TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper

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Rashami Desai recalls being homeless with 3.5 crore debt after divorce



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Sonia Gandhi criticizes Modi government over budget. **Census delay, national** security issues

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Top Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh killed in 2 am attack on Iran residence



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BRIEFLY

UPSC qualifiers from J&K allocated services

JAMMU, July 31 (Agencies): Ten UPSC qualifiers from Jammu and Kashmir were allocated the services today by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).

As per a notification of the DoPT, four of them were allocated the Indian Administrative Services (IAS), two got the Indian Police Services (IPS), and four others were allotted the allied services.

Among those who were allotted the IAS are Anmol Rathore. Arjun Gupta, Seerat Baji, and Aprachita Aryan while Gh Mayadin and Harnit Sudhan got IPS, Mohammad Haris and Farhan Sen IRS and Suvan Sharma and Dinash Kumar allotted IRMS.

J&K parts likely to receive rains today, says **MeT**

SRINAGAR, July 31 (Agencies): Meteoroogical Centre Srinaga Wednesday predicted light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places of Jammu and Kashmir today.

The officials said that on July 31st there is a possibility of spell of light to moderate rain & thundershower at many places of Kashmir division, and widespread places of Jammu division.

From August 1st to 5th there will be generally cloudy with spells of intermittent light to moderate rain & thundershower at many place of Kashmir division, and most places of Jammu division, the officials said.

They also said a spell of rain & thundershower at scattered places of J&K is expected on from August 6th to 7th, while as from August 8th to 10th a spell of rain & thundershower at isolated placed of Jammu and Kashmir divisions is expected.

They added that intense showers for brief period with possibility of flashfloods, cloudbursts, landslides, mudslides and shooting stones over vulnerable places of Jammu and Kashmir, and heavy rainfall at few places of Jammu division is also

expected. Notably J&K has been gripped under intense heat wave from last few weeks, causing disruptions to normal life across.

Heavy Military fortifications near China's now-complete Pangong Lake bridge

NEW DELHI, July 31 (Agencies): China has completed the construction of a 400-metre bridge, connecting the northern and southern banks of the Pangong Tso. The high-resolution images of this bridge were first published on ndtv.com in January 2022. The new satellite images from July 22, 2024, show vehicles on the black-topped bridge and moving across the banks of Pangong Tso.

New satellite images show four structures on the northern side of the lake. The bridge lies in territory held by China since 1958 near the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh.

Khurnak Fort lies on the northern shore of Pangong Tso and has been in Chinese-held territory since 1958. Before 1958,



Ladakh.

the boundary between India and China was considered at the Khurnak Fort but the latter has wrested control since then. The construction at Khurnak does not represent an incursion being presently held by India.

The satellite image shows a

Chinese fortification along with two helipads at Khurnak Fort. During the 1962 India-China war, the Chinese used the Khurnak Fort as its forward headquarters for operations in

Another satellite image shows

an existing artillery site. The Chinese have also built interconnected protected trenches that run north to south.

A satellite image shows an open defensive position, a likely site of a Chinese surface-to-air missile launcher, erector and transporter. An air defence site can also be seen in the image. A road runs parallel to the bank of Pangong Lake to transport troops and equipment.

The Chinese bridge has cut the travel distance between both banks by 50-100 kilometres, or several hours in travel time.

Asked to respond to the latest developments, the External Affairs Ministry directed NDTV to a previous statement: "This bridge is being constructed in Turn to page 9 **Customer service calls** on hold resulted in 15 bn hours loss for Indians in **2023: Report**



NEW DELHI, July 31 (Agencies): Customer service calls on hold resulted in a massive loss of 15 billion hours for Indians last year, resulting in likely \$55 billion in economic loss output, a report revealed on Wednesday.

An average person spends more than one day each year on hold to address an issue or complaint (30.7 hours), according to new research from the Al platform Service Now.

Slow service solutions mean the average employee is spending 3.9 days to resolve each customer issue,

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Ganderbal Court issues show-cause notice to DC following 'Personal Attack'

SRINAGAR, July 31 (Agencies): In a significant legal development, the Ganderbal district court has issued a show-cause notice to Deputy Commissioner Shyambir, questioning why contempt proceedings should not be initiated against him under the Contempt of Courts Act. This move follows allegations of noncompliance with a court order and attempts to "personally attack" the presiding judge through "manipulation and fabrication."

Sub-judge Fayaz Ahmad Qureshi, presiding over the court, passed the order

against Shyambir for allegedly failing to comply with a previous court order regarding a land acquisition case. The court had directed the Deputy Commissioner to compensate petitioners whose land was acquired by the government, a decree initially issued in 2022. Despite a subsequent order in January 2024, to enforce this compensation, the Deputy Commissioner reportedly did not act on it. As a consequence, the court issued an order on June 21, to withhold the salaries of Shyambir and other officials involved

Turn to page 9

Amarnath Yatra breaks records with No restrictions for 4.71 Lakh devotees in 32 days



JAMMU, July 31 (Agencies): Over 4.71 lakh devotees had 'darshan' during the ongoing Amarnath Yatra so far breaking last year's entire Yatra record of 4.45 lakh pilgrims as another batch of 1,654 pilgrims left Jammu for

the Valley on Wednesday, said officials.

"This number is more than last year's total pilgrim number of 4.45 lakh who went to Amarnath cave shrine during the entire Yatra period. Yesterday, 5,000 devotees performed the

Yatra while a new batch of 1,654 left Bhagwati

Nagar Yatri Niwas in Jammu for the Valley in two escorted convoys. Both convovs left for the Valley at 3.20 a.m.," the officials said.

"First escorted convoy

■Turn to page 9

August 15 at Bakshi Stadium, says Div Com

SRINAGAR, July 31 (Agencies): Divisional Commissioner Kashmir VK Bidhuri extended an open invitation to people of Kashmir valley for 15th August celebrations at Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar.

"I extend my invitation to everyone to attend the Aug 15 function which is going to be held at Bakshi Stadium Srinagar this year," Bidhuri said.

"Like January 26 this year, I again invite people to come and join the celebration of August 15. I hope you will respond and join the function," he said.

The Div Com assured

that 15th August programme at Bakshi Stadium will have no restrictions on public movement, and a valid ID card will suffice for entry.

Bidhuri said that there will be no restrictions in Kashmir and that the internet and other services would function normally on Independence Day.

Security measures are in place, with intensified arrangements in specific areas to ensure the safety of all attendees.

It has been informed that the Independence Day Function 2024 is scheduled to be held in Bakshi Stadium

Turn to page 9

Kashmir to get 6,000 new transit quarters for Migrant **Employees**

SRINAGAR, July 31 (Agencies): The Administrative Council which met here under chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha approved revised administrative approval for construction of six thousand Transit Accommodations in Kashmir Valley for Kashmir Migrant Government Employees engaged under PMDP-2015 and taking up allied works at various locations of Transit Accommodations in Kashmir Valley.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary, Dr Mandeep K Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor were present in the meeting.

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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.



SDRN. INDERJEET KOUR

Sh Brij Nath Dhar

GRIEF STRICKEN

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

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY

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

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 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 Channi Himmat Jammu on 22nd July 2024 at Mumbai.

Tenth Day on 31-07-2024 at 9.00 am a 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



Smt. Champa Manhas

Mob. 9967505113,

9419180873

Late Smt Janak Dulari

TENTH DAY / KRIYA /UTHALA With profound grief and so now, we inform the said demise of our beloved Late Smt Janak Dulari W/o Late Sh Deepak Chander

Sharma on Tuesday the 23rd of July. The Tenth Day shall be performed at Panch Mandir, Sec 2, on Thursday the 1st of August from 10.00 am to 11.00 am.

Kriya shall be performed on Friday the 2nd August at 12.00 Noon at our residence 230/7 Channi Himmat, Jammu. Uthala will be performed at Panch Mandir, Sec 2, Channi

Himmat, Jammu on Friday the 2nd August from 5.00 pm to 6.00

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sons and Daughter in law

Soujanya Sharma and Smt Madhvi Sharma Chaitanya Sharma and Smt Sangeeta Sharma

Smt Sudha Joshi W/o Late Sh Raman Joshi - Daughter and Son in law Smt Sarojini Sharma W/o Col R.C Sharma Retd - Daughter and Son in law

Sh Shanti Swaroop Baru - Brother in law

Sh Mahesh Sharma - Brother in law

Smt Rama Sharma Wo Late Sh Udey Chander Sharma - Bhabhi

Smt Prabha Sharma Wio Late Sh KC Sharma - Bhabhi

Smt Kanta Sharma W/o Late Sh P R Sharma - Bhabhi Grand Children: Arnita, Ranjeeta, Gourav, Raghav, Rashmi, Raisa, Col Chirag, Rishab, Yashodhan,

Yashodhara and Lavanya.

Great Grand Children: Gouri Shourya Rishit and Reeyansh 9419197648 9419105325, 9419201509, 9419173397

TENTH DAY KRIYA

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



The 10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Dr. Kishan Lal Handoo Gadh Ganga Ghat, Muradnagar, UP, on

August 4th, Sunday, at 10:00 AM.

GRIEF-STRICKEN

Smt. Kishni Handoo - Wife

Sh. Vikas Handoo & Smt. Poonam Handoo - Son & Daughter-in-law Sh. Rajesh Kalla & Pamposh Kalla - Son-in-law & Daughter

Grandchildren: Neelesh, Rithik, Shriya

and the University of Marseille, France.

ALL NEAR AND DEAR ONES PH NO.: 9560069101, 9810314806, 9910666519

10TH DAY KRIYA

In our hearts Forever Sh Trilokinath Miya (1931-2024)

With profound grief and so rrow, we inform the said demise of Karamyogi Sh Trilokinath Miya resident of Rainawari, Srinagat, Kashmir, presently residing at B-501, Great Value Shamam, Sec 107, Noich

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

Fondly Remembered By: Nancy & Surendra Miya Asha & Avinash Wangoo Asmeeta & Jyoti Kachioo Grand Children:

Jharna & Sumit Wattal

Sakhshi & Rohan Miva Rishika & Siddhant Kachroo Sheersha & Anshul Wangoo Kalpita Kachroo & Angreh Wangoo



Sh Trilokinath Miya (1931-2024)

Great Grand Children: Vaidehi & Aadee 9899505506

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our belove Sh Jawahar Lai Raina (Nana Jee) originally form Bana Mohalla Srinagar Presenty residing in H No. 52 Pawan Englave Palcura Jammu et 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. in Grief

Smt Sarala Raina Wife Brother and Sister in law Sh Vinod and Late Snit Veena Raina Daughters and Son-in-laws Late Smt Ruby and Sh Vijay Raina Smt Neeru and Vinod Dhar Sister and Brother in law Smt Phoola and Sh Surender Hakhu

Son and Daughter in law Sh Ajay and Joha Roni Crand Children John, Yukhi and Aarna

Also Samast Munshi, Khar, Pandita, Koul, Sas Chrangoo, Matto, Kaship In law Periver Cont No. 9469468655, 9958985685, 8493845752, 9870064545



Sh Jawahar Lal Raina

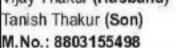
OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Mrs. Jully Thakur W/o Sh. Vijay Thakur, R/o H.No. 83, Lane No. 4, Shantipuram, Muthi Camp, Jammu.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 4/8/2024 (Sunday) 9:00 am at Muthi Ghat Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Vijay Thakur (Husband) Tanish Thakur (Son)





With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Sh. Subhash Chander Sharma S/o Late Sh. Girdhari Lal Sharma R/o Khajuria Mohalla, Near Peer Baba, Paloura on 23-07-2024 (Tuesday).

