rs 8,500 crore from the poor Indians who were unable to maintain even 'minimum balance'."

"The 'penalty system' is that door of Modi's 'chakravayuh' through which

efforts are being made to break the back of the common Indian," Gandhi said

"But remember the people of India are not Abhimanyu but Arjun, they know how to answer your atrocities by breaking the 'chakravayuh'," the former Congress chief said.

Using the 'chakravayuh' metaphor as a leitmotif, Gandhi on Monday had claimed that an atmosphere of fear prevails all around with a group of six trapping the entire country in a 'chakravayuh' he promised would be broken by the INDIA bloc.

Participating in the debate in the Lok Sabha on Budget 2024-25, Gandhi had said the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) will ensure that a legal guarantee for MSP as well as a caste census is passed by the House.

Thousands of years ago in Haryana's Kurukshetra, six people killed a youth, Abhimanyu, in a 'chakravayuh', he had said, adding that a 'chakravayuh' has violence and fear.

Gandhi's reference was to the Mahabharat legend according to which Abhimanyu was killed in a 'chakravayuh'. 'Chakravayuh' refers to a multi-layered military formation aimed at trapping a warrior by opponents placed strategically in an alignment resembling a lotus-shaped labyrinth.

He said the 'chakravayuh' is also called a 'padmavyuh' for its resemblance to a lotus (BJP's election symbol) formation.

"In the 21st century, another 'chakravayuh' 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 India, with its youth, women, farmers and small and medium businesses," he had said.

Four labourers dead in Rajasthan building collapse

JAIPUR, Jul 30 (Agencies): Four labourers were killed and six injured when the roof of an under-construction building collapsed in the Rajsamand district of Rajasthan, police said on Tuesday.

The incident occurred on Monday night while the construction of a community hall was underway in the Khamnor area. Thirteen labourers were working at the site when the roof collapsed, trapping ten of them, Rajsamand Collector Bhanwar Lal reported.



Two of the labourers died on the spot, while two others succumbed to their injuries during treatment. Five of the injured are currently undergoing treatment at the Rajsamand district hospital, and one

labourer has been admitted to the Udaipur district hospital in critical condition.

The deceased have been identified as Kalu Lal, Shanti Lal, Bhagwati Lal, and Bhanwar Lal.

Congress chief Kharge cites security challenges related to China, Pakistan; asks government to take Parliament into confidence

NEW DELHI, Jul 30 (Agencies): Citing security challenges related to China and Pakistan, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge urged the Centre on Tuesday to take Parliament into confidence and alleged that in its "false bravado and hollow propaganda", it has forgotten that it also has the responsibility to protect India's strategic interests.

Kharge said new developments at India's two-front security paradigm have yet again exposed the Narendra Modi government's rank



apathy.

"Is it not true that China has built and operationalised a bridge connecting the north and south banks of Pangong Lake, which allows it to have a strategic dominance in the sector, close to our

LAC?" the Congress chief asked in a post on X.

"Is it not a fact that China has started constructing a new village along the LAC in the Demchok sector, which along with Depsang, is

a point of standoff, post-Galwan?" he asked.

On Pakistan, Kharge asked whether it is not true that since Prime Minister Modi took oath, there have been 25 terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in the Jammu region, where 15 soldiers or security personnel have been killed and 27 injured.

"Is it not a fact that Pak-sponsored terrorism has now spread to 3 new districts of Jammu and Kashmir -- Doda, Kathua and Reasi and the share of civilian deaths in such incidents

across Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) has been disproportionately high --? In fact, the highest in about two decades?" the Congress president asked.

These are extremely serious and sensitive issues of national security and need a united and collective approach, he said.

"Parliament must be taken into confidence by the Modi Govt, but in its false bravado and hollow propaganda, it has forgotten that it also has the responsibility to protect India's strategic interests," Kharge said.

Govt invites protesting farmers for talks, our doors open: Piyush Goyal

Goyal, however, termed the protesting segment of farmers at the Haryana and Punjab border "small" and said a vast mass of Indian farmers, nearly 14 crore, are with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

NEW DELHI, Jul 30 (Agencies): Closely after a group of farmers met Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi seeking his support for pressing ahead with their demand on statutory MSP, the government on Tuesday again made an offer of talks to the protestors.

"Doors of the government are always open for farmers. We welcome farmers for discussions and our doors are always open and I hope they will accept our call," senior minister Piyush Goyal who led the group of interlocutors of the government at the time of farmers' agitation.

Goyal, however, termed the protesting segment of farmers at the Haryana and Punjab border "small" and said a vast mass of Indian farmers, nearly 14 crore, are with Prime Minister

Narendra Modi.

"This -- the protesting segment on Shambhu border is a very small section of farmers. There are crores 12 to 14 cr across India who support Modi government else we could never have come back for a third term with such a massive outpouring of support. The BJP is the single largest party in India and the only one with presence across north, south, east, west and the northeast," said Goyal responding to a Tribune query on farmers' agitation and whether a solution to the long festering problem was possible.

Goyal accused Gandhi of speaking lies in Lok Sabha on Monday about the farmer issue and asked why the Congress led UPA never implemented the MS Swaminathan formula of cost



plus 50% to farmers.

"The Swaminathan report came in Congress time but they slept on it. It was the BJP government that gave farmers MSP of cost plus 50 per cent and is now procuring food grains on a record scale," said Goyal.

He also cited a 2004 speech of P Chidambaram, finance minister under UPA, to say: "Then FM's speech never mentioned MSP. In fact Chidambaram said India must become

a single market for agriculture produce. He said the existing system of market committee has outlived its utility.

He also backed a model law on direct marketing and contract farming urging all states to enact it," said Goyal.

He attacked Gandhi for "making irresponsible statements, peddling childish and fake narratives with a broken track record of UPA time governance which had brought India to its knees with global agen-

cies downgrading us. PM Modi has ensured strong macro economic fundamentals and now rating agencies are talking about upgrading India. India a shining oasis in world economy, the fastest growing large economy in the world poised to be the third largest soon," the minister said.

Goyal also cited Chidambaram's interim budget speech of 2014, his last, where the then FM had said: "I urge all parties to take a pledge that we will not, we will never do anything to weaken the foundations of the Indian economy."

What is Congress-led INDIA bloc doing today, asked Goyal, asking Gandhi to introspect rather than "tell lies in his urge to attack high constitutional functionaries."

Woman stabbed in Navi Mumbai, body dumped in bushes, accused arrested



MUMBAI, Jul 30 (Agencies): A man was arrested on Tuesday for allegedly killing a 20-year-old woman, whose body was found in the bushes near a railway station in Navi Mumbai's Uran. Dawood Sheikh was arrested in Karnataka's Shapur Hill area after a two-day manhunt by Maharashtra police.

Amit Kale, DCP, Crime Branch, Navi Mumbai, said Dawood had confessed to killing Yasashree Shinde. However, the motive is yet to be ascertained. The DCP said Dawood was hiding with his relatives in Karnataka.

Police said Dawood,

against whom the family of the victim had filed a POCSE case in 2019, was a resident of Bengaluru and came to Uran on July 22 to meet the woman.

The woman's family filed a complaint at the Uran police station after she went missing on Thursday morning. The woman worked at a private firm in Belapur.

On Saturday, the woman's body was found in the bushes near the railway station. There were multiple stab injuries on her stomach and back. The woman's face was also disfigured, but police said it might have been done by wild animals or dogs.

A case under Section 103 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) was registered, and eight teams were formed to trace the accused.

DCP Kale said the postmortem report had not revealed any evidence of sexual assault. "Dawood killed the girl by stabbing her with a knife. Eyewitnesses said dogs were eating the girl's face when they found the body," he said.

Deepak Sakore, Additional Commissioner (Crime), Navi Mumbai, said the accused and the victim had met on the day of the murder. "The family of the victim had filed a POCSE case against the accused in 2019. But they were in touch with each other," Sakore said.

Police suspect that the murder could be a case of a one-sided love affair. The reels posted by Dawood Sheikh on his social media were based on infidelity and spurned lovers.

To win the White House Kamala Harris must first overcome the 'California curse'

She will be crashing through many glass ceilings if she makes it to the White House

GUILDFORD (UK), Jul 30 (Agencies): Within the next fortnight, subject to a virtual "roll-call of Democratic Party delegates", vice president Kamala Harris will be confirmed as the presumptive Democrat candidate for the US presidency and will engage in a full-on battle for the White House with the Republican candidate, Donald Trump.

Harris will be crashing through many glass ceilings if she makes it to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue North West – or, as it is better known, the White House. She would be the first woman president, and also a woman of colour with both Indian and Jamaican heritage. But she would also be the first Democrat to win an election from a political powerbase in California.

In the exceptional republic that is the USA, California is truly exceptional – and that grates with much of the rest of the country. It, and the people who hail from it, are too big, too rich, too inventive, too liberal – and altogether just too much, if you are from anywhere else, that is.

If California was a nation, it would have the world's fifth largest economy. It contributes around 15 per cent of US GDP, way out of proportion to other states, and is home to tech giants including Apple, Meta and Google, alongside major corporations such as Visa, Chevron and Wells Fargo.

And just down from Silicon Valley you'll find the Hollywood Hills, home to the myth and mystery of the movie business. Hollywood has given us such California politicians as former governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Clint Eastwood – mayor of Carmel-by-the-Sea – and a



one Ronald Wilson Reagan, who made the political journey from Democrat to conservative Republican. But more on him later.