Tenth Day will be performed at their residence Paloura on 1st August 2024 at 10 A.M.

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt. Kailasho Devi - Mother Jyoti Devi - Wife

Paras Bargotra - Son Daughter & Son-in-law

Shivani Sharma & Rohit Sharma

Brothers & Bhabhis

Sh. Rajesh & Santosh, Sh. Kewal & Neelam Sh. Ram & Suraksha, Sh. Sham & Pooja

Sreshta & Sham-Sister & Jeeja Veerta- Sister

Contact No: 9469163507, 9697202214



Mrs. Jully Thakur

SH. SUBHASH CHANDER SHARMA

10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Sh. Narpal Singh son of Th. Gian Singh resident of 253 Rehari Chungi, Jammu on

Tenth Day shall be held at our residence at 11 AM on Thursday 01/08/2024.

Grief Stricken: Digviay Singh-Son

Neelu Jamwal & Rajesh Singh- Daughter & Son-in-Law Sugandha & Manish Pathania- Daughter & Son-in-Law Monika & Param Dev Singh- Daughter & Son in-Law Smt. Chaya Wd/o Th. Jagmohan Singh - Bhabhi

Smt. Susheel & Prof. Jaipal Singh - Bhabh i & Brother Smt. Pooja & Ajay Singh - Niece-in-law & Nephew Smt. Ritu & Ajaat Jamwal - Niece-in-law & Nephew M.No. 7006 598 794



Sh. Narpal Singh (Retd DSP)

Late Sh HonyiCapt Chhaju Ram Manhas 91-07-1937 to 20-07-2024

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).

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

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

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

Sh. Joginder Singh Manhas & Smt Babita Rani (Son & Daughter in Law) Mr Harshbardhan Singh & Mrs Sheetal Pawar (Grand Son & Grand Daughter in Law) Smt Samriti Rajput and Sh. Sunil Singh Chib (Grand Daughter & Grand Son in Law) Hony/Lt Sh. Teju Ram Manhas and Smt Bimla Devi (Borther & Bhabhi)



10TH DAY KRIYA

Top News of J&K

Jammu, Wednesday, July 31, 2024

With profound grief and somow we inform the sudden sad demise If our beloved Shri Maharaj Krishan Bhat (Bairaj) S/o Late Shr Prem Nath Bhat native of Village Shurat Kulgam at presen HNo.25, Lane A1, Laxmipuram Chinose, Jammu near Apple Kide School who left for heavenly alcode on 25-07-2024 TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 02.08.2024 (Friday) a

Muthi Chat near Directorate of School Education at 08 AM GRIEF STRICKEN: Smt Jiga Kumari (Wife) Daughters & Sons-In-law Dr Alka Bhat & Shri Tushar Bhat

Smt. Sadhvi Pandita & Shri Nitin Pandita Bhabhi & Brother imt. Mohani Bhat & Late Shri Radha Krishan Bhat Smt Manmohani Bhat & Shri Nand Lai Bhat Smt Rajni Bhat & Shri Avtor Krishan Bhat

Sisters & Brothers-in-Law Smt. Teja Koul & Shri Maharaj Krishan Koul Smt. Jeets Pandita & Shri Yoginder Pandits And Samast Bhat, Pandita and Koul parive at 9858507830, 9086019290



SHRI MAHARAJ KRISHAN BHAT (BAIRAJ)

Vith profound grief & Sorrow we regret to nform the sad demise of Smt Rama hajuria W/o Late Sat Pal Khajuria R/o 281 ane No 27 Rajpura Jammu.

2024 at 11 AM at our residence. CRIYA will be performed at 12.00 Noon or

02-08-2024 at our residence. UTHALA will be held at Hari Mandir Rehari colony Jammu from 5 PM to 6 Pm on 02-08- SMT RAMA KHAJURIA

CONTACT: 9149462564, 700 6157593, 700 6399440

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

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

mt Sheetu Raina and Neeraj Jinsi

imt Raj Dhulari Koul Wio Lt G K Koul (Sister) Daughters and Son-in-law

mt Sunits Jinsi and Rahul Dass imt Sarojini Koul and Kanwal Krishan Grand Children: Sheen, Vansh, Sakshi 7053990005, 9818002014

TENTH DAY KRIYA

demise of our beloved mother Smt. Susheela Devi Wo Late Shri Kalyan Singh Manhas R/O E-23 Shiv Nagar Jammu who expired on 21.07.2024 (Sunday)

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 Jamwal

Sarita Kumari and Rattan Thakur (Election Officer Rtd.)

Sushma Rani and Dr. Kuldeep Singh Bhadwal. Grand Children: Dr.Anchal, Priyanshu, Ashish, Manya, Indrakshi and Ranbir

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sudden sad demise of our beloved Shri Pritam Singh S/o Baldev Singh R/o H.No. 47 Sarasv Talab Tillo, Bohri, Jammu who left heavenly abode on

Tenth Day Kriya wil be performed on 1 August 2024 (Thursday) at our residence H.No.47 Saraswat

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt Sheela Devi -Wife Sons & Daughters-in-law Pardeep Singh & Sudesh Rani

Ashok Singh & Ritu Jamwal Rajindra Singh & Anita Rani

Grand Children: Vipul Singh Jamwal, Ashwan Jamwal, Nitin Jamwal, Ankita Jamwal, Vivek Jamwal 9419280145, 9419227295

SHANTI PAATH & 10th DAY KRIYA

father, Sh. Girdhari Lal Vali, son of Late Sh. Hari Krishen Vali, Rainawari, Srinagar (presently residing at Neel Padmkunj Apartments, Vaishali, Ghaziabad), on early hours of 28th of

July. Shanti Path

SHANTI PATH
Sunday 4th August 4pm - 5pm
Shri Bhagwat Dhare
Saha ƙarita Marg
Pocket 3 Mayur Vihar Ph 1
10th DAY KRIYA will be performed on Monday 5th of August 2024 at Chota Haridwar Murad ragar, UP at 7:30 am onwards.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Apparature Kurger (Paughter) & Sami Kurger (Sondralaw) Annapurna Kumar (Daughter) & Sarel Kumar (Son-In-law) Kuldeep Vali (Son) & Suniana Vali (Daughter-In-law) SARAFS, TUKRAS, KACHROOS, BHATS & WATTALS

Grand Children: Swati Kumar, Himanshu Kapoor, Vaishali Kumar, Ronit Vali Ph: 9810771798, 9873532041 MOURNING AND TENTH DAY

the sad demise of **Sh. Jagan Nath Handoo** S/o Sh. Shamboo Nath Handoo of Hanand Chawaigam, Kulgam t present Lane No. 2, Adarsh Nagar, Paloura, Jammu. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat Jamm on 8th of August 2024 at 8.30 am. Grief Stricken

Smt. Kanta Ji - Wife Sh. P.K. Handoo & Smt. Sunita Ji -Brother & Sister-in-law Sh. D.K. Handoo & Smt. Sarla Ji -Brother & Sister-in-law Sh. Virender Kalla & Smt. Birda Ji - Sister & Brother-in-law

Sh. T.K. Sharma & Smt. Sudesh Ji - Sister & Brother-in-law Sh. Ramesh Dhar & Smt. Babita Ji - Son-in-law & Daughter Sh. Roop Krishan Handoo & Smt. Sunita Ji - Son & Daughter-in-law

Sh. Pawan Handoo & Smt. Archana Ji - Son & Daughter-in-law & All Nears & Dears with Kids 7006638233, 7889830219

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TENTH DAY will be performed on 01-08

2024 (Friday) GRIEF STRICKEN litan Khajuria & Sandhya -Son & Daughter in Law Divva Sharma & Munesh Sharma - Daughter & Son in Law Rampal Khajuria & Kamlesh -Jeth & Jethani Cashmiri Lal Khajuria & Neelam -Jeth & Jethani Grand Children: Akshit, Sannit, Jeevika

TENTH DAY

Deepy missed and remembered by : Smt Sarta Jinsi (Wife) Smt Sheela Jinsi W/o Late Sh Piyara Lal Jinsi Daughter-in-laws and Sons

mt Pummy Jinsi and Late Moti Lal Jinsi mt Sunita Jinsi and Sunil Jinsi

3mt Shive to Bhat and Dheeraj Jinsi



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

Smt Susheela Devi Daughters and Son-in-Law

Late Sh Pritam Singh

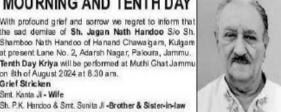
D.O.B: 22-06-1936

23rd July 2024

Lane Talab Tilloo, Bohri, Jammu at 10 am.

Kulbeer Singh & Suman Lata

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved



Sh. Jagan Nath

DISCLAIMER



Lt Governor interacts with citizens; several cases disposed on the spot

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 31: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today interacted with citizens and attended to their issues, during "LG's Mulaqaat"-Live Public Grievance Hearing programme, at the Civil Secretariat.

During the interaction, the Lt Governor took appraisal of the action taken by the Administrative Secretaries, Deputy Commissioners and concerned officials on the grievances received from the citizens

The Lt Governor directed the Officials to expedite the pending resolution of grievances on fast-track basis and to ensure that the system is accountable and responsive to people's needs.

Reiterating the commitment of J&K Administration to improve the griev-



App which were launched recently are aimed at providing an easy way to lodge the grievance and its efficient and speedy redressal "We have also imparted

greater transparency to the public service delivery process. Our aim is to empower citizens with special attention to the needs of the marginalised section of the society," he

In today's "LG's Mulagaat", several grievances of the complainants were redressed on the spot by the Lt Governor.

Sh Abdul Rashid Sheikh, on behalf of residents of Bamloora village of Ganderbal, expressed gratitude to the Lt Governor for providing resolution to the grievance regarding irrigation water facility to their village.

Ms Ulfat Bi from Poonch

Responding to the complaint of Sh Rakesh Kumar from Samba, the Lt Governor directed the Health functionaries to review the functioning of oxygen plant installed at District hospital Samba as well as other Government health Institutions to ensure they are operating smoothly.

On the sidelines of the LG's Mulqaat, the Lt Governor also reviewed the implementation of the directions passed with regard to the preparations for Independence Day Celebration.

Sh Mohammad Aijaz, Secretary, Public Grievances Department conducted the proceedings of the LG Mulaqaat.

Sh Atal Dulloo, Chief

Secretary; Administrative Secretaries; Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, SSPs, HoDs and other senior officers were present during the interaction, in person and through vir-

tual mode.

exports to Rs 1100 Crores SRINAGAR, July 31 (Agencies): Kashmir's handloom and handicraft exports have more than

doubled over the past two years, with export figures surpassing Rs 1100 crores Artisan on work on a

loom weaving Kashmir Carpet using a unique 'Zari' technology, incorporating a metallic thread and multiple colours to make the iconic craft noticeable in the International market

According to figures, exports surged from Rs 563 crore in 2021-22 to a remarkable Rs 1,162 crore in 2023-24, reflecting a robust growth trajectory.

The sharp increase highlights the rising global demand for Kashmiri craftsmanship, renowned for its intricate designs and high-quality materials.

Figures suggest that against Rs 165.98 crore in 2021-22, shawls worth Rs 424.20 crore were year. Similarly, against Rs 251.05 crore in 2021-22. carpets worth Rs 357.21 crore were exported in 2022-23.

Global demand drives

Kashmir handicraft

Other handicrafts and handloom items also witnessed a surge in exports, especially after the government promoted and preserved their authenticity by issuing Geographic Indication (GI) tags to the prized crafts

Artisans attribute this growth to a combination of factors: enhanced global awareness of Kashmiri crafts, improved marketing strategies, and strengthened export channels.

"Government initiatives and support have also played a crucial role in this surge. Policies aimed at promoting exports and providing incentives to the handicraft sector have contributed to the sector's expansion," said Khalid Ahmad Bhat, a Pashmina

and enhancement of exhibitions have contributed to the growth of handicraft sales across India as well.

"We have a good demand also. We get orders from various states, with people preferring to buy Kashmir handicrafts with GI tags. This increase in demand has boosted production as well," Bhat said.

Officials said the government has taken various initiatives to promote and market Kashmir handicrafts worldwide. "From exhibitions to promotional campaigns, the department has taken various initiatives to promote Kashmir handicrafts. The GI tag proved to be a game changer as demand increased, subsequently enhancing the exports of handicrafts to various countries. Currently, we have a good demand for handicrafts from the Gulf, Europe, and other nations," they said.

"Steep rise in temperature in Ladakh a matter of concern": Ladakh IMD Director

LEH (Ladakh), July 31 (Agencies): Ladakh India Meteorological Department (IMD) Director Sonam Lotus on Wednesday said that a steep rise in temperature in Ladakh is a matter of concern.

Notably, a maximum temperature of 30.5 degrees Celsius was recorded in Leh on July

The Ladakh IMD Director noted that while high temperatures are typical during Ladakh's hottest months of July-August, he added that a steep rise in temperature, particularly in Ladakh, is indeed a matter of concern as glaciers are the region's key water source, and

their rapid melting due to intense heat poses a significant threat to the region's water supply.

"Ladakh is a cold desert

area but it doesn't mean that it is always cold here. It is cold here during winters in December-January when temperatures drop to even -20 or -25 degrees Celsius in Leh. It is not new to experience summers here in July-August. It happens every year. July-August is the hottest month of the year for Ladakh. Kargil experiences 2-3 degrees more than Leh. This time, Leh recorded a highest temperature of 33.5 degrees Celsius. At the same time, on 28th July, Kargil recorded the highest temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius. These temperatures are not new. It is always hot in July-August, especially from the second week of July to mid-August, around 45 days," IMD Ladakh Direc-

tor said. "Steep rise in temperature, that too in Ladakh, is indeed a matter of concern. Glaciers are our natural resources and are very valuable. We get water from that glacier, so if the temperatures rise like this - when Ladakh's 30 degrees is like 40 degrees in the plains the intense heat will melt the ice bodies faster," he

Ladakh IMD Director also issued an advisory for tourists, warning of potential flash floods in the coming days.

District who had applied

for construction of house

under PMAY scheme also

thanked the Lt Governor

led UT Administration for

addressing her long pend-

On the grievance of

Sh Ubaid Fayaz Najar of

Bandipora District per-

taining to the issuance

of OBC certificate, the Lt

Governor instructed the

concerned Department

to take appropriate mea-

sures and facilitate the

eligible beneficiaries in

ing grievance.

"Sometimes, it also rains due to the heat... The monsoon is becoming active now, so it has started becoming cloudy since yesterday which has caused light rain in a few spots...There has been no loss of life or property. We would like to tell the tourists that it is going to rain in the next week. It can take the form of a flash flood in a few areas. So, people will have to be alert these few days. Take this as an advisory. There is no need to panic," he said.

Central Govt disappoints Jammu as it disempowers elected Govt in J&K: Manjit Singh

Seeks restoration of statehood, powers to elected bodies in erstwhile Dogra State

Top News Report

SAMBA, July 31: Continuing public outreach campaign, the Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, Manjit Singh on Wednesday said that the people have become deeply disappointed with the Central Govt for disempowering the elected institutions/Govt in Jammu and Kashmir.

He made this statement while addressing a meeting at Sarore Adda in Bari Brahmana, Samba District.

The Former Minister was accompanied by the ST Wing J&K President, Saleem Alam.

The people in this meeting expressed their faith in the leadership of Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari and pinned their hopes in the Apni Party for the redressal of their growing concerns.

Addressing a meeting, the Former Minister held a detailed deliberation with the people from different seaments of society.

During the discussion. the people expressed their dissatisfaction with the LG Govt in Jammu and Kashmir as it snatched all their hopes, and hardly fulfilled the promise of develop-



ment

"From August 5, 2019, the people were promised of overall development, end to discrimination, and employment generation programs in Jammu and Kashmir. However, the people were not ready to accept that the present Govt has adopted an anti-people policy that has given rise to unemployment," he added, after holding a threadbare dis-

He extended his support on behalf of the Party to the people and assured that if the Party forms the Govt in Jammu and Kashmir, it will work to redress the growing concerns of the people.

He however criticized the Central Govt for disempowering the elected Govt in Jammu and Kashmir and granting more powers to the LG J&K

and termed it an act that would weaken the elected bodies.

"The elected institutions would become weak when it comes to work for the public as the LG J&K has been made more powerful," he added.

He further said that the BJP and the Central Govt has befooled the people of Jammu and Kashmir with their hollow assurances that they could not fulfill.

"Instead, the people of Jammu and Kashmir were made to migrate to other states for work. Earlier, they could find work in their own erstwhile state. However, the situation since 2019 has changed, and the non-locals are being engaged in most of the sectors including the contracts or mining works," he alleged.

He demanded that Jammu and Kashmir

should be empowered again by returning the powers of an elected Govt and statehood should be restored to the erstwhile state.

"The people have emotional attachment with the historic state that was once ruled by the Dogra Rulers. Therefore, ignoring the growing concerns of the people in both the regions would not be a suitable decision of the Central Govt. It becomes important to restore the state as well as empower the elected Govt in J&K powerful as equal as the other Govts in other states of the country," he men-

tioned. Meanwhile, he asked the administration to improve the basic amenities in Bari Brahmana, and ensure the discrimination is not done with the people at any

BJP Govt made historical rectification by ensuring proprietary rights to WPRs: Kavinder

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta on Wednesday said that the BJP Government led by PM Narendra Modi has ensured a fair deal for the West Pak Refugees (WPRs) by giving them the proprietary rights on State land.

In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP stalwart leader said that this step of ensuring which was due to the WPRs is another remarkable stroke by the Modi Government as earlier the community was empowered in J&K by



the same dispensation through extending the domicile and the voting rights.

He said that through this move the government has removed the long pending error which has been committed by the

successive dynastic governments that ruled the erstwhile state of J&K just to loot its resources and pound the marginalized sections of the people in one way or the other.

The senior BJP leader said that this monumental decision stands as a testament to the unwavering commitment of the government to bail out the marginalized and put an end to the injustices of the past

He said that this landmark initiative is more than just a policy change and the same could be termed as a beacon of hope and a harbinger of a new era where every citizen, regardless of his or her historical circumstances, has the right to thrive and prosper.

He said besides the WPRs, the government has also alleviated the gloom of displaced persons of 1965 by giving similar rights to them

Kavinder said that through such philanthropic steps in J&K the Modi Government has time and again proved that it is merely not a dispensation rather it is an epitome of a welfare state, for which people of all regions are longing for whether it is India or any other country, because this dispensation is discrimination free and good for all.

G2@ UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION GANDHI NAGAR JAMMU e-mail:xenpwddivgandhinagar@gmail.com SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short e-NIT No. DGN/27 of 2024-25 Dated 29-07-2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S.	Name of Work	Name of	Advertised	Cost of	Earnest	Time	Time and	Class of
No		Division	Cost (₹ in Lacs)	document (in ₹)	Money (in ₹)	Allowed for complete -on	date of opening of tender	Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Improvement of Lane and Drain on road from Matto Medicate upto the House of Mohd. Zafferulla Sheikh (Retd. Range Officer) at Gali No. 4 Bathindi Morh. and Construction of Lane and Drain Hakaki Mohalla Bathindi near Grave Yard upto House of Rashid Nazir (Under Action Plan UT Road Sector of Capex Budget)	PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar	9.78	600	19560 (2% of the Advertised Cost)	01 Month	(1200 Hrs) on or after 06-08-2024	"A", "B" "C" & "D" Class

Position of AAA

:- Accorded by Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu's Order No. 553 of 2023 dated 30-10-2023.

Position of TS

Major Head of Account

Project Authority

Sanctioned by Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu's Order No. 526 of November 2023 dated 21-11-2024.

:- Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu.

:- Under Action Plan UT Roads Sector of Capex Budget.

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website http://jktenders.gov.in as per below schedule

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	29-07-2024			
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 29-07-2024 to 05-08-2024, 1800 Hrs			
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	01-08-2024 at 1300 Hrs. in the Office of Executive			
		Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar			
		Jammu			
4	Bid submission Start Date	29-07-2024			
5	Bid Submission End Date	05-08-2024 upto 1800 Hrs			
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	06-08-2024 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of			
		Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi			
		Nagar Jammu			
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is			
		completed			

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu and upload the same i.e treasury challan/receipt, Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu. The CDR/FDR/BG shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of L1 be submitted to the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu at the time of allotment.