For the US heartland, California feels like a separate country. Somehow, being far west has turned it – and particularly its Democrat politicians – far left in the minds of those Midwesterners, and there is almost no history of significant runs for the presidency for politicians who've cut their teeth in its capital, Sacramento.

Barring Harris' own halting run in 2020, you have to look back to 1992 for the last serious Californian tilt at the presidency. This was when the then governor, Jerry Brown, made his final run, offering a serious challenge to Bill Clinton before choosing Rev Jesse Jackson as his vice-presidential pick, something that a small-c conservative country was just not ready for. And before Brown? Pretty much zilch.

So where should Harris look to for inspiration and does the stereotype of California failures actually hold weight? She can look to Diane Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, who smashed the California glass ceiling when

they were elected in 1992 as the state's first women senators. The liberal Boxer was actually succeeded in the Senate by Kamala Harris, who then served alongside Feinstein in Congress.

Feinstein, who died last year, made her name as mayor of San Francisco and served in the Senate for more than 30 years. Her decline – and refusal to retire – has more than a few echoes, not with Harris, but with Joe Biden. And if Harris needs further inspiration of a successful woman in Washington, she need look no further than Nancy Pelosi as the first female speaker of the House and, until her retirement from the speakership, one of the key leaders in legislative government.

Across the aisle

The reality is, of course that California has produced a raft of successful politicians at the highest level – but to date, they have been men, and they have been Republican. Midwesterners don't actually mind Californians – as long as they're conservative Californians.

While John Fremont came close in 1856, just six years after California entered the Union, the first Republican president from

the state was Herbert Hoover in 1928. He swept the country other than the Dixie South and New York, campaigning to maintain US prosperity.

The Wall Street crash and the Depression put paid to a Hoover second term and while the Republicans won the presidency back under Eisenhower in 1952, the most prominent Californian appointment of the 1950s was Earl Warren as chief justice of the US Supreme Court. He presided over a reforming Court, most especially around civil rights.

Next up to bat for the presidency was former vice-president Richard Nixon, who benefited from the chaos among the Democrats in 1968 following LBJ's decision not to run, to beat the incumbent Democratic vice-president Hubert Humphrey – surely a lesson for Harris.

Finally, Kamala Harris could look to Reagan – former actor, former labour leader, former governor and a failed candidate in 1976 – for inspiration. In 1980 he won the presidency on the back of deep economic malaise, but by 1984 his mix of old-time folksiness mixed with steely determination made him unstoppable. For a generation it definitely was "Morning again in America", as his campaign slogan ran.

If Harris can capture that same sense of hope, of empathy and of positivity, she may regain the ground lost by Joe Biden to his challenger. Perhaps she can break the Democrats' Californian curse. And in the end, is California really too different? Is it any more "exceptional" than, for instance, New York – the birth place and long-time home to one Donald J Trump?

Taiwan's President Lai calls for unity in face of China threat

Lai has repeatedly made overtures for dialogue with Beijing -- severed after his predecessor Tsai Ing-wen came into office in 2016 for her stance that Taiwan is not part of China.



TAIPEI, Jul 30 (Agencies): Taiwan's President Lai Ching-te said Tuesday "a threat from China to any country is a threat to the world", emphasizing to lawmakers of more than 20 countries that global democracies must unite against "authoritarian expansion".

China has in recent years stepped up military and political pressures on democratic Taiwan, which Beijing claims as part of its territory.

While Taipei officially only has a dozen diplomatic allies, it has strengthened partnerships with democracies around the world -- especially the United States, its largest weapons provider -- as Beijing ups the rhetoric of unification being "inevitable".

On Tuesday, Lai attended a summit of the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China (IPAC) -- a group of

parliamentarians hailing from Uruguay and Canada to Japan and Britain concerned about how democracies interact with Beijing.

Praising the 49 lawmakers from 23 countries and the European Parliament for making the journey to Taipei, Lai said the delegation demonstrates "the importance and support" that various countries have for Taiwan.

"They send a crucial message to democratic partners worldwide: democracy requires unity and protection," he said.

"I want to emphasize that a threat from China to any country is a threat to the world. Taiwan will do everything to join democratic partners to uphold the umbrella of democracy, (and) protect democratic nations from the threat of authoritarian expansion."

Lai, who took office

in May, is regarded by China as a "dangerous separatist" for his staunch defence of Taiwan's sovereignty.

Three days after later China launched war games, encircling the island with fighter jets and naval vessels, as a "punishment" for Lai's inauguration speech which Beijing said was a "confession of Taiwan independence".

Lai has repeatedly made overtures for dialogue with Beijing -- severed after his predecessor Tsai Ing-wen came into office in 2016 for her stance that Taiwan is not part of China.

But like Tsai, he has also maintained that the island must be united in ensuring its sovereignty by building up its defence capabilities, as China maintains a near-daily military presence by deploying warships, fighter jets and drones around Taiwan.

Lai reiterated Tuesday that Taiwan must "prepare for war to avoid war, and achieve peace through strength".

"We are also willing to take dialogue instead of confrontation with China, and take exchanges instead of containment based on the principle of mutual respect and dignity, to reduce conflicts and achieve peace and stability," he said.

Turkey approves law to remove stray dogs from streets. Opposition vows to fight the 'massacre law'

ANKARA, Jul 30 (Agencies): Legislators approved Tuesday a new law aimed at removing millions of stray dogs from Turkey's streets that animal lovers fear will lead to many of the dogs being killed or ending up in neglected, overcrowded shelters. Some also say the law could also be used to target the opposition which made huge gains in the country's local elections months ago.

Deputies in the Turkish Grand National Assembly approved the legislation following a marathon overnight session as the government pushed to have it passed before the summer recess as demonstrations in cities across Turkey saw thousands call for the scrapping of an article that would allow some stray animals to be euthanized. Opposition lawmakers, animal welfare groups and others have dubbed the bill the "massacre law."

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan says the new law is necessary to deal with the country's "stray dog problem."

The government estimates that around 4 million stray dogs roam Turkey's streets and rural areas. Although many are harmless, a growing number are congregating in packs, and several people have been attacked. The country's large stray cat population is not a focus of the bill.

In Istanbul's Sishane Square, hundreds gathered and issued



a defiant message to the government. "Your massacre law is just a piece of paper for us," the organizers told the crowd. "We will write the law on the streets. Life and solidarity, not hatred and hostility, will win."

Animal lovers in the capital Ankara protested outside municipal offices. To whistles and jeers, a statement was read: "We are warning the government again and again, stop the law. Do not commit this crime against this country."

Protests organized by political parties and animal welfare groups were also held in cities across Europe, where there were warnings the law could dissuade tourists from visiting Turkey.

Turkey's main opposition party said it would seek its cancellation at the country's Supreme Court.

"You have made a law that is morally, conscientiously and legally broken. You cannot wash your hands of blood," Murat Emir, a senior deputy with the Republican People's Party, or CHP, said Sunday night in parliament. He questioned why the bill called for healthy and unaggressive animals to be collected if they were not

to be killed. Others blamed a failure to implement previous regulations, which required stray dogs to be caught, neutered, spayed and returned to where they were found, had led to the growth in the canine population.

The Humane Society International said in a statement that it had written to Erdogan to raise concerns that the law will cause "unnecessary suffering and death to countless animals in a short-term fix that won't deliver a long-term solution."

Ali Ozkaya, of Erdogan's Justice and Development Party, or AKP, described the bill as a "demand of the nation."

The new legislation requires municipalities to collect stray dogs and house them in shelters to be vaccinated, neutered and spayed before making them available for adoption. Dogs that are in pain, terminally ill, or pose a health risk to humans will be euthanized.

However, many question where cash-strapped municipalities would find the money to build the necessary extra shelters.

"Since there are not enough places in the shelters -- there are very few shelters in Turkey -- a path has

been opened for the killing (of strays)," said veterinarian Turkan Ceylan. "We animal rights activists know very well that this spells death."

The CHP, which won many of Turkey's biggest municipalities in elections earlier this year, has said it will not implement the law. However, the newly passed bill introduces prison sentences of up to two years for mayors who do not carry out their duties to tackle strays, leading to suspicions that the law will be used to go after opposition mayors.

The government denies the bill would lead to a widespread culling. Justice Minister Yilmaz Tunc told journalists last week that anyone killing strays "for no reason" would be punished.

Murat Pinar, who heads an association campaigning for measures to keep the streets safe from stray dogs, says at least 75 people, including 44 children, were killed as a result of attacks or by traffic accidents caused by dogs since 2022. That's the year his 9-year-old daughter, Mahra, was run over by a truck after she fled from two aggressive dogs.

During public meetings on the bill, representatives of some nongovernmental groups were prevented from observing the proceedings. Activists have gathered in parks demanding that what they call the "massacre law" be withdrawn.

The Taliban disavows some Afghan diplomatic missions abroad and rejects their consular services

KABUL, Jul 30 (Agencies): The Taliban on Tuesday disavowed many Afghan diplomatic missions overseas, saying it will not honor passports, visas and other documents issued by diplomats associated with Afghanistan's former Western-backed administration.

It's the Taliban's latest attempt to seize control of diplomatic missions since returning to power in 2021.

Many of their leaders are under sanctions and no country recognizes them as Afghanistan's legitimate rulers.

The country's seat at the United Nations is still held by the former government that was led by Ashraf Ghani.

In a statement posted to the social media platform X, the Min-

istry of Foreign Affairs said that documents issued by missions in London, Berlin, Belgium, Bonn, Switzerland, Austria, France, Italy, Greece, Poland, Australia, Sweden, Canada and Norway are no longer accepted and that the ministry "bears no responsibility" for those documents.