DIP/J-3576/24

(Er. Rahat Gupta) Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar

Dean Students Welfare in collaboration with SPARSH organized gender sensitization activity at CLUJ

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: Dean Students Welfare in collaboration with the apex body of SPARSH (Sensitization, Prevention and Redressal of Sexual Harassment) organized an activity for the awareness of all stakeholders regarding gender sensitization in various Schools and Colleges of Cluster University of Jammu.

Also, the SPARSH Bill Boards were prepared and distributed among the Co-ordinators of Schools and Colleges of the Cluster University of Jammu for their further display at their respective institutions.

Dr. Monika Sharma, Dean Faculty of Arts, CLUJ was the special guest of the occasion. The event was carried out under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Raj Shree Dhar, Dean Students

Welfare in the premises of School of Humanities and Liberal Arts, CLUJ. The event was attend-

ed by Dr. VandanaKhajuria (Chairperson SPARSH), the faculty, Co-ordinators and students of Schools and the Constituent Colleges of

EDITORIAL

Landslides-devastating natural calamity

andslides are sudden and often devastating natural events that occur when there is a movement of rock, soil, or debris down a slope. They are triggered by a combination of factors, including natural phenomena and human activities, and can lead to significant loss of life and property. The deaths caused by landslides can be attributed to various direct and indirect factors, all of which highlight the critical need for effective risk management and mitigation strategies.

Landslides can be triggered by natural events such as heavy rainfall, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and snowmelt. Heavy rainfall is a common cause, as prolonged precipitation can saturate the ground, reducing its stability and causing it to collapse. The water adds weight to the soil and rock, and can also erode the slope, making it more prone to sliding. In regions with intense monsoon seasons or seasonal rain patterns, landslides can be particularly deadly.

Earthquakes are another significant trigger. When seismic activity shakes the ground, it can destabilize slopes that were already precarious, causing landslides. The impact of earthquakes can be magnified in areas with loose or unstable soils, leading to more severe landslides and higher fatalities. Volcanic eruptions can also cause landslides through the rapid deposition of volcanic ash and lava flows, which can destabilize surrounding slopes.

Snowmelt contributes to landslides when melting snow and ice add water to the ground, increasing the risk of slope failure. This is particularly relevant in mountainous regions where snow accumulation is substantial.

Human activities can exacerbate the risk of landslides. Deforestation, mining, and construction work can significantly alter the natural stability of slopes. For example, removing vegetation through deforestation eliminates root systems that help stabilize the soil. Without these roots, the soil becomes more susceptible to erosion and landslides. Similarly, mining operations can remove large amounts of earth, destabilizing the surrounding area and increasing the risk of landslides.

Construction on or near steep slopes can also trigger landslides. Building roads, houses, or other structures can change the natural drainage patterns and load distribution on slopes, making them more vulnerable to failure. Improperly managed construction can exacerbate these risks, particularly if adequate measures for slope stabilization are not employed.

When landslides occur, their impact on human life can be catastrophic. The immediate threat is from the landslide itself, which can bury homes, roads, and entire communities under tons of debris. The rapid movement of soil and rock can crush structures and vehicles, leading to fatalities and severe injuries. In addition to the direct effects, landslides can also cause secondary hazards such as flooding. For instance, landslides can block rivers and streams, creating natural dams that may eventually burst, leading to downstream flooding and further casualties.

Emergency response to landslides can be challenging, especially in remote or difficult-to-access areas. The initial rescue efforts may be hampered by ongoing landslides or unstable conditions, making it difficult for rescuers to reach victims. The scale of the disaster often overwhelms local resources, requiring coordinated efforts from national and international agencies.

To reduce the risk and impact of landslides, a combination of prevention, preparedness, and response measures is essential. Early warning systems that monitor weather conditions, seismic activity, and other relevant factors can help alert communities to potential landslide threats. Additionally, proper land use planning and slope stabilization techniques, such as terracing and retaining walls, can help mitigate the risk of landslides in vulnerable areas.

Public education on landslide risks and preparedness is also crucial. Communities need to be aware of the signs of potential landslides and know how to respond in the event of a disaster. This includes having evacuation plans and understanding the safest routes to take if a landslide occurs.

In conclusion, landslides are a significant natural hazard with the potential to cause widespread loss of life and property. Addressing the various triggers and contributing factors through effective management and mitigation strategies is crucial to reducing their impact and protecting vulnerable communities.

The importance of multidisciplinary education in today's academic environment

By: Vijay GarG

(Why multidisciplinary education in today's academic environment needed)

ultidisciplinary education, which combines insights and methods from multiple fields of study, is essential in fostering the versatile and adaptive thinkers needed to tackle these multifaceted issues.

In an increasingly interconnected and complex world, traditional educational models that focus on a single discipline are no longer sufficient. The challenges of today range from global health crises and environmental sustainability to technological advancements and social inequality and a more holistic and integrative approach to learning.

Multidisciplinary education, which combines insights and methods from multiple fields of study, is essential in fostering the versatile and adaptive thinkers needed to tackle these multifaceted issues. By embracing multidisciplinary education, academic institutions can prepare students not only to understand and navigate the complexities of the modern world but also to innovate and drive progress across diverse sectors.

This approach nurtures creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration, equipping learners with the skills and perspectives necessary to excel in an ever-evolving landscape. India today in spoke to Pratik Modi, Dean, School of Management, BML Munjal University to understand of Multidisciplinary Education in Today's Academic Environment.

How do you define multidisciplinary education, and why do you believe it is essential in today's academic environment?

Multidisciplinary education integrates knowledge and methodologies from various disciplines, fostering a holistic learning approach. It encourages students to draw connections between subjects, enhancing their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. In today's rapidly evolving academic environment, this approach is essential as it prepares students to tackle complex, real-world challenges that do not fit neatly into one discipline. It promotes innovation, adaptability, and a broader

perspective, equipping graduates with the versatile skills needed to thrive in diverse professional fields and address global issues effectively.

How can institutions integrate experiential learning into their curricula without compromising on traditional academic rigor?

Institutions can integrate experiential learning into their curricula by designing programs and courses that complement traditional academic rigor rather than replacing it. This can be achieved through various methods:

Project-Based Learning: Incorporating real-world projects that require students to apply theoretical knowledge to practical scenarios.

Internships and Practicums: Partnering with industries to offer internships that provide hands-on experience while maintaining academic oversight.

Community Immersion: Integrating community immersion and engagement projects that align with course objectives, enabling students to learn and contribute to the society.

Simulations and Case Studies: Using simulations, role-plays, and case studies to mimic real-world situations within the classroom.

Collaborative Learning: Encouraging group work and interdisciplinary projects to mirror workplace dynamics and challenges.

What challenges do educators face when implementing multidisciplinary and experiential learning, and how can these be overcome?

Educators face several challenges when implementing multidisciplinary and experiential learning, including:

Curriculum Re-design: Creating a cohesive curriculum that integrates multiple disciplines and experiential elements can be complex. Overcoming this requires careful planning, collaboration amongst faculty, and ongoing assessment to ensure alignment with learning outcomes.

Resource Constraints: Experiential learning often requires additional resources, such as funding, technology, and partnerships with external organizations. Securing grants, building industry partnerships, and leveraging alumni networks can help mitigate these constraints.

Assessment Difficulties: Measuring the outcomes of experiential and multidisciplinary learning can be challenging. Developing clear rubrics, using reflective assessments, and incorporating peer evaluations can provide more comprehensive evaluation methods.

Faculty Training: Educators may need professional development to effectively facilitate these learning approaches. Offering workshops, cross-disciplinary collaborations, and support from instructional design experts can enhance faculty readiness.

Student Adaptation: Students accustomed to traditional learning methods might struggle with the self-directed nature of experiential learning. Providing clear guidance, scaffolding experiences, and fostering a growth mindset can help students adapt.

How does the approach to multidisciplinary education in international institutions compare to that of Indian institutions?

The approach to multidisciplinary education in international institutions often emphasizes flexibility, innovation, and cross-disciplinary collaboration. Key differences include:

Curriculum Flexibility: International institutions frequently offer flexible curricula, allowing students to choose courses across various disciplines, encouraging a broader educational experience. In contrast, Indian institutions traditionally have more rigid, specialised programs, though this is gradually changing.

Interdisciplinary Programs: International universities often have established interdisciplinary programs and research centres that promote collaboration across fields. Indian institutions are beginning to adopt similar models but are still in the early stages of development.

Experiential Learning Integration: Many international institutions prioritize experiential learning through internships, co-ops, and global study programs. While Indian institutions increasingly recognize the importance of experiential learning, there are often fewer structured opportunities available.

Industry Partnerships: International institutions frequently collaborate with industry and government sectors to provide practical learning experiences. Indian institutions are enhancing these partnerships but face challenges in matching the scale and depth found internationally.

Faculty Training and Development: International institutions often invest heavily in faculty development to support multidisciplinary and experiential learning. Indian institutions are improving in this area but still need to expand their efforts to match international standards.

What can the Indian education system learn from international models of experiential learning to enhance its own teaching methods?

The Indian education system can draw several valuable lessons from international models of experiential learning to enhance its teaching methods:

Project-Based Learning (PBL): Emphasizing PBL can help students apply theoretical knowledge to real-world problems. Indian education can adopt structured PBL frameworks that encourage collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

Community Engagement: Many international institutions integrate community engagement with academic coursework, promoting civic responsibility and practical skills. Indian institutions can implement service-learning projects that address local community issues, fostering a sense of social responsibility among students.

Global Exposure: International models often include study abroad programs and global internships. Indian education can create partnerships with foreign universities to offer exchange programs, giving students international exposure and a broader perspective.

Use of Technology and Simulations: Leveraging technology for simulations, virtual labs, and online collaborative projects is common internationally. Indian institutions can enhance their infrastructure to incorporate these technologies, providing immersive learning experiences.

Investing in Faculty Development: Continuous professional development for educators is crucial. Indian institutions can establish robust training programs to help faculty adopt experiential learning techniques and stay updated with global best practices.

Assessment Innovation: International models often use diverse assessment methods, including reflective journals, peer reviews, and project evaluations. Indian education can adopt these innovative assessment strategies to better evaluate experiential learning outcomes.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist Malout)

India, Pakistan must work out ways to revive trade ties

By: Ranjit Singh Ghuman (Professor of Eminence, Guru Nanak Dev University)

EARLY 77 years after Independence, diplomatic, political, and economic relations between India and Pakistan remain marred by enmity and hatred. They have fought two low-intensity wars (the Kashmir conflict in 1947-48 and the 1999 Kargil War) and two full-fledged ones (in 1965 and 1971). However, the contentious issues of Kashmir and cross-border terrorism remain unresolved. While political leaders from both nations have occasionally attempted to find mutually acceptable solutions, rational efforts have repeatedly been thwarted by irrational barriers. This cyclical pattern resembles a game of snakes and ladders, where progress is often undone by setbacks.

With the installation of new governments in India and Pakistan, there is a renewed glimmer of hope. Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and former premier Nawaz Sharif congratulated Narendra Modi last month when he took oath as the PM for the third time. Shehbaz emphasised that peace in the region was unattainable unless the Kashmir dispute was resolved. And Nawaz called for replacing hate with hope and seizing the opportunity to shape the destiny of two billion people in South Asia. PM Modi reminded them that the people of India had always stood for peace, security and progressive ideas. However, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar reiterated that terrorism could not be a policy of a good neighbour and, hence, it needed to be curbed.

While India insists on halting cross-border terrorism first, Paki-

stan demands that the Kashmir issue be addressed on priority. Both countries, however, understand that resolving these vexed issues requires mature and sustained politico-diplomatic dialogue, which, as yet, is not coming from either side. Sharat Sabharwal, a former High Commissioner to Pakistan, suggests managing the relationship at the lowest possible levels of violence and volatility, combining dialogue with deterrence, and nudging Pakistan in the right direction. He suggests that converting the LoC (Line of Control) into an international border could be a feasible non-military solution to the Kashmir issue. The prolonged delay in reaching

a mutually acceptable and mature solution has complicated the issues further, with new factors — such as China's involvement – adding to the complexity. Both countries have incurred significant financial and human losses because of their acrimonious relations. It has impacted crucial development issues - such as education, health and poverty eradication - especially in Pakistan, which is currently facing a severe economic crisis. India had granted the most favoured nation (MFN) status to Pakistan in 1996 for trade purposes under the World Trade Organisation. But Pakistan did not reciprocate. This needs to be reviewed. Further, India revoked Pakistan's MFN status following the 2019 Pulwama attack. India should restore the neighbour's MFN status, and Pakistan should return the favour.

Notably, there is huge potential for India-Pakistan trade. According to a World Bank study, it can reach \$37 billion. If the potential is fully exploited, it would also have a positive impact on trade through the integrated check-post (ICP) at Attari. The strained relations, however, have blocked India's access to

Central Asia and beyond and hindered SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation). Of late, India has strengthened its ties with Iran and signed a 10-year agreement for the management and development of the Chabahar port, which provides access to Central Asia, including Afghanistan, bypassing Pakistan. The proposed India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC) is also aimed at bypassing Pakistan and Afghanistan. While this would benefit Indian states near major ports, it is less advantageous for border and landlocked states like Punjab. Paradoxically, informal trade between India and Pakistan has always been through other countries, even during trade embargoes. But trade originating from and destined for Punjab and its neighbouring states becomes economically unviable as a result of the increased transport and trans-shipment costs in the absence of trade through the ICP-Attari.

Punjab suffers whenever the India-Pakistan relations deteriorate. As trade through the ICP-Attari is the first casualty, the state is the hardest hit. As the battleground of two major India-Pakistan wars, Punjab has experienced significant economic losses, exacerbated by the nine-year trade embargo from 1965 to 1974. The current trade embargo, imposed by Pakistan since August 2019, is the latest blow to stakeholders dependent on trade activities through the ICP-Attari.

Before the current trade embargo, 26 per cent (Rs 4,063 crore) of India's total trade (Rs 15,408 crore) with Pakistan happened through the ICP-Attari. Our empirical study, 'Economic Implications of Trade Curbs between India and Pakistan through Wagah Border', revealed that the stakeholders (exporters, importers, manufacturers, truck operators, porters, roadside eater-

ies, filling stations, weighing bridges, retailers and wholesalers, private schools, health clinics, repair shops, auto-dealers, liquor shops, etc) in Punjab have suffered huge losses in income and employment because of the closure of the ICP-Attari for trade.

According to our study, moderate estimates indicate that Punjab has suffered an income loss of Rs 7,013 crore over the last five years owing to the trade embargo. This does not include financial losses to manufacturers-cum-exporters and transporters whose investments have become idle, besides maintenance costs. The direct employment of nearly 12,000 workers (including 2,500 porters and 1,000 drivers and cleaners) and substantial indirect employment have been lost, thanks to trade curbs. Thousands of families have been deprived of their livelihoods. The investment deficiency in the border districts is another serious drag on development. The resulting operation of the inverse multiplier and missing linkage effects aggravates the losses.

Punjab and its neighbouring states must collectively address the issue with the Centre; MPs from these states should raise it in Parliament to persuade the Indian and Pakistani governments to initiate dialogue. Despite the alternative route through the Chabahar port and the IMEEC, the strategic significance of the land route through Pakistan and Afghanistan to Central Asia and Eurasia remains vital. This necessitates strengthening the ICP-Attari as a dry port and initiating dialogue to open the Hussainiwala (Ferozepur) border for trade. Given Punjab's location and India's national security concerns, developing its border districts and Punjab as a whole is in India's strategic interest. It is time to transcend past enmities and work towards cooperative development.

Vomedh stages play 'Mar Kar Jeena'

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 31: A poignant and powerful portrayal of the emotional struggles faced by families of martyred soldiers, the Hindi play 'Mar Kar Jeena,' was staged on the inaugural day of the 3-Day Pagah Theatre Festival organized by the Vomedh group, captivating the audience at Tagore Hall on Wednesday.

The Pagah Theatre Festival, now in its third edition, began with the impactful play "Mar Kar Jeena." The festival will showcase plays from various theatre groups until August 1, 2024.

Written and directed by renowned playwright Rakesh Roshan Bhat and designed by Rohit Bhat, the play presents a deeply moving tribute to the sacrifices made by the armed forces and the enduring impact on their

Departing from conventional narratives that often focus solely on battles and valour, "Mar Kar Jeena" delves into the raw and often unspoken emotional landscape of those left behind. The play poignantly illustrates the superficiality of fleeting public sentiment and highlights the profound and lasting grief that families grapple with. The play revolves

around the story of two close friends and soldiers, Captain Shivam and Major Puneet, who make the ultimate sacrifice during a terrorist attack on an army camp. Their souls caught between worlds and awaiting emancipation, linger near the memorial erected in their honour. While Major Puneet finds solace in witnessing his young son Veer's daily visits, Captain Shivam refuses to depart a heart-wrenching turn of events, an accident involving Veer's friend compels Major Puneet to relinquish his connection to offer his son one last goodbye.

The play's intelligent structure allows the narrative to unfold in layers, keeping the audience deeply engrossed. The emotional weight of the story is masterfully balanced with moments of dark humour, adding further depth and prompting reflection.

Principal Secretary Department Culture Suresh Kumar Gupta IFS, who was the Chief Guest, highly praised the concept and performance of the play, stating, "This play has the power to instil nationalism among vouth and needs to be showcased all over India."

Director Rakesh Roshan Bhat, through his skilled direction, delivers a powerful and thought-provok-

ing production that transcends entertainment, serving as a poignant reminder of the human cost of conflict

Rohit Bhat, Director

of Vomedh, shared his vision for the play, stating, "This is our attempt to share the untold stories of martyrs, their sacrifices, and the emotional struggles their families face. We aim to take this play to various states, starting from Kashmir, to instill a sense of nationalism and appreciation for the armed forces among our youth, fostering a stronger bond between them."

The performance featured a stellar cast who breathed life into the characters with their compelling performances, including Shazi Khan as Major Puneet, Kamakshya Dogra as Captain Shivam, Ishu Bharti Pandit as Veer, King C Bharati as Colonel Arya, Himangini Moza as Shivani, Tushar

as Vinod, Bindiya Tickoo as Major Bindiya/Host, Suman as Dr. Riya, Shashank Singh Rajput as Person 1, Nikhil Khajuria as Person 2, Jang Bahadur as Person 3, Irfana Bano as Lady 1, Taiba as Lady 2, and Bharti Kaul as Lady 3.

The production was brought to life with the dedicated efforts of the backstage crew: Costume Design by Bharti Kaul, Makeup by Sunny Mujjoo, Music Arrangement by Shazi Khan, Production Manager Suman Bhat, Property & Backstage by Irfana Bano, Ridhima Kalsi, and Aarohi Moza, and Lights by Ravinder

"Mar Kar Jeena" left the audience at Tagore Hall visibly moved, culminating in a heartfelt standing ovation, a testament to the play's power, the cast's talent, and the poignant message at its

Arav Bhardwaj embarks on bicycle yatra from Kargil War Memorial

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: Arav Bhardwaj age (12 Yrs) a student of 8th Standard Heritage School New, Delhi, embarked upon a bicycle vatra from Karqil War Memorial, Ladakh on 27th July, 2024 in order to pay Homage to Kargil Martyrs on the occasion of Rajat Jayanti of Kargil Vijay

The yatra will conclude on 8th August, 2024 at National War Memorial, New Delhi

On the way Arav visited and paid tributes at Zojila war Memorial at Gumri on 27th of July 2024 and at the Badami Bagh War Memorial at Badami Bagh Cantonment Srinagar on 29th July, 2024.

Today he visited Sainik School Nagrota, interacted with School Children and shared his experience. The Principal Captain



Arav and Blessed him with a Memento.

Arav will be Cycling 1200 Kms. in 13 days and pass through U/Ts and States Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, and Delhi.

Further halts are at Dinanagar/Gurdaspur, Attari Border/Amritsar/ Jalandar/Chandigarh/ Karnal/and Rohtak.

Dr. Atul Bhardwaj Father of Arav Bhardwaj a Spine Surgeon with Max Hospital and Saroj Hospital New Delhi is /will be cycling along Arav through out the Yatra and His Grandfather and Uncles

Dr. Arun Bhardwai and Dr Aditya Bhardwai will follow them in a vehicle for provisions and support.

In 2022 Arav undertook a 32 days, 2612 KMs yatra from INA War Memorial, Moirang, Manipur to National War Memorial, New Delhi to commemorate the 125th Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. The Yatra was flagged off by the Chief Minister of Manipur. N. Biren Singh on 14th April 2022 and concluded at National War Memorial, New Delhi, where he was bestowed with the Armed

CBC Udhampur organised Outreach Programme at village Lander

without his comrade. In



Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, July 31: Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Field Office, Udhampur on Wednesday organised one day Integrated Outreach and Communication Programme on Flagship Programmes of Government of India with emphasis on the New Criminal Laws 2023 at Government Higher Secondary School, Lander Udhampur

Jasvir Singh, Member District Development Council Panchari was Chief Guest during the programme.