The documents affected include passports, visa stickers, deeds and endorsements.

The ministry wrote that people in those countries will need to approach embassies and consulates controlled by the Taliban's Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan government instead.

"All Afghan nationals living abroad and foreigners can visit the IEA political and consular missions in other countries, other than

the above-mentioned missions, to access consular services," it said.

In March 2023, the Taliban said they were trying to take charge of more Afghan embassies abroad. Their chief spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, said the administration had sent diplomats to at least 14 countries.

Afghan embassies in Spain and the Netherlands last October stressed that they were working with Taliban authorities in Kabul, after the Taliban suspended consular services at the embassies in London and Vienna over their "lack of transparency and cooperation."

Some countries retain an active diplomatic mission in Afghanistan, including Pakistan and China.

Elon Musk calls Maduro a 'dictator' in tech billionaire's latest blow-up against foreign leader

WASHINGTON, Jul 30 (Agencies): Add Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro to the growing list of foreign leaders with whom tech billionaire Elon Musk has picked a fight.

Following the results of Venezuela's presidential election, in which Maduro and his opponents each claimed victory, the owner of X took to the social media platform to accuse the self-proclaimed socialist leader of "major election fraud."

"Shame on Dictator Maduro," Musk said.

Maduro in turn trashed Musk as "the archenemy of Venezuela's peace." Officials delayed the release of detailed vote tallies from Sunday's election after proclaiming Maduro the winner with 51 per cent of the vote, compared with 44 per cent for retired diplomat

Edmundo Gonzalez. The competing claims set up a high-stakes standoff.

After failing to oust Maduro during three rounds of demonstrations since 2014, the opposition put its faith in the ballot box. The elections were among the most peaceful in recent memory, reflecting hopes that Venezuela could avoid bloodshed and end 25 years of single-party rule.

Musk also retweeted a comment on X by his "friend" Argentine President Javier Milei. "The numbers announced a landslide opposition by the victory and the world is waiting for the government to acknowledge defeat after years of socialism, misery, decadence and death," Milei said.

Maduro was swift to respond to Musk's social media posts, calling the billionaire a threat to Venezu-

ela.

"He is the representation of the fascist ideology, anti-natural, anti-society," Maduro said.

"Elon Musk is desperate, control yourself," he warned. "Whoever gets involved with me dries out." This is not Musk's first confrontation with foreign governments. Earlier this year, the self-proclaimed "free speech absolutist" clashed with a Brazilian supreme court justice over free speech, far-right accounts and purported misinformation on X, formerly Twitter. Musk bought Twitter back in 2022, upending many of the social platform's policies and laying off the majority of its workforce.

As for Venezuela's election, leaders around the world also expressed concerns over the results, many calling for transparency in the vote count.

Apni Party holds protest demanding restoration of J&K's statehood

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 30: Apni Party, on Tuesday, held a protest demonstration demanding the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir before the assembly elections are held here. Prominent leaders of the party, along with senior workers, joined the procession. However, the police did not allow the procession to proceed towards the Press Colony in Srinagar.

According to a press release issued here, party leaders and senior workers gathered at the party headquarters and started the protest demonstrations. The party's Senior Vice President, Ghulam Hassan Mir, led the procession, which was not allowed to proceed beyond Church Lane, outside the premises of the party headquarters.

The protesters raised slogans demanding the immediate restoration of all democratic rights to

Jammu and Kashmir, especially its statehood. The were demanding the restoration of the statehood to J&K before the assembly elections are held here.

On this occasion, while speaking to reporters, Ghulam Hassan Mir said, "The purpose of this protest is to remind the central government of its promises regarding the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir. The Prime Minister and the Home Minister of the country have promised that statehood to J&K will be restored soon. However, nearly five years have passed, and this promise remains unfulfilled. Instead, the people of J&K have been further disempowered and deprived of their rights through various initiatives during this period."

"Apni Party demands the immediate restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir. We want the restoration of the statehood that existed before August 5, 2019.

Furthermore, we want the central government to respect the sentiments of the people and provide them with all the rights they are entitled to as per the constitution of the country," Mir added.

Ghulam Hassan Mir condemned the police action halting party's peaceful protest.

He said, "It was a peaceful protest conducted in a democratic manner for a genuine cause. It is disappointing that the government did not permit even this peaceful demonstration. In democracies, holding a peaceful protest is a fundamental right and is allowed in every civilized society. Preventing such a protest is a cowardly act by the government, and we condemn it."

Besides Mir, the prominent party leader who were part of this protest procession included the party's General Secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir, Provincial President Mohammad Ashraf Mir, Chief Spokesperson Muntazir Mohiuddin, District

President Anantnag Abdul Rahim Rather, District President Srinagar Noor Mohammad Sheikh, District President Baramulla Shabir Ahmad Shah, District President Pulwama Ghulam Mohammad Mir, District President Bandipora Shafat Kazmi, State Convenor Haji Parvez Ahmad, Vice Chairman DDC Srinagar Bilal Ahmad Bhat, Vice Chairman DDC Shopian Irfan Manhas, Provincial Organiser and DDC Member Harwan Shabir Reshi, Provincial Secretary Umar Jan, District Secretary Srinagar Peer Wajahat, District Secretary Anantnag Tariq Shah Veeri, Joint Secretary Srinagar Tanveer Ahmad Bhat, Senior Vice President and Constituency Incharge Habba Kadal Jeelani Hamid Kumar, Ex Corporator Tanveer Hussain Pathan, Constituency In Charge Dooru Bashir Ahmad Bragami, Spokesperson Roohi H Bhati, Khalid Rathore, Syed Muzamil Rizvi, and others.

Dr. Uppal appointed principal of Guru Gobind Singh College of Management and Technology

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: Professor Dr. R.K. Uppal has been appointed principal of Guru Gobind Singh College of Management and Technology, Gidderbaha.

A prolific writer, a Man of Letters, an eminent academician, a research stalwart, and the most ingenious guide, Dr. Rajinder Kumar Uppal has received accolades not only from the academic world but also from the genre of research. Dr. Uppal is also the MTC Global Chair Professor of Banking and Finance and Research Professor at the



Indian Institute of Finance.

He is also a visiting professor at several national and international institutions/universities. He is also a professor of practice in finance at Narayana Engineering College, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh. Dr. Uppal has 87 books on his credit and has completed seven post-

doctoral major research projects at UGC and ICSSR, New Delhi. As well as publishing an Encyclopedia on the Indian Banking Industry, he has also authored 35 national and international patents. In addition to being a member of many professional research bodies, he serves on the advisory board of numerous research journals.

It was under the guidance of General Secretary Gurcharan Singh that he joined the GGS Group of Institutions as a principal. He expressed his gratitude to the Badal family for appointing him principal.

SMVDU hosts Directors of Five National Institutes



Top News Report

KATRA, July 30: Directors of MNIT Jaipur, MANIT Bhopal, NIT Sikkim, SPA New Delhi and IIT Dharwad visited Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University campus. SMVDU Vice Chancellor Prof. Pragati Kumar hosted Prof N.P. Padhy, Director, Malaviya National Institute of

Technology Jaipur (MNIT Jaipur), Prof. Karunesh Kumar Shukla, Director, Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology Bhopal (MANIT Bhopal), Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil, Director, National Institute of Technology Sikkim (NIT Sikkim), Prof. Virendra Kumar Paul, Director, School of Planning and Architecture New Delhi

(SPA New Delhi) and Prof. S.R. Mahadeva Prasanna, Director, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Dharwad (IIT Dharwad). In this meeting, mutual academic cooperation between SMVDU and all the institutes was discussed. All the directors were quite impressed with the excellent infrastructure of SMVDU.

President Draupadi Murmu should impose President's rule in Delhi: Chandel

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: Senior BJP leader Raju Chandel, while talking to journalists today, said that even after the major fire incident at IAS Coaching Centre, which was being run illegally in Mukherjee Nagar and resulted in the deaths of bright students, the Kejriwal government of Delhi did not take heed. Another such tragic incident has occurred in Old Rajendra Nagar, where three bright students were burnt and died. The Kejriwal government of Delhi has become so blind and deaf that it is unable to control the tuition centres running illegally in basements in the area. The Supreme Court should immediately stop them and all illegal tuition centres running in basements should be closed.

For this negligence, Kejriwal's Education Minister and Industry Minister should resign because illegal schools and colleges are operating under the nose of the Delhi Government, which has failed to control them and is playing with the lives of talented students. Chandel demanded from President Draupadi Murmu that President's rule should be imposed in Delhi and the Delhi Government should be



dismissed. This is the second consecutive incident that has ended the lives of talented students. The Delhi Government should be punished for this.

The Bharatiya Janata Party is continuously protesting at various places in Delhi demanding the dismissal of the Delhi Government. Today, under the leadership of the State President of the Bharatiya Janata Party, Virendra Sachdeva, State President of Scheduled Caste Front Mohanlal Gihara, State General Secretary Vishnu Mittal, District President of North Eastern District Poonam Chauhan, Senior Vice President Deepika Chandel, General Secretary Pushpendar Suryavanshi, Motilal Om Ver Vaimiki, and hundreds of dignitaries are protesting fiercely.

VC SKUAST-J visits RS Pura campus of Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: Under the patronage of Prof. B. N. Tripathi, Vice-Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu, a week-long plantation drive was kicked off at Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry, R.S Pura campus. During the event, Prof. Tripathi was accompanied by Dr. M.S. Bhadwal, Associate Dean, F.V.Sc & A.H and Dr. J.S. Soodan, Dean Faculty of Dairy Technology.