While appreciating the role of CBC Udhampur, he said that for awareness of Welfare Schemes of Government of India, CBC is playing it's role in

effective way Jasvir said that it's prime duty of all to protect our environment and work towards achieving the dream of Green and Clean India

The aim of the programme is to intensify the awareness campaign of the Welfare Schemes of Government with emphasis on the importance of Swachh Bharat Mission, which aims to make India Open Defecation free and make India Green and Clean and awareness of

New Criminal Laws.

While delivering expert Lecture, Sahil Dogra Representative from **Block Development Office** Panchari, stressed upon the importance of Clean India, Green India and Urged all especially the local students to contribute for making Village Lander garbage free.

He also said that categorisation of the waste material helps for effective disposal & waste management.

Kishore Sharma from Govt. Higher Secondary Lander delivered address on the National Education Policy 2020 and threw light on the various aspects of it.

Speaking on the occasion, Darshan Singh, Senior Prosecuting Officer, District Police Headquarters, Udhampur delivered address on the New Criminal Laws.

While explaining the various aspects of the New Criminal Laws, Darshan said that drastic changes are visible in Crime Reporting Mechanism and paradigm criminal Justice System under the New Criminal Laws.

Singh further elaborated on E-FIR, Zero FIR, Eappearance, and other relevant & Important sections and articles of BNS2023.

During the day long programme various activities were organised by CBC

Udhampur including Open Quiz Competition on Swachh Bharat Mission(SBM), distribution of Dustbins to school to promote the idea of SBM, Expert Lectures and Magic Show by the empanelled Troupe of

Gurnam Singh from CBC Udhampur conducted Open Quiz Competition and moderated the day long event.

Field Publicity Officer, CBC, Udhampur, Khursheed Yousuf, while welcoming the guests, gave a detailed overview of the functioning, structure and working of CBC, in the twin UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Khursheed said that these programmes are being organized so that people get benefits of various public welfare schemes of the government. Surjeet Singh, Principal Govt. Higher Secondary School, Lander presented Vote of Thanks

in the programme. Others present during the event were Jugal Kishore, from CBC Regional Office Jammu, Rajinder Sharma, PRI Member, Lecturers, Teachers and locals.

Dustbins were also donated to the school by CBC Udhampur and IEC material on Welfare Schemes was also distributed among the teachers and students

Tarun Sharma urges LG for one-time age relaxation in upcoming JKP recruitment

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: President Nat Manch, Social Sports and political activist, Actor & Director Tarun Sharma urges LG to provide one time age relaxation in the upcoming recruitment of the JKP Sub Inspector and constable referred by JKSSB recently. The UT of Jammu

Kashmir has been in reformation mode for last five years which led to delays in recruitment of JKP. The last recruitment of JKP constable was held Nine years ago. In this long period of nine years a large number of youngsters who were preparing for the recruitment have crossed the upper age limit. Moreover global pandemic COVID 19 has severely disrupted the



lives and career plans of many youngsters. The extended lockdowns and restrictions have resulted in significant delays in preparation and opportunities for competetive examination.

In the interest of youth of Jammu Kashmir the age relaxation of minimum 5 years should be granted to JKP aspirants so that those who are over aged and have passion to join the police force could get one last opportunity to participate

Chandel compares Yogi Adityanath as emperor Ashoka, seen as future PM

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: In a statement today, senior BJP leader and prominent Sanatani Hindu activist Guruji Raju Chandel expressed strong support for Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, comparing him to the legendary Emperor Ashoka and endorsing him as the future Prime Minister of India.

Addressing journalists, Chandel praised Yogi Adityanath for his decisive actions, particularly his efforts to combat "love jihad" through legislation passed in the assembly. He emphasized that Adityanath's leadership has been instrumental in protecting and upholding



Sanatan Hindu values. "There is no other leader in the country who can take solid decisions in favor of Sanatani Hindus like Yogi Adityanath," Chandel stated. "He is the son of Mother India and a great leader who has curbed love iihad and passed the bill against it in the assemblv. Sanatan Hindu religion cannot repay this favor for ages.

7 yrs on PHC Chowgam Devser awaits shifting to new building, authorities unmoved

Top News Report

KULGAM, July 31: The Public Health Centre (PHC) at Chowgam Devser in south Kashmir Kulgam district, running from three rooms, has been waiting for the last Seven years to get shifted in the newly constructed building, with locals suffering for want of healthcare facility.

There has been a considerable delay in the shifting of PHC Chowgam the doctors' quarters to the newly constructed building, the locals rue.

The villagers said they have contributed in "every possible way" to ensure the completion of the construction. "We have even donated a part of

our land." The construction of this building was completed in 2021, yet since then, the PHC still runs from three rooms and It has not been shifted yet, said javid ahmad, a local.

"We were delighted when the government announced the construction of the new building and subsequently started the work", another resident said "But even years after the completion of the building, the PHC is still not shifted. What was the fun of spending crores of rupees then?"

The locals said they fail to understand the logic in delaying the shifting of the PHC. They also said that out of the sanctioned strength of one doctor, who are working at present. "There is only one staff nurse available for service. no availability of dental infrastructure and other equipments, the services are not being carried out," they said.

Given the scenario, people said they are forced to visit other hospitals for treatment.

Local Villagers said

ADC Sunderbani inaugurates 2-day Multi Multi Media Exhibition

Rashid, DC Kulgam Athar government only makes

tall claims of upgrading healthcare in rural areas, but does nothing on the around He said, "PHC Chow-

gam has its long history, from being the First Aid Centre to a dispensary; and then to the level of PHC, it took almost hundred years to reach to this

"It is unfortunate that due to minor requisition, the PHC is yet to be shifted due to the laxity of government", he added.

"This is the height of apathy on behalf of the health department. Despite our repeated requests no heed has been paid to resolve the issue," another local Suhail ahmad told media adding that it was the Augaf committee that facilitated the acquisition of land for the PHC.

Suhail Ahmad said the new building needs only finishing touches like electrification, water supply and sanitation, "but the health department has shown no intent to take it over".

Meanwhile when contacted, the Block Medical Officer (BMO) Quazigund Dr Zahoor Ahmad said that the JK Housing board did not complete the work despite repeated reminders, adding that "We have asked the government to take action in this regard."

Meanwhile, the villagers of Chowgam appealed to LG Manoj Sinha, Secretary Health Dr Abid

tration and Authorities of

Government boys higher

tion and support.

Aamir Khan and higher authorities to look into the matter and redress the problem at an earliest

Chandel went on to assert that Yogi Adityanath is a divine incarnation in this era, drawing parallels to the historical figure of Emperor Ashoka for his passionate and decisive leadership.

He stated that after Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Yogi Adityanath is the only leader worthy of becoming the next Prime Minister, owing to his dedication to the protection of Sanatan Hindu religion and his vision for a united, glorious, and powerful

"Yogi Adityanath works day and night for the protection and rights of Sanatan Hindu religion and to make the country an undivided India," Chandel said.

"Today, there is no leader like him who never hesitates in taking bold and strong decisions. Just as Emperor Ashoka made significant decisions in the interest of the country, Yogi Adityanath is seen in the same light by Sanatanis worldwide.

Chandel concluded by expressing his admiration for Yogi Adityanath's vision and leadership highlighting that leaders of his caliber are rare and that the nation salutes him for his unwavering commitment to making India an undivided and powerful nation.

DPS Jammu students shine in inter-zonal district level handball tournament

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: Students of Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu brought laurels to the school and their parents by winning 1st & 2nd position in Inter-zonal District Level Handball Tournament organised by DYSS District Jammu at Dogra Ground Shastri Nagar from July 23 to 26, 2024 for boys & girls in u/14 &

u/17 age category. The team of Jammu Zone (u/14 & u/17 boys) stood winner of the tournament and girls u/14 was declared as the Runner up



Jammu Zone team were awarded with the merit certificates on the occa-U/14 Boys Winners:

Viraj Gandotra (VII-B),

Akshat Verma (VII-B),

Adyaan Mengi (VII-B), Dhruv Gupta (VII- H), Arayvansh Sharma (VII-B), Adriel Anil (VII-B), Abinandan (VII- A).

U/17 Boys Winners: Naveed Malik (VIII-B) U/14 Girls (Runner up):

Anushka Talwar (VIII-J), Ariba Aris Khan (VII- J), Filza (VII- J), Manha Manzoor (VII-J), Aasma Choudhary (VII-J). The Management

DPS Jammu under the esteemed leadership of President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Distinguished Pro VC, Dr. Ritu Singh, Director, S.S Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra and staff congratulated the entire team members and their coach, Moninder Kour Bhatia. Further, they also extended their best wishes to them for all their future endeavours.

Top News Report

31: Rajeev Magotra, ADC Sunderbani inaugurated 2-day Multi Multi Media Exhibition on the theme of "Vikisit Bharat" "Mission Life" "Bhartiya Nyaya Samhita" "EBSB" "SBA" PM Ujjwala Yojana and other allied themes of Govt. of India Integrated Outreach and Communication Programme being organized by Central Bureau of Communication, Rajouri, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India at Radha Krishan Mandir Hall near Government Boys Higher Secondary

SUNDARBANI, July

School, Sunderbani as a Chief Guest.

Rita Sharma, Vice Principal, presided over the function along with faculty, Staff of CBC J&K and representatives

Rajeev Magotra also addressed the gathering and enlightened the audience about various schemes he appreciated focused awareness regarding Vikisit Bharat" "Mission Life" "EBSB" "SBA" PM Ujjwala Yojana and various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and initiatives of district administration about which resource persons of various departments are giving information.

Sunil Kumar, Central

Rahul Puri, Tehsil Welfare officer. Sunderbani. Suresh Kumar Supervi-

(Free of Cost).

Bureau of Communicasor, ICDS Prog, Sundderbani and Shubham tion, Rajouri in his wel-Gupta, JE, PHE, Suncome address said that Governments of India has derbani also addressed various schemes for an the gathering and enlightindividual can avail right. ened the audience about He expressed gratitude various schemes related towards district Administo their Department.

Secondary School, Sundents of Government derbani for their cooperaboys higher Secondary School, Sunderbani, He urged the audi-Government boys higher ence to spread the mes-Secondary School Siot and Girls Higher Secondsage of the event among common masses to visit ary School Siot (Drawing the venue as the Exhibi-Completion, Seminar) tion will remain open from were honoured by CBC 10 AM to 5:00 PM. daily Raiouri.

> A mesmerizing theme based cultural programme by artist of CBC enthralled the audience.

All the guests and

speakers, winning stu-

Sparkling up the stars

Be it's ostentatious, understated or classic, I believe in tailoring each look to match my client's personality, says Bollywood stylist Akshay Tyagi, who has recently worked with Zeenat Aman for her comeback film Bun Tikki

An ace fashionista glamming up Indians at the Cannes Film Festival (for three consecutive years now!), Akshay Tyagi is on the speed dial lists of most Indian celebrities. This acclaimed fashion stylist, after all, has been the creative force behind the most dapper B-town biggies, successful films, redcarpet events, brand campaigns and most innovative fashion editorials. No doubt, Bollywood stylist Akshay Tyagi has come a long way since he first styled Hrithik Roshan in Krrish 3 in 2011.

With over 13 years in the industry, Tyagi has earned a reputation as India's top costume designer and stylist, outfitting A-listers, ranging from Ashwariya Rai Bachchan, Katrina Kaif, Deepika Padukone, Priyanka Chopra, Kiara Advani Roy to Hrithik Roshan, Aditya Roy Kapur and Varun Dhawan.

Tyagi seamlessly incorporates the Indian culture into his styling. Collaborating with emerging Indian designers like Torani, he showcases traditional Indian heritage with a modern twist, "This approach not only highlights the richness of Indian embroidery and silhouettes but also represents them on global platforms," emphasises Tyagi, who has recently worked as the stylist for Faraz Arif Ansari's much anticipated film Bun Tikki, starring stalwarts Zeenat Aman, Abhay Doel and Shabana Azmi. "Whether it's ostentatious, understated or classic, I believe in tailoring each look to match the client's personality," quips the stylist, who was most recently invited as a panellist at the Harvard Business School for their India Conference.

Akshay Tyagi's foray into the fashion world began with a childhood passion for dressing up his cousin sister's dolls at the tender age of five, "I've always been interested in dressing up



actors in the industry; indepen-

dently working with South star

Mahesh Babu, Varun Dhawan

and Sidharth Malhotra. And

there was no looking back since

"The biggest moment for me

was when after three years of

working with Hrithik, people

started noticing how his appear-

ance had changed in terms of

the suits he was wearing and

the looks he was pulling off.

Soon, I branched out to a few

more actors in the South and

Today, Akshay's roster of cli-

ents remains impressive, with

almost A-listers getting styled

by him. So, who are his favou-

rite celebrities to work with? "I

have had quite a fortune to work

with a lot of amazing people. I

thoroughly enjoyed working

with Gully Boy star Siddhant

Chaturvedi. He is very cool,

within Bollywood."

my cousins, friends and relatives. While growing up, I was quite fascinated by Indian wedding wear. I started sketching when I was 10—and somehow. just stuck to it," he recalls. This early interest led him to pursue a degree in in textiles and fashion at Nova Scotia College of the Art and Design University, Canada. His professional career kicked off in Canada, where he worked as a visual merchandiser and stylist for Club Monaco.

His Bollywood stint happened after moving back to India in 2011. Tyagi worked with the expert costume designer, Anaita Shroff Adajania and her banner Style Cell as an assistant in Krrish 3, Bang Bang and Finding Fanny. Since then, he stayed with Hrithik Roshan independently, being his personal stylist. As more and more people got to know about his incredible styling, he branched out to other prefers younger silhouettes. And working with Varun is always amazing. I feel he is very athletic and loves '80s driven, vintage fashion. In actresses, I would say Tara Sutaria. It was pretty interesting to translate her hot girl image to a very simple character in Marjaavaan," says the pleasantly unassuming Mumbai-based stylist.

neo-modern and someone who

With everyone looking up to him for style advice, what does this fashion guru's own wardrobe look like? "I would like to call it comfy chic. You'll catch me in comfortable clothing like soft fabrics, denims and cozy footwear as I'm always on my feet. And my main hero is a cool pair of sunglasses," says the stylist.

On a food trail around Shimla

Faraz Arif Ansari of Sheer Qorma fame has directed Bun Tikki, Zeenat Aman's comeback film. Also starring Abhay Deol and Shabana Azmi, the film was shot in Shimla. Abhya Deol, who will be seen in the film alongside Zeenat Aman and Shabana Azmi, in an interview with The Tribune earlier said, "I've done Honeymoon Travels with Shabana, but we didn't have any scenes together, so it was nice. This one gave me the opportunity to act with her." He adds, "Zeenat is an amazing human being and she is a living legend, so just to see the two of them together in one frame was really awesome. I couldn't believe how lucky I was." Talking about how different the two stars are, Deol muses, "Shabana is kind of fire, while Zeenat is like water both equally captivating in their own ways.'

Relish before you watch We don't have much information on the reel Bun Tikki as the makers have kept the plot of the film under wraps, but here are a few famous outlets in Shimla where you can relish the edible variety.

Rashami Desai recalls being homeless with 3.5 crore debt after divorce



Rashami Desai is well-known for portraying diverse characters in films, television, and web shows. The actor recently opened up about a difficult time in her life when she was homeless. During a podcast with Paras Chhabra on his You-Tube channel, Rashami shared that after her divorce with Nandish Sandhu, she faced financial difficulties with a 3.5 crore debt and had to sleep in her car.

Rashami Desai on issues after divorce

Rashami, while recalling the hardships immediately post her separation with Nandish, told, "I had bought a house during that time. I had a loan of almost 2.5 crore, and apart from that...I remember there was a total debt of 3.25-3.5 crore on me. I thought everything was fine but then suddenly, my show was shut down. I was on the road for four days. I had an Audi A6 and I would sleep in that car. All my stuff was at my manager's house. I was completely cut off from my family. Those days, rickshaw valas would have a meal for 20. It used to come in a plastic bag which had daal and chawal mixed and they would give two rotis along with it. It would have some stones also but I ate that anyway. These four days were very difficult."

She further said, "I got divorced, even my friends started to think I was very difficult because I wasn't expressive and I would go into my shell. My family thought all my decisions are wrong. I somehow paid off my loan but I was still too stressed all the time. I would not sleep. I would just work continuously. At that time, I started thinking, I would rather die.'

Rashami mentioned that several of her colleagues and team members supported her through that period, and yoga also played a significant role in her healing journey.

Rashami Desai's acting projects

Rashami made her acting debut with a cameo appearance in an Assamese film titled - Kanyadaan (2002). She later acted in Ravi Kishan starrer National Award winning Bhojpuri movie - Kab Hoi Gawna Hamar (2003). However, she shot to fame with the television shows - Uttaran (2019-2014) and Dil Se Dil Tak (2017-2018).

Fit and fine: Jasmine Bhasin starts driving again after corneal injury

Actor Jasmine Bhasin. who recently suffered corneal damage due to a mishap with her contact lenses, shared a video of herself happily driving a car.

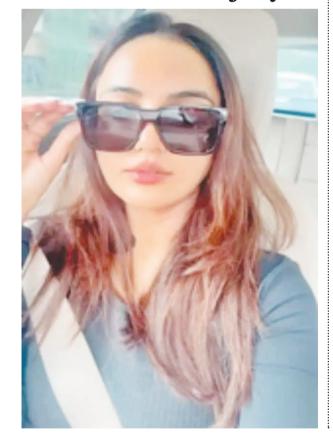
Jasmine posted a selfie video on her Instagram stories.

In the clip, the actress is seen wearing a black T-shirt with no makeup and her hair left open.

Jasmine accessorised the look with black sunglasses and is seen driving a car.

The video also features her removing the sunglasses to reveal her recovered eyes, accompanied by her cheerful smile.

Jasmine has set the tune of the song 'Tu Juliet Jatt Di', sung by Diljit Dosanjh, to the video.



Robert Downey Jr's return to MCU will cost Marvel a fortune: report

Hollywood star Robert Downey Jr's return to Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), albeit in a villainous avatar, will cost Marvel Studios a fortune.

Downey, who kickstarted the money-spinning behemoth that MCU became with his turn as Iron Man, is returning to the franchise, Marvel chief Kevin Feige recently announced at the San Diego Comic-

However, the actor, who wrapped up the story of Iron Man with a perfect ending in 'Avengers: Endgame', will not reprise the character but play the villain Victor Von Doom, or Doctor Doom, in two upcoming 'Avengers'



The upcoming movies, titled 'Avengers: Doomsday' and 'Avengers: Secret Wars', will be

directed by Joe and Anthony Russo, who are also returning to the franchise after 'Avengers: Infinity War' and 'Avengers: Endgame'.

Sources told American news outlet Variety that Marvel is spending USD 80 million or over Rs 669 crore for Anthony and Joe Russo to direct the two new movies.

The studio will spend a "significantly more" amount for Downey to bring alive the villain Doctor Doom in the two tentpoles.

According to the outlet, the Russos' deal does not include back-end compensation, but it does contain performance escalators that kick in at the USD 750 million and USD 1 billion thresholds.

In a departure from the earlier scheme of things, the brothers will also produce the two films

via their AGBO banner. Marvel typically doesn't work with outside producers, preferring to keep the team in house.

As for Downey Jr, whose star power just got a boost with a maiden Oscar trophy for 'Oppenheimer', the studio has agreed to a deal that comes with perks like private jet travel, dedicated security and a whole 'trailer encampment'.

The two 'Avengers' films will begin shooting in London in the second guarter of 2025.

'Avengers: Doomsday' will be released worldwide in May 2026 as part of the MCU's sixth phase, followed by 'Avengers: Secret Wars' in May 2027.

Amitabh Bachchan gives out pointers on why 'movement is crucial for overall well-being'

He will next be seen in the upcoming Tamil action drama 'Vettaiyan' starring Rajinikanth

Megastar Amitabh Bachchan has talked about why movement and gentle activities are "crucial for overall health and well-being".

Big B took to his blog and shared a collection of pictures from the sets of 'Kaun Banega Crorepati'.

In the images, the actor is seen running towards the set, sitting opposite

the hot seat, and posing in a monochrome shot. Amitabh then elabo-

rated, saying, "The body moves... not quite as before... but moves. Movements are an integral part of our living. We are brought here in this Universe to move... move out, move above, move about, and around, but move."

"I sought the pt's of

movement for us likes and are given the directions that pertain to the fact of how movement is the crucible of necessity," added the global head-turner.

Sharing his insights, he wrote, "For an 82-yearold male, maintaining movement is crucial for overall health and wellbeing. Gentle activities like walking, swim-



ming, or tai chi can help enhance mobility, strength, and balance. Stretching exercises improve flexibility, reducing the risk of injury."

The blog also mentioned that light resistance training can preserve muscle mass and bone density.

"It's essential to include regular breaks and avoid overexertion. Social

activities like dancing or group exercises provide both physical and mental benefits. Consulting with a healthcare professional before starting any new exercise regimen is important to ensure safety and to tailor the activities to the individual's health status and physical capabilities.

Talking about his

And so I move."

upcoming slate of work, the actor will next be seen in the upcoming Tamil action drama 'Vettaiyan' starring Rajinikanth.

The film marks Big B's debut in Tamil cinema.

Directed by T J Gnanavel, the film also stars Fahadh Faasil, Rana Daggubati, Manju Warrier, Ritika Singh and Dushara Vijayan.