All heads of various divisions, teaching and non-teaching staffs and a large number of students actively participated in the programme. The plantation drive was organized by Landscape & Beautification committee of F.V.Sc & A.H. RS Pura.

Prof. Tripathi took stock of Faculty and visited a newly created facility "Laboratory of Ethnoveterinary Medicine", established by Dr. Neelesh Sharma in the Division of Veterinary Medicine under the projects.

This lab is for the collection, identification and development of herbal products for the management livestock diseases with focus to minimize the use of antibiotics and tackle the antimicrobial resistance (AMR) issue.

Prof. Tripathi appreci-

ated the efforts for establishing the dedicated facility for the Ethnoveterinary Medicine, which is first kind of facility in this field. He has suggested to further strengthen this laboratory for more product-based research work.

Prof. Tripathi also visited newly renovated Livestock Production Management (LPM) lab. He appreciated the new facilities created in the lab, including ultra-centrifugation high quality water purification system and cell culture facilities.

He congratulated the scientists and emphasized upon the utility of these high-end facilities for quality research of post graduate students and scientists of the Faculty. Dr Tripathi also enquired about the ongoing research projects of the lab and highlighted the importance of characterization of local prevailing virus strain in poultry.

Vice-Chancellor also visited renovated Livestock Products Technology (LPT) lab. He observed all the newly purchased equipments and the different current works going on with that specific equipment. He emphasized on Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) and its utility in wool characterization and its further usage in

the field of pathology and microbiology. He also emphasized on High Performance Thin Layer Chromatography and its usage in fingerprinting technique. He emphasized on omics technique to characterise the biomarker using gel doc, PCR and Rt PCR.

During the visit of various Labs & facilities, Prof. Tripathi was accompanied by Dr. M.S. Bhadwal, Associate Dean, F.V.Sc & A.H; Dr. J.S. Soodan, Dean Faculty of Dairy Technology, concerned HoD and scientists of the Division.

NOTICE

I, Mahesh Magotra, S/o Kamal Magotra, R/o H. No-194-A, Last Morh, Sarwal Colony, Jammu, have applied for the correction of my father's name (Kamal Magotra) which was entered as Kamal Magota instead of Kamal Magotra. Objections, if any, may be conveyed to the Registrar, Jammu Municipal Corporation, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

BVP Jammu East Branch conducts Plantation Drive at GMS Sarore

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: Bharat Vikas Parishad (BVP) Jammu East Branch conducted "Plantation Drive" at Govt. Middle School Sarore on Tuesday. More than 15 plants like ornamental and Fruits were planted to keep fresh environment of the school.

On this occasion Prant President Bharat Bhushan Sharma, Prant General Secretary Shiv Ram Sharma, Prant Finance Secretary Sunita Gupta, Branch President Ved Parkash Padha, Branch Secretary Nandini Shukla, Branch Treasurer Kushal

Kumar, Veena Sharma branch member, Pawan Sharma branch member Headmaster Govt. Middle School Sarore Anupama, staff members and students were present. On this occasion Bharat Bhushan Sharma highlighted on the importance of plantation and objectives of Bharat Vikas Parishad.

Ved Parkash Padha recited slogans to save environment and thanked Headmaster and staff members for their cooperation.

On this occasion stationery and refreshment were distributed among children of the school.

FROM PAGE 1

Wayanad landslide disaster toll reaches 70, many missing

The Army, NDRF, Fire Force, Police and an army of people from nearby affected areas are engaged in what is being termed the biggest rescue operations in the state.

An NDRF official said the inclement weather, especially the heavy rain in the worst affected areas, is hampering rescue operations.

"There are areas which we are yet to reach because of the bad weather and we are doing everything to reach such areas," said the NDRF official.

Saffad, who hails from Mundakayil, said his parents have been moved to a safe place, but there is a big number who cannot be reached and there is no information about them.

Another resident Shafeek said he along with around 300 people from the area is now staying put in a resort. "We have been informed the NDRF teams have reached near us and we are waiting to be rescued and wish they reach us quickly," said Shafeek.

Meanwhile, there are reports from Churalpara that a fresh landslide has occurred in the area and it was raining heavily in the area, leaving the rescue team members in a tight spot.

State Revenue Minister K. Rajan, who along with three other Ministers was en route to the affected areas, said teams from MEG Bengaluru and an Army team from the state capital are being airlifted.

"The rain is causing huge trouble and another issue the rescue operations are facing is the presence of a large number of people who are coming to the affected areas. This is affecting the smooth pas-

sage of crucial rescue operators to reach the area, as the roads are all crowded. We all know people are empathic towards sufferings, but our request is people should for no reason travel to the affected areas," said Rajan.

A 50-member Naval team from Kochi was also reaching Wayanad.

The landslides were reported to have occurred at around 2 a.m.

State Bar Councils cannot charge exorbitant fees for enrolling Law Graduates as Lawyers: SC

It was said that such high fees effectively deny enrolment to young aspiring lawyers who do not have the necessary resources.

Two killed, 20 injured as 18 coaches of Mumbai-Howrah Mail derail in Jharkhand

killed and 20 injured as 18 coaches of Howrah-Mumbai Mail derailed near Barabamboo. Rescue operations are on and an NDRF team is rushing to the spot," DC West Singhbhum Kuldeep Chaudhary, who is camping at the accident site, told agency.

The accident site is near the border between West Singhbhum and Seraikela-Kharsawan districts.

"At least 18 coaches of the 22-coach 12810 Howrah-Mumbai Mail via Nagpur derailed near Barabamboo station in SER's Chakradharpur Division at 3.45 AM," the SER spokesperson said.

Of these, 16 were passenger coaches,

one power car and one pantry car, he said.

"The injured passengers were provided medical aid in Barabamboo. They were taken to Chakradharpur for better treatment," another senior SER official said.

The rescue operation is on, he said.

The train, which left Howrah on Monday night, met with the accident early this morning, the SER official said.

The train accident was reported from Potobeda in the Kharsawan block of Seraikela-Kharsawan district, said an official of the local administration.

"The Howrah-Mumbai Mail and a freight train were involved in the accident. The assessment of injured people is underway," he added.

The SER cancelled a few express and passenger trains on Tuesday owing to the accident, including 22861 Howrah-Titlagarh-Kantabanji Ispat Express and 12021 Howrah-Barbil Janshatabdi Express.

Some other trains were either short-terminated or diverted owing to the accident near Barabamboo station, the official said.

The South Eastern Railway on Tuesday opened helpline numbers after the derailment of the 18 coaches of the train.

The helpline numbers are 022-22694040 for Mumbai, 08799982712 for Bhusawal, 7757912790 for Nagpur, 0657-2290324 for Tata, 06587-238072 for Chakradharpur, 0661-2501072 and 0661-2500244 for Rourkela and 06645-272530 for Jharsuguda, the SER said in a statement.

Helpline numbers for Howrah are 9433357920 and 033-26382217, and for Shalimar are 7595074427 and 6295531471 and for Kharagpur is 03222-293764, he added.

Amarnath Yatra 2024 | 4.66 Lakh devotees have

'Darshan' in 31 Days

Tuesday's batch of 1,477 pilgrims left Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas in Jammu in two escorted convoys.

"The first escorted convoy of 13 vehicles carrying 377 Yatris left at 3.25 a.m. for the North Kashmir Baltal base camp. The second escorted convoy of 39 vehicles carrying 1,100 Yatris also left at the same time for the South Kashmir Nunwan (Pahalgam) base camp. Both convoys are expected to reach the Valley before midday today," the officials said.

Due to extraordinary arrangements of security made by the CAPFs and J&K Police, the Yatra has been proceeding peacefully and smoothly this year.

The cave shrine houses an ice stalagmite structure that waxes and waxes with the phases of the moon. Devotees believe that this ice stalagmite structure symbolises the mythical powers of Lord Shiva.

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

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

Fake Gun Licenses | Jammu Police conducts raid on premises, seize documents

July 25 from an under construction build-

ing, a premises was raided in the Karan Bagh area.

"During the raid, some documents and incriminating material was seized. The raid is in progress," they added.

Jammu Police had unearthed mass forged licenses in Satwari area.

Police had said an information was received through reliable source that one person namely Tirath Singh, resident of Gadigarh, who owns Gun houses has kept forged gun licence in his newly under-construction building at Gadigarh near Harward College.

A case was registered and investigation was set into motion.

"Based on the input, the raid was conducted in the presence of a magistrate at the building on July 25 and a bag containing 435 gun licences was recovered along with some other documents," said the police.

Jammu-Jodhpur express train halted in Punjab after bomb threat call

Ferozpur SSP Saumya Mishra said that police teams have reached the spot and an investigation is underway.

"Ferozpur police received information that a train has been stopped at Kasu Begu Railway Station. Police have reached the spot and the area has been cordoned off. The passengers have been evacuated.

Three bomb disposal squad teams of the Punjab Police will be reaching the spot. Dog squad teams have reached the spot," Ferozpur SSP told reporters.

Further investigation is underway and more details are awaited.

Sadhotra slams BJP's "Bogus Development" Narrative

J&K deserves special budget package more than any other state: Rattan Lal

Top News Report

SAMBA, July 30: Ajay Sadhotra, Additional General Secretary and former minister JKNC said that leave aside the bogus 'development' narrative created by the BJP leadership, the proxy Government of J&K UT under its realms has even failed to provide the very basic amenities including water and electricity to the people of Union Territory.