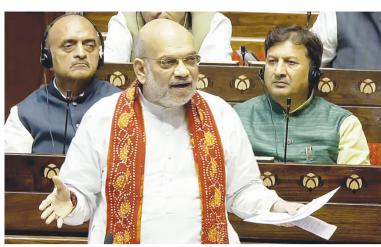
Centre gave advance warning to Kerala on July 23, says Amit Shah on Wayanad landslide

Also, criticises opposition for questioning central government's early warning systems, and its response to the tragedy

NEW DELHI, Jul 31 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said the Kerala Government was warned as early as July 23 regarding a possible natural calamity in Wayanad due to heavy rains and nine NDRF teams were rushed to the state the same day.

However, the Kerala Government did not heed to the early warning and also did not get alerted even by arrival of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) battalions, Shah said in the Rajya Sabha.

Shah assured the House that the Narendra Modi government was standing a like a "rock" with the Kerala government and people of the state in this moment of the tragedy. He also promised all help from the cen-



tral government.

Intervening in the short duration calling attention motion on the Wayanad landslide tragedy in the Upper House, Shah also assured help and support of the Centre to the state and the people to deal with the situa-

He criticised the opposition for questioning the central government's early warning systems, and its response to the tragedy.

Shah said early warning was sent to the state seven days ahead of the July 30 landslide.

Another warning was given on July 24 also.

"Nine NDRF battalions were dispatched on July 23 itself and three more were sent on July 30," Shah said.

He further said several states, including Odisha and Gujarat used the early warnings provided by the Centre to reduce impact of natural calamities like cyclone.

Had the Kerala Government got itself alerted and acted as soon as NDRF teams landed there, losses could have been minimised, the Home Minister said.

Replying to the calling attention motion, Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai informed the House that 133 bodies have been recovered so far and death toll may rise.

Class 3 boy suffers gunshot injury in Bihar school, weapon found in nursery student's bag



PATNA, Jul 31 (Agencies): An eightyear-old boy sustained a gunshot injury during firing inside a school campus in Bihar's Supaul district on Wednesday, said officials, adding that the weapon was carried by a nursery student in his bag.

The incident occurred at a private school under the jurisdiction of the Triveniganj police station in the district

District Superintendent of Police (SP) Shaishav Yadav confirmed to IANS that the incident took place during the assembly session around 9 a.m.

The gun, carried by a five-year-old nursery student in his school bag, caused the incident, said police. The victim, a Class 3 student, sustained an injury to his hand and is currently admitted to a hospital and out of

danger. The police are investigating who used the gun and how did the firing happen.

Following the incident, a large number of parents and residents gathered at the school and created a ruckus both inside and outside the school premises.

"At present, efforts are underway to calm down the agitating parents, with adequate security forces deployed to restore normalcy in the area," SP Yadav said.

He stated, "We are investigating the incident to determine how the child brought the weapon inside the school. It is the initial period of investigation, and we will conduct a thorough investigation to ascertain whether it is a licensed weapon or not. Appropriate action will be taken following the investigation."

The incident has also raised concerns about the school's security measures. The SP mentioned that action will be taken against the school administration as well, indicating that the security lapse will be addressed accordingly.

Gadkari urges FM Sitharaman to withdraw 18 per cent GST on life, medical insurance premiums

NEW DELHI, Jul 31 (Agencies): Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has requested Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to withdraw the 18 per cent goods and services tax (GST) on life and medical insurance premiums.

In his letter to the Finance Minister, Gadkari raised concerns of the Nagpur Division Life Insurance Corporation Employees Union, which had submitted to him a memorandum regarding the issues of the insurance industry.

Referring to the memo, the minister said, "Levying GST on life insurance premiums amounts to levying tax on the uncertainties of life. The Union feels that the person who covers the risk of life's uncertainties to give protection to the family should not be levied tax on the premium to purchase cover against this risk."

Further, he added that the main issue raised by the union is related to the withdrawal of GST on life and medical insurance premiums.



Both life insurance and medical insurance premiums are subject to an 18 per cent GST rate.

He further said, "Similarly, the 18 per cent GST on medical insurance premiums is proving to be a deterrent for the growth of this segment of business which is socially necessary."

"In view of the above, you are requested to consider the suggestion of withdrawal of GST on life and medical insurance premium on priority as it becomes cumbersome for senior citizens as per rules with due verification," he said.

Sonia Gandhi criticizes Modi government over budget, Census delay, national security issues

NEW DELHI, Jul 31 (Agencies): Launching a broadside against the Union Budget presented by the Modi 3.0 government, Rajya Sabha MP and Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi on Wednesday said that instead of taking lessons from the Lok Sabha election results, the government is persisting with the policy of dividing communities and spreading fear and

animosity.
Coming down heavily on the Centre for the inordinate delay in conducting the decadal Census, the former Congress President said that it would prevent the government from having an up-to-date estimate of the population of the country, especially of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

"It is clear that the government has no intention whatsoever to conduct the Census that was last due in 2021. It also means that at least 12 crore of our citizens are denied the benefit of the National Food Security Act of 2013 – now repackaged as PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana," she said.

Addressing the Congress Parliamentary Party meeting, Sonia Gandhi accused the government of changing rules to permit the



bureaucracy to participate in the activities of the RSS.

"We would have hoped that the Modi government would draw the right lessons from their significant decline in the Lok Sabha elections. Instead, they persist with their policy of dividing communities and spreading fear and animosity," she said.

"Fortunately, the Supreme Court intervened at the right time. But this can only be a temporary respite. Look at how the rules have been suddenly changed to permit the bureaucracy to participate in the activities of the RSS," she said adding that though RSS calls itself a cultural organization, the whole world knows that it is BJP's political and ideological base.

The veteran leader also asked party members not to become complacent and overconfident given the upcoming assembly elections in four states. "We must sustain the

momentum and good-will that had been generated for us in the Lok Sabha elections. The 'mahaul' does favor us, but we have to work unitedly with a sense of purpose. I dare say that if we perform well, reflecting the trend that we witnessed in the Lok Sabha elections, national politics will undergo

The Congress leader also tore into the Modi government's failure to address the Manipur issue and the terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir.

transformation.

"There is deeply disturbing news on national security issues. Over the past few weeks, there have been at least eleven terror attacks in the Jammu region alone. There have been similar attacks in the Valley as well. Security personnel and a large number of civilians have lost their lives. This makes a mockery of the claims being made by the Modi government is all in well in J&K," she said.

Gandhi further said that the situation in Manipur shows no sign of improvement. "The PM travels the world over, but steadfastly refuses to go to the state and take the initiative to bring about normalcy," she added..

On the Union Budget, she said that there is widespread disappointment despite efforts of the PM and FM to talk up the Budget and its so-called accomplishments. The Budget has neglected the pressing demands of farmers, and youth, and the allocations in many vital sectors have not done justice to the tasks required to be fulfilled, she stressed.

"The Union government, especially its top leadership, continues to be self-delusional as crores of families across the country are devastated by mounting unemployment and price rise," said Gandhi. Referring to the alleged

price rise," said Gandhi.
Referring to the alleged irregularities in NEET and other NTA-conducted examinations, she said that education has been amongst the worst casualties in the past years. "Instead of taking the nation forward, the entire educational system is being shown up as flawed and manipulated. The exposure of how competitive examinations

have been allowed has destroyed the faith of lakhs of youth and dealt their future a body blow. The professional character and autonomy of organizations like the NCERT, UGC, and even of Constitutional bodies like the UPSC has been all but destroyed," she said.

She also congratulated both the LoPs and the Congress MPs who expressed the party's views forcefully during the debate on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address. "Over the last few days, many of you have very effectively brought out the Budget's many inadequacies," she added.

The meeting also paid condolences to the families bereaved by the horrendous calamity that has overtaken Wayanad. "The scale of devastation has been staggering. Our colleagues in the state have mobilized themselves to provide all assistance. There have been huge floods in other parts of the country as well and we extend our sympathies to the affected families. Apart from natural disasters, our people continue to lose their lives in railway accidents that are caused by mismanagement. Our thoughts are with these victims as well," said Gandhi.

Woman, daughters found dead at home in Madhya Pradesh, cops suspect murder

SAGAR (MP), Jul 31 (Agencies): A 32-year-old woman and her two minor daughters were found dead at their residence in Madhya Pradesh's Sagar city, with the police suspecting it to be a case of murder.

The bodies of the victims were found in a pool of blood at their house located in Nepal Palace area under Civil Line police station limits on Tuesday night, an official said today.

The deceased were identified as Vandana and her daughters Avantika (8) and Anvika (3). "Vandana lived with her husband Vishesh Patel and their two

Rain hits Rajasthan,

rainfall in 24 hours

hours, the meteorological department said.

in eastern Rajasthan.

recorded 32.5 mm rain.

Karauli receives most

JAIPUR, Jul 31 (Agencies): Rain continued to lash

parts of Rajasthan on Wednesday, with Karauli dis-

trict recording the maximum rainfall in the last 24

According to the Meteorological Centre Jaipur, in

the past 24 hours till 8.30 am on Wednesday, light

to moderate rain was recorded in some places in

western Rajasthan and heavy rain in some places

Karauli was the wettest in the state noting 80 mm

rainfall. Gadra Road of Barmer in western Rajasthan

daughters in Nepal Palace area. On Tuesday night, the bodies of Vandana and their one daughter were found lying in the kitchen, while that of the younger daughter in the bedroom," Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) Sanjeev Uikey said.

"Prima facie, it is a case of murder and an FIR has been registered in this connection," he said.

Around 10 teams have been formed to investigate the case, he said.

The deceased woman's husband works in the district hospital, sources said.

UPSC cancels candidature of Puja Khedkar from IAS, debars her from all future selections



NEW DELHI, Jul 31 (Agencies): The UPSC on Wednesday said it has cancelled the provisional candidature of probationary IAS officer Puja Khedkar and debarred her from all future examinations or soloctions.

selections.
"The UPSC has examined the available records carefully and found her guilty of

acting in contravention of the provisions of the CSE-2022 Rules," the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) said in a statement.

It said her provisional candidature for the CSE-2022 (Civil Services Examination-2022) has been "cancelled" and she has also been "debarred permanently" from all future UPSC

examinations or selec-

The commission said a show cause notice (SCN) was issued to Puja Manorama Dilip Khedkar on July 18 for "fraudulently" availing attempts beyond the permissible limit in the examination by "faking" her identity.

She was to submit her response to the SCN by July 25 but she requested for time till August 4 to gather the necessary documents for her response, it said.

The UPSC granted her a "final opportunity" to submit her response by 3:30 pm on July 30 but she "failed to submit her explanation within the prescribed time", the commission said.

Goods train wagon derails in Bengal