He was addressing a public meeting here at Smailpur. The meeting was organized by Rameshwar Chalotra, who joined National Conference in the meeting.

On the occasion, Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President JKNC, Ayub Malik Provincial Secretary, Surjit Singh Manhas, Provincial Joint Secretary, Satwant Dogra Provincial President Jammu Women wing, Abdul Gani Tel Chairman OBC Cell, Harmesh Singh Slathia, Ch. Shoket Ali and DDC Member Bari Brahmana Suriya Begum were also present.

At the beginning of the meeting, Rameshwar Chalotra apprised the



senior NC functionaries about the hardships being faced by people of Kandi belt including acute shortage of power and water supply, lack of medical facilities, shortage of manpower in several government departments, etc.

The former Minister Sadhotra said that the entire Kandi belt is facing the indifference of the government with the masses left with no other option but to wait for polls to teach a lesson to failed leadership of the Saffron party, which is totally unconcerned towards public issues.

Sadhotra also highlighted the dismal condition of industries in the Union Territory alleging that except making castles in

air, the government has nothing in offering for the industries and industrialists of the region. He demanded a proportionate financial support and change in policy to rejuvenate the sick industry in the UT as this could change the development profile of J&K in real terms. He said that the people at helm should take lessons from the working of previous NC governments which had created many industrial hubs in the erstwhile state of J&K and accomplished a lot to make the industry vibrant and profit earning.

The Provincial President Rattan Lal Gupta said that the Central Government has neglected J&K in the recently announced Union Budget. He

demanding special budget package for J&K claiming that the region deserves this bounty more than any other state in the country. He said that the Union Government should revisit its decision with regard to providing special package to Bihar and Andhra Pradesh states because it is J&K UT which currently needs such a bounty from the government side to rebuild its infrastructure which has been perished during the last over three decades of terrorism.

Rattan Lal Gupta also asked party workers to gearup for ensuing Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir. He also urged the people to support NC in the ensuing Assembly polls in J&K. He said only NC can guar-

antee protection of the land and job rights to the people and therefore it is imperative to strengthen the hands of NC leadership for bailing out the region from the current morass created by poor governance of directionless BJP leaders.

Ayub Malik Provincial Secretary Jammu and Surjeet Singh Manhas Joint Secretary Jammu Province asked people to strengthen hands of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah to ensure welfare of the people of the region claiming that it is only NC which fully understands the issues and problems of the people and the probable remedies through which the same could be addressed proactively.

Among those who were present include Ch. Hameed, Shoket Choudhary, Shehnaz Sarpanch, Ashwani Charak Block President Jammu East, Shabir District Vice President Jammu Urban, Ashanand Joint Secretary Jammu Urban, S. Sandeep Singh Zonal President YNC, Parbhat Kapri, Sahil Chib, Randhir Singh, Som Raj and others.

Mishriwala residents Protest Against Smart Meters, high electricity bills

BJP miserably failed to understand the feeling of common masses: Uday chib



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: The residents of Mishriwala Panchayat staged a significant protest against the installation of smart meters and the rising electricity bills, targeting the policies of the BJP government. The protest took place at Mishriwala Panchayat, which falls within the Jammu North Assembly constituency. Among the demonstrators was Uday Bhanu Chib, General Secretary of Indian Youth Congress who also joined the locals in voicing their concerns.

The protesters gathered early in the morning, holding placards and raising slogans against the implementation of smart meters, which they claim have led to exorbitant electricity bills. The residents expressed their frustration and anger, accusing the BJP gov-

ernment of neglecting the common man's plight and prioritizing profit over people's welfare.

Uday Bhanu Chib, talking to reporters, emphasized the burden that high electricity bills have placed on the residents. In his statement, he said, "The introduction of smart meters has been nothing short of a nightmare for the people of Mishriwala Panchayat. These devices, instead of ensuring accurate billing and reducing costs, have only escalated the financial stress on households. The BJP government must understand that their policies are affecting the daily lives of ordinary citizens. It is unacceptable that families are forced to choose between basic necessities and paying inflated electricity bills."

Chib highlighted the broader implications of

the BJP's policies, accusing the government of being indifferent to the struggles of the common people. He urged the authorities to take immediate action to address the issues raised by the residents and reconsider the implementation of smart meters. "We demand an immediate rollback of the smart meter project and a thorough investigation into the reasons behind the inflated bills. The government must work towards solutions that are fair and sustainable, rather than imposing financial burdens on the people," Chib added.

The demonstration concluded with a strong message to the government, calling for urgent redressal of the grievances. Sunny jatt, kulwant manhas, vikram, harpreet and many other locals were present in the protest.

"Visit of Chairman NCBC Hansraj Gangaram Ahir seems eye wash, failed to address OBC concerns in J&K UT"

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 30: Hansraj Gangaram Ahir, in his capacity as Chairman of the NCBC, with various groups of OBC people in J&K at Srinagar City and conducted a public meeting to address their issues. This meeting, attended under the OBC Adhikar Tiranga Yatra, coordinated by the J&K OBC Welfare Forum Srinagar, saw the participation of several prominent dignitaries. Among those present were Bansi Lal Choudhary, Convener of the Group of JK-UT All OBC Organisations; Ghulam Hassan Sheer Guji, President of the All J&K OBC Welfare Forum; Er Farooq Ahmed Teli, Chairman of the J&K OBC Welfare Forum; Nazir Ahmad Teli, Coordinator of the J&K OBC Welfare Forum; Ashiq Hussain Hanji, Advisor to the J&K OBC Welfare Forum; Mohan Lal Pawar, General Secretary of the All J&K OBC Mahasabha; Manohar Lal Tidyval, Chief Advisor of the OBC Mahasabha; Kasturi Lal Basotra, Chairman of the All J&K OBC Mahasabha; and Radha Krishan Nath, Vice-President of the JK-UT Yogi Biradri. Their collective presence underscored the importance of the event and highlighted the continued advocacy for the rights and concerns of the OBC community in the region.

Since 1956, the erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir governments, as well as the present BJP government, have constituted various Backward Classes Commissions, including the current Socially & Educationally Backward Classes Commission 2020. The Chairpersons and members of these commissions have predominantly been from upper castes. They have consistently displayed a discriminatory attitude towards the OBCs (Other Backward Classes) identified by the Mandal Commission in Jammu & Kashmir. This is the primary reason that the OBCs in Jammu & Kashmir have not yet received the implementation of the 27% reservation in recruitment for J&K government services, higher education, municipal corporations/committees, and the Panchayati Raj system. Additionally, the reservation for J&K OBCs has been diluted due to the inclusion of upper castes, as well as other wealthy and forward castes that were not identified by the Mandal Commission for Jammu & Kashmir. The situation for the Other Backward Classes (OBC) in Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) remains dire due to recent legislative and administrative developments. Although the JK-UT government has amended the Municipal Corporations/Committees Act-2000 and the Panchayati Raj Act-1989 to include provisions for OBC reservation, actual implementation has been marred by delays and lack of transparency. An order was issued to form a dedicated commission within

45 days, but as of now, its composition and office location remain undisclosed. This raises concerns that the commission may continue the historical trend of appointing upper castes, perpetuating discrimination against the OBC community.

The JK-UT Administrative Council's decision on June 7, 2024, to establish the "Jammu & Kashmir Local Bodies Dedicated Backward Classes Commission" has yet to see effective execution. The commission's names and office have not been made public, suggesting that the JK-UT government may be engaging in mere procedural formalities rather than addressing OBC grievances substantively. The method adopted by Smt. Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner-cum-Secretary of the Social Welfare Department, for counting the OBC population in Jammu & Kashmir by the Revenue Department within two days appears both fictitious and ambiguous. The claim that 62% of the population of J&K was covered in less than 24 hours or two working days raises serious concerns about the accuracy and validity of this population count. Criticism has also been directed at Justice (Retd) G.D. Sharma's Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission-2020. This commission has been accused of diluting constitutional reservation rights by including 13 additional communities not recognized by the Mandal Commission. This has resulted in an 8% reservation instead of the mandated 27% for the 65% of the JK-UT population, while Pahari-speaking people, with a much smaller demographic, receive a disproportionate 10% reservation. Such actions not only undermine the Mandal Commission's guidelines but also reflect political maneuvering to dilute OBC benefits. The issue of EWS (Economically Weaker Sections) reservation further exposes discriminatory practices. The 10% EWS reservation was implemented in J&K within 10 days in 2019 without any commission or thorough population calculations. In contrast, OBCs have faced prolonged and inadequate bureaucratic processes since 1956. This discrepancy indicates possible political motives behind the reservation policies, especially under the BJP government. The Mandal Commission identified 63 backward castes in J&K, but the inclusion of 13 non-Mandal Commission communities in the OBC list violates the principles of the "Indira Sawhney vs Union of India" case. These communities were not recognized by earlier commissions, including the National Kaka Kalelkar Commission and the Mandal Commission, nor by various J&K Backward Classes commissions. This misallocation undermines the intended benefits for the truly backward classes.

Moreover, the vertical res-

ervation system under Articles 15(4), 15(5), 16(4), and 16(5) has been manipulated to benefit upper castes. The 14% reservation for Reserved Backward Areas (RBA) and Actual Line of Control/International Border (ALC+IB), which should benefit Mandal Commission OBCs, is being misallocated. This, combined with the improper implementation of EWS reservations, reflects systemic issues in reservation policies. A critical issue is the discrepancy between central and J&K reservation rules. As per the Office Memorandum (O.M. No. 36012/22/93) issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) in 1993, children of Group C and Group D officers are not excluded from OBC reservations, and income from salaries and agricultural land is not combined for creamy layer status. However, the J&K Reservation Act 2004 excludes children of Group C or Group D officers from OBC reservations if their total income exceeds 8 lakh rupees. This inconsistency creates unfair treatment where individuals eligible under central rules are ineligible under J&K rules. Immediate and transparent action is required to address these discrepancies and ensure fair treatment for OBCs in J&K. The ongoing historical and systemic discrimination must be addressed to provide the OBC community with their rightful benefits, including the full 27% reservation in government services and the proper implementation of scholarships and other support measures. This representation is submitted by Ghulam Hassan Sheer Guji, President, All J&K OBC Welfare Forum, and Bansi Lal Choudhary, Convener, Group of JK-UT of All OBC Organisations, on behalf of Nazir Ahmad Teli, General Secretary, All J&K OBC Welfare Forum, Srinagar; Kasturi Lal Basotra, Chairman, All J&K OBC Mahasabha; Mohan Lal Pawar, General Secretary, All J&K OBC Mahasabha; Mohd Shabir, President, Dhoib Welfare Central Committee; Kewal Fotra, President, Sain Samaj (Barber Biradri); Manohar Lal Tidyval, Chief Advisor, OBC Mahasabha; Gain Chand, President, JK-UT Yogi Biradri; Radha Krishan Nath, Vice-President, JK-UT Yogi Biradri; Faquir Chand Satia, President, A.I.B.C.F. JK-UT Unit; Amit Mehra, Secretary, All J&K OBC Mahasabha; Shashi Verma, President, Pardesh Vishwakarma Sabha, Jammu & Kashmir; Ajudhiya Kumar Manawa, President, All J&K Prajapati Sabha (Kumhar Biradri); Raj Kumar Chalotra, Vice-President, Pardesh Vishwakarma Sabha; Murari Lal Balgotra, President, Kashyap Rajput Sabha Jammu (Jheerwer Biradri); Rehameen Malik, President, JK-UT Teeli Biradri; Sumitra Devi, President, JK-UT Bowria Community; and Ajit Kumar Kashyap, Chairman, All J&K Youth OBC Mahasabha.

BJP ushering new dawn post 370 abrogation, have proved farce: Rajesh Gupta

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: Bahujan Samaj Party J&K UT General Secretary Rajesh Gupta on Tuesday pledged to eradicate spent forces and discrimination in the Jammu region. BJP has failed to address the genuine issues of people from the Jammu region in the absence of the elected Government," the BSP leader claimed.

In an interview with a local channel, Gupta said that BJP leadership has failed on all fronts in Jammu and Kashmir. He said that claims of BJP of ushering a new dawn post Article 370 abrogation, have proved to be a farce.

"The development of inertia, crashing economy, inflation, soaring unemployment, resentment among farmers and border dwellers, etc. has made the situation in J&K from bad to worse.

The BJP-led central government, saying its "hollow policies" have resulted in increasing the sufferings of the people. He criticised the BJP for hoodwinking public opin-



ion by raking up residuary and emotive issues to divert attention from its failures on all fronts.

"Jammu has witnessed huge setbacks due to the revocation of Statehood but the BJP government is suppressing political and civil rights," he continued. Gupta claimed that with each passing day, it's becoming clear that BJP leaders from the Jammu region have not been able to give proper feedback to the policymakers in New Delhi and claimed that J&K BJP has no say in Raj Bhawan. "Disillusionment of people with BJP is growing as the governance is at the lowest ebb and development has taken nose dive in the past over nine years," he added that BJP leaders seem to be unaware of ground realities.

KCPS inter school debate in English 2024 concludes

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: The 2nd edition of the Inter School English Debate "Transgress 2.0" began at KC Public School on Friday, July 26 and concluded on Saturday, July 27, after 2 days of highly charged sessions of debating on a wide range of issues pertaining to the modern day world.

The concluding ceremony of this immensely popular debating event was held in the ground floor hall of KC Sports Club and was graced by Veenakshi Koul, Deputy Labour Commissioner of J&K as the Chief Guest.

The event commenced with customary presentation of a sapling to the Chief Guest by members of the KC Paryavaran Sadan (Environmental Club of KC Public School).

Thereafter, the final verbal battle between

the finalist schools GD Goenka School and KC Public School took off under the critical observation of young and versatile judges Tej Pratap Singh, Ananya Mahajan and Sahabdeep Singh. Both sides came out strongly in both defence and rebuttal arguments and mesmerized the spell-bound audience. Eventually, the final debate concluded with GD Goenka School taking the runners-up position and hosts KC Public School emerging winners.

The best debater's award was jointly shared by Saanchi Sundeep of KC International School and Suhas Koul of KCPS.

After addressing the audience and putting in words of appreciation for the performance of the finalist teams, the Chief Guest gave away certificates and trophies to the participants.

DC Ramban chairs District Cooperatives Development Committee Meeting

Top News Report

RAMBAN, July 30: Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, today chaired a meeting of the District Cooperatives Development Committee (DCDC) to discuss the progress and development of cooperative societies in the district. He also reviewed the progress of the Multi-purpose Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) established under the vision "Sahakar-se-Samridhhi" as envisaged by the Hon'ble Prime Minister for implementation of a plan for strengthening cooperative societies.

It was informed that out of the target of 4 Food Processing Units to be established in the District during the ongoing financial year, the DPRs for the two have been completed and DPRs for remaining two are under

process. It was revealed that 5 PM Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSKs), 2 PM Jan Aushadhi Kendras, 1 FPO, and 81 different kinds of Cooperative Societies are active in the district.

The meeting discussed in detail the performance of various cooperative societies, including agriculture, consumer, and credit cooperatives, and discussed thoroughly the ways to strengthen and expand their services.

The DC emphasized the importance of cooperative societies in promoting economic growth, self-reliance, and social justice. He directed the officials to ensure timely completion of ongoing projects and to explore new opportunities for the benefit of the people. He asked the Dy Registrar to process the establishment of Rural Haat at NH-44 within the jurisdiction of Ramban district for the

display and sale of the products of the Cooperative Societies. He urged the department to take extensive awareness campaigns throughout the district in collaboration with Agriculture and allied departments. He directed the Dy Registrar to take up the matter and communicate actively for timely allocation of required land to develop the infrastructure required for World Largest Food Grain Storage Plan.

Additional District Development Commissioner; General Manager DIC; Assistant Commissioner Panchayat; Chief Planning Officer; AD FCS&CA; Deputy Registrar Cooperative Societies; CMO, LDM, DDM NABARD; Area Marketing Officer HP&M; Representatives of Fisheries, Agriculture, Horticulture, CSC, and other concerned officials were present in the meeting.

Anvi, Utkarsh, Anvi & Manya of DPS Jammu excel as spot 100 National Qualifiers

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: Anvi Pandit (IV), Utkarsh Atulya (V), Anvi Gupta (VIII) and Manya Targotra (XI) of Delhi Public School Jammu accomplished outstanding results in prestigious Science Promotion Orient Test (SPOT) by clinching merit positions as SPOT 100 National Qualifiers. The test was conducted by Vikram Sarabhai Science Foundation (VSSF) Kochi, on 16th March, 2024.

A total 43 students from classes III to X from DPS Jammu appeared for "SPOT-100" Examination, out of which 4 qualified as one of the Top 100 Science Talents Pan India, shortlisted through the second phase exam "SPOT 100 2023-24". The qualified meritorious students



have also been selected for an internship program at ISRO, Bengaluru.

Vikram Sarabhai Science Foundation (VSSF) conducts SPOT assessment examinations annually, for students with aptitude to determine their conceptual knowledge & understanding of Science, across various science disciplines.

The Management

DPS Jammu under the esteemed leadership of Hon'ble President-RCT, Sh. M.K Ajatshatru Singh Ji, Distinguished PVC, Kuwaran Dr. Ritu Singh Ji, Hon'ble Director, Sh. S.S Sodhi Ji along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ms. Ruchi Chabra and staff congratulated the entire team members. She also appreciated the efforts of Ms. Navneet Kaur, Coordinator-SPOT.

India to host T20 Asia Cup in 2025, Bangladesh to conduct 2027 edition in ODI format: ACC

The Asia Cup is always used as a dress rehearsal for the global event and played in the format in which the World Cup will be held

KUALA LUMPUR, Jul 30 (Agencies): India will host the next edition of the men's Asia Cup cricket tournament in T20 format in 2025 as a pre-cursor to the T20 World Cup scheduled in the country in 2026, the Asian Cricket Council stated in its Invitation for Expression of Interest (IEOI).

The Asia Cup is always used as a dress rehearsal for the global event and played in the format in which the World Cup will be held.

The 2023 edition, hosted by Pakistan Cricket Board, was held in 'Hybrid Model' as India refused to travel to the neighbouring country and played its



matches in Sri Lanka.

The 2027 Asia Cup will be held in ODI format in Bangla-

desh as the 50-over World Cup is scheduled in South Africa in the same year.

The T20 Asia Cup in India and 50-over continental event in Bangladesh in 2027 will comprise 13 games each as there are 26 matches allocated in the said period.

"Men's Asia Cup Tournament' means the biennial senior men's cricket tournament organised and administered by the ACC involving designated members, and shall include participation by the teams from Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and one Non Test playing Member of ACC selected through qualifying events," the ACC stated in its IEOI statement.

Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli among India players to train ahead of ODIs against Sri Lanka



COLOMBO, Jul 30 (Agencies): India skipper Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and a few other players will start their training from Monday ahead of the three-match ODI series against Sri Lanka starting August 2.

While the Indian T20I team under Suryakumar Yadav will play the third and final match on Tuesday in Pallekele, Rohit, Kohli and a few others like rookie Harshit Rana will train in Colombo after reaching the island nation's

capital on Sunday. Rohit, Kohli and Kuldeep Yadav will hit the ground running nearly a month after they helped India win the T20 World Cup in the Americas for the second time.

The ODIs against Sri Lanka will also mark the return of Shreyas Iyer into the national side. It was in late 2023 that Iyer last played a limited-overs match for India, against South Africa in December.

The squad also features Delhi all-rounder Rana, who was a member of the IPL-winning Kolkata Knight Riders' team earlier this year.

These players will train under India assistant coach Abhishek Nayar in Colombo.

Each of the three ODIs will be played at the R Premadasa Stadium here. While the first match is on August 2, the second and third ODIs are on August 4 and 7 respectively.

CSK Set 'Only Condition' That Could See MS Dhoni Continue Playing, Onus On BCCI: Report

NEW DELHI, Jul 30 (Agencies): Months have passed since the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 season concluded but there's still no confirmation on MS Dhoni's future with the Chennai Super Kings. Dhoni stepped down as the captain of the franchise ahead of the start of the season this year, paving the way for Rituraj Gaikwad to lead the team. Though CSK didn't qualify for the playoffs, there were plenty of positives to take from Rituraj's leadership. But, does that mean it's all over for Dhoni as a player? As per reports, the Thala's continuity in the league solely depends on the retention decision the IPL management and the BCCI take.

With a mega auction scheduled to be held before the start of the IPL 2025 season, there isn't much clarity around the number of players the BCCI will allow the franchises to retain. According to a report in Cricbuzz, Dhoni's continuity in the league as a player is only possible if the BCCI allows the retention of 5 to 6 players in each franchise.

At present, the players who are most likely to be retained by the Super Kings include skipper Rituraj Gaikwad, Ravindra Jadeja, Matheesha Pathirana, and Shivam Dube, though the order of retention could be wary. Earlier, it was reported that the IPL



bosses had invited franchise owners for a meeting on July 31 where the retention matter would be discussed.

IPL CEO Hemang Amin reportedly sent text messages to the franchise owners for the meeting, though the timing and venue weren't confirmed at that point in time.

"Amin is understood to have also indicated that the meeting would occur in the late afternoon or evening on July 31. It is believed that all the owners have confirmed their availability for the meeting," a report said.

"While the exact venue has not been confirmed, the congregation is expected to take place at the Cricket Centre, the BCCI headquarters, located within the Wankhede Stadium complex in Mumbai," it added.

The report also stated that retention of 5-6 players could be allowed by the BCCI.

Manu Bhaker-Sarabjot Singh win bronze as India shoots second Olympic medal

CHATEAURoux, Jul 30 (Agencies): Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh secured India's second medal at the Paris Olympics on Tuesday, earning a bronze in the 10m Air Pistol mixed team event at the Chateauroux Shooting Centre. This marks India's second shooting medal of the ongoing Paris Games, following Manu's bronze in the women's 10m air pistol event. India led 4-2 after the third series and extended their lead to 8-2 after the fifth. Although South Korea narrowed the gap to 10-6 after the eighth series, the Indian duo maintained their composure to secure a comfortable victory.

This marks Sarabjot's first Olympic medal. Manu, meanwhile, became the first Indian to win multiple medals at a single Olympic Games, having already opened India's account at the 2024 Paris Olympics with a bronze in the women's 10m air pistol event. Bhaker also became only the fourth Indian after Norman Pritchard (athletics), Sushil Kumar (wrestling)



and PV Sindhu (badminton) to win multiple medals for India at a Summer Games. However, no Indian has won multiple medals at a single edition - until Bhaker at Paris 2024.

In the 10m Air Pistol mixed team qualification, Manu and Sarabjot finished third with 580 points and 20 perfect shots. The Indian duo defeated the Korean pair of Xue Li and Wonho Lee 16-8, who finished fourth with 579 points and 18 perfect shots, in the bronze medal match. The Turkish team of Seval Ilayda

Tarhan and Yusuf Dikec, who equaled the qualification Olympic record with 582 points, will face Zorana Arunovic and Damir Mikec of Serbia in the gold medal match. India's Rhythm Sangwan and Arjun Singh Cheema failed to qualify for the medal match after finishing 10th with a score of 576.

HOW MANU-SARABJOT SHOT BRONZE?

India had a shaky start as Korea took the first round with a score of 20.5 to 18.8. However, the Indian duo bounced

back in the second round, with Manu scoring 10.7 and Sarabjot 10.5, taking the round as Korea managed only 19.9. India won the third round as well, with both Manu and Sarabjot scoring 10.4 each while Korea scored 19.8. The Indian team extended their lead to 6-2, with Manu's consistent shots above 10 and Sarabjot's slight misstep with a 9.6. Manu's steady performance, including a 10.5, ensured another round win as Korea scored 19.5.

Korea pulled one round back, but India quickly reached a 10-4 lead. Despite a rare misfire from Manu, Korea gained another point. The lead was then extended to 12-6, bringing India closer to the second medal. India needed just one more series win to secure the medal. However, Korea delayed their victory by reducing the lead to 14-8 and making the contest close by winning the next series by a margin of 0.2. In the end, India triumphed as Manu and Sarabjot scored 19.6, securing the medal.

Hardik Pandya's special wish for son Agastya: Happy Birthday my partner in crime

NEW DELHI, Jul 30 (Agencies): Hardik Pandya shared an emotional birthday wish for his son Agastya on his 4th birthday. Hardik and Natasa Stankovic's son was born on July 30, 2020 and, ever since, has been the light of their lives. Hardik posted a special video in which Agastya could be seen copying his father's actions. The father-son duo were also playing a game named 'jenga' together and Hardik looked all smiles while being surrounded by Agastya. In the caption, Hardik even called Agastya his "partner in crime".

"You keep me going every single day! Happy birthday to my partner in crime, my whole heart, my Agu. Love you beyond words," Hardik captioned the post. The star all-rounder shares a great bond with his son and



often posts with him on social media. However, Hardik no longer lives with his son after his divorce with model and actress Natasa Stankovic.

Hardik-Natasa divorce
Hardik Pandya had announced his separation with wife Natasa Stankovic after a relationship of four years. Hardik announced his decision on Thursday, 18

July via an Instagram post after months of speculation. Natasa Stankovic had decided to fly out of the country and went back to her home in Serbia with son Agastya. She had recently shared pictures of her day out with son Agastya and Hardik was quick to react to the post with a comment. He commented with a red heart and evil eye

emoji on the post.

Hardik in Sri Lanka

Hardik is currently in Sri Lanka for the 3-match T20I series between India and Sri Lanka. There was the race to the T20I captaincy between him and Suryakumar after Rohit Sharma announced his retirement from the shortest of the game for India.

However, Suryakumar pipped Hardik to become T20I captain. Hardik, who was the vice-captain of the T20 World Cup winning team, was also replaced by Shubman Gill in the position. After a not-so impressive outing in the T20I, Hardik showcased his all-round prowess as he picked two wickets and scored quickfire 22 runs from just nine balls. Hardik will not take part in the ODIs series after citing personal reasons.

Novak Djokovic pulls out of Montreal event after he advances at Paris Olympics



MONTREAL, Jul 30 (Agencies): Novak Djokovic has withdrawn from a US Open tuneup tournament in Montreal after his victory over Rafael Nadal at the Paris Olympics. The 37-year-old

Djokovic beat Nadal in straight sets on Monday at Roland Garros to reach the third round of the Summer Games.

Djokovic had been planning to play in the National Bank Open, an ATP Masters 1000

event that begins August 6. The tournament announced his withdrawal.

Djokovic has won a record 24 Grand Slam singles titles but has never won Olympic gold.

"While we're disappointed that Novak will be unable to take part in this year's tournament, we understand his decision and wish him the best at the Olympics and the remainder of his season," National Bank Open tournament director Valerie Tetreault said.

Roman Safiullin took Djokovic's spot in the main draw.

How India and Pakistan can face off in a Test match after 18 years

India and Pakistan have not played each other in a Test match since December 2007.

NEW DELHI, Jul 30 (Agencies): The last time India faced Pakistan in a Test match, Sourav Ganguly and Anil Kumble were still active India cricketers, MS Dhoni had never captained India in a Test, 'Om Shanti Om' and 'Jab We Met' were in theatres, and Lays' yellow potato chips was the flavour of the month. December 2007

is the period we're talking about. With the two nations refusing to tour each other for bilaterals series since, we haven't been witness to one for nearly 17 years. But the next possibility could be nearby, in 2025.

The next opportunity for fans to witness a Test clash between the two historic rivals would be in a potential World Test Championship

Final at the end of the 2023-25 WTC cycle, to be played at the iconic Lord's Cricket Ground.

Let's take a look at how both sides can make the final.

India's path to the final India have reached both WTC finals played to date, and they are favourites once again to reach the summit clash. India currently sit first in the WTC 2023-25 cycle



table, with a percentage points won of 68.52. Australia are second at the moment on 62.50.

With away Test series against New Zealand and Australia coming up at the end of 2024, India's path to the final won't be straightforward. However, after the arrival of Gautam Gambhir as head coach, India are expected to march on with their winning ways.

Pakistan's path to the final

Pakistan have their work cut out if they want to make the final. They currently sit fifth in the WTC 2023-25 cycle table, with a percentage points won of 36.66, having played just five Tests so far in the cycle. Pakistan are set to host Bangladesh and England this year, before ending the year

with a one-off Test away at South Africa.

If Pakistan can emerge in the top two, along with India, then a World Test Championship final between the two nations can become a reality. With India having lost both WTC finals they've played, winning their first WTC with a victory over arch-rivals Pakistan will be sweetest for the team.

Shiv Sena demands formation of team to investigate Pvt. coaching centres

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit, after the tragic incident of a coaching center in Rajendra Nagar, Delhi, has demanded from Jammu-Kashmir administration to be cautious before any incident and to crack down on coaching centers running in Jammu-Kashmir to intensify other set standards including security. In a press conference held on Tuesday at the party's state central office, state chief



Manish Sahni said that there is a plethora of coaching centers in Jammu-Kashmir. Most of the coaching centers have made education a business.

Taking lessons from the tragic incident in Delhi, Shiv Sena(UBT) demands formation of district level investigation team in Jammu and Kashmir, strict investiga-

tion of registration, entry and exit arrangements, security standards, building bylaws, fire safety, emergency management arrangements of coaching institutes and strict action against coaching centers which are not found to be up to the prescribed standards. Sahni said that according to the guidelines announced by the center education ministry a few months ago, coaching institutes cannot admit students below 16 years of age and cannot make misleading promises

like guarantee of good marks or rank. He said that if investigation is done at the ground level, then most of the coaching centers are openly flouting the government guidelines. Sahni has demanded from the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Hon. Manoj Sinha, to issue strict guidelines regarding the above demands and considering the safety of students as important, formation of district level investigation committees and investigation of coaching centres.

Cybersecurity Painting Competition, Seminar on Cybersecurity organized



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: As part of Sanskrit Month, Shri Kailash Jyotish Avim Vedic Institute Trust organized a Cybersecurity Painting Competition and a Seminar on Cybersecurity at Diwan Devi Higher Secondary School, Shakti Nagar. The event was graced by the chief guest, former minister and senior BJP leader Sat Sharma, and the special guest, SSP Special Crime Wing, Crime Branch Jammu, Sandeep Mehta. The ceremony commenced with the lighting of the lamp and Vedic chants. The head of the trust, Mahant Rohit Shastri, said that the competition was organized to inspire and promote the responsible and correct use of cyberspace. The MD of the school, Ashwani Suri, mentioned that through posters and paintings, different techniques to avoid cyber fraud were depicted in

the competition. Bhumika secured the first place, Hargun secured the second place, and Rupali secured the third place in the Cybersecurity Painting Competition. In the seminar on cybersecurity, Rupali secured the first place, Anirudh Thakur secured the second place, and Seerat secured the third place. On this occasion, Sat Sharma congratulated Mahant Rohit Shastri, the head of the trust, for promoting the divine language Sanskrit. Along with promoting Sanskrit, they are also working on curbing drug addiction and cybercrime. He said that cybercrime is spreading its roots in the digital world, and this competition will be very helpful in raising awareness and protecting people from it. Many people are still unaware of this information and easily fall into the traps of cyber fraudsters.

SSP Sandeep Mehta said that while the police are doing their part in cyber security, society should also be aware of it. Currently, cybercrime has emerged as a major threat. Therefore, the first step is to recognize the various forms of cybercrime. He explained measures to avoid different types of cybercrimes such as spam, email hacking, phishing, virus injection, obtaining someone's information online, banking fraud, and ATM fraud. Mehta stated that if we stay vigilant, cybercriminals will not be able to harm us or society. He emphasized that the key to preventing crimes is awareness. Trustees of the Trust, Dil Bahadur Singh Jamwal, S.C. Suri, Pramod Sharma, Ashwani Suri, Naresh Raina, Arun Gupta, school staff, Aditya Abhiraj Sharma, students, and esteemed citizens were present on the occasion.

Placement of five joint directors, 22 CEOs and equivalent is significant and welcome step: Teachers Forum

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 30: In an encouraging and significant development School education department elevated five CEOs as joint Directors and 22 principals as Chief education officers or equivalent, Chairman JK Teachers Forum/ National Vice president AISTF M Amin Khan, UT President Mohammad Ashraf and entire leadership of Teachers Forum hailed the efforts of Alok Kumar Principal Secretary SED and his team for filling up the various vacant posts of CEOs and principal DIETs, this process of filling up the vacant posts in the department of school education will definitely bring a positive change and will ease the routine process in addressing the issues of students and teachers. Amin Khan thanked Alok Kumar principal Secretary Higher education and School Education for his tireless efforts and termed him as man of commitment and man of vision. Khan said that in a recent meeting with Alok Kumar the deputation of Teachers Forum was told that all the legitimate issues will be resolved in time bound manner and the promotion of JDs and CEOs is the outcome of that commitment. "We hope the rest of the issues who were brought in his notice through a memorandum will be resolved accordingly," he added.



Teachers Forum also thanked Additional Secretary Gh Nabi Bhat, Special Secretary Masood Ahmad and others who are working tirelessly for the upliftment of the education department. Meanwhile Vice Chairman JKTF Showkat Ali Beigh, General Secretary Shabir Ahmad Bhat, provincial president Teachers Forum Kashmir division Hamidullah Trumbo and Provincial president JKTF Jammu Division Sanjeet Sharma congratulated the newly promoted officers, with the hope that they will put their positive effects for more improvement and upliftment in the department of school education. Spokesperson JKTF Mir Bashir said that this significant development will boost the education standards as well as the accountability in the department.

Yogi seeks probe into mysterious burning of 4 KP's residential houses in Mattan

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: Aipi Party senior leader, and prominent social activist, M. K. Yogi has expressed shock over the mysterious burning of four residential houses belonging to Kashmiri Pandits in Mattan. As per a press release, Yogi said that the authorities should hold a detailed probe into the incident due to which

four residential houses belonging to the Kashmiri Pandits in Mattan were reduced to ashes. "The authorities should order a transparent investigation into the incident to ascertain the facts," he said, while suspecting a conspiracy. He also sought compensation for the respective affected family members, whose residential houses had been gutted in the mysterious fire.

GS Sports Club hosts Plantation and Awareness Program at RMPS Chowadi

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: GS Sports Club, in collaboration with RM Public School Chowadi, organized a plantation and awareness program aimed at promoting environmental sustainability and community involvement. The event was graced by distinguished guests and witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and faculty. The Chief Guest of the event, Ashok Thukaan, who serves as the Financial Advisor and CAO for the Tribal Affairs Department J&K, IWMP and JKPTC, inaugurated the program. In his address, Thukaan highlighted the importance of environmental conservation and the role of youth in fostering a greener future. Ajay Sharma, SP South Jammu, honored the event as the Guest of Honor. He commended the efforts of GS Sports Club and RM Public School for organizing such an impactful initiative and encouraged continued community engagement in environmental causes. The event was led by Atul Sudan, President of GS Sports Club, alongside Rameshwar Mengi, Chairman of RM Public School, and Rakshan Mengi, Director of RM Public School. Their leadership and dedication were instrumental in the success of the program. During the event,

approximately 50 saplings of ornamental plants were planted around the school premises, symbolizing a commitment to enhancing the local environment and fostering biodiversity. The plantation was followed by an awareness seminar, where experts discussed the significance of tree planting, conservation practices, and the benefits of a green environment. Chairman Rameshwar Mengi, in his speech, expressed his gratitude to all participants and guests, emphasizing the critical role of such programs in educating and empowering the younger generation. He also reiterated the club's commitment to organizing more such events in the future. The program concluded with a pledge from all attendees to actively contribute to environmental conservation efforts and promote sustainable practices in their communities.



Maa Bawe Wali Records releases new devotional album "Rabba Tu Ka Jaane"

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 30: At an event held at Writer Club, Jammu, Sahil Mahajan, BJP J&K UT Co-Convenor for the Sanskriti, Art, and Culture Cell, released the new devotional album "Rabba Tu Ka Jaane". The album features vocals by Master Manish, flute by Rakesh, and music composed by KK Malhotra. The production was handled by Nani Maa, with lyrics penned by Nirbhay Singh Slathia. The program was organized by Maa Bawe Wali Records. Sahil Mahajan praised the BJP Sanskriti Art & Culture Cell J&K for its support of young talent, emphasizing the importance of nurturing such talent to bring recognition to Jammu & Kashmir.

The former Deputy Mayor commended the young artists from Jammu & Kashmir for their contributions to devotional music, noting that "Rabba Tu Ka Jaane" is cherished across the region. He extended his congratulations to the production team, particularly Singer Master Manish and Sahil Mahajan, for their efforts in bringing the album to fruition. Renowned singer, artist, and JKP officer Rakesh Jamwal highlighted the growing opportunities for innovative minds and praised the rich cultural heritage of India. He lauded the singing and lyrics of the album and expressed his full support for the artist community, encouraging them to continue their

creative endeavors. Social activist Chandan Datta celebrated Master Manish's talent, calling Jammu a land of artists. He urged LG Manoj Sinha to provide platforms and support for young artists in Jammu to help them achieve their dreams and contribute to the cultural landscape. In closing, Managing Director of Unique Group and Outsourcing, Rajat Sharma, extended his support to Jammu and Kashmir's artists, encouraging them to pursue their dreams and bring acclaim to the Dogra region. Among those in attendance were the parents of various artists, including Ramesh Jogi, Kartik Lalotra, Lavish Sharma, Sahil Dogra, Rahul Sharma, and Kamal Mukesh.



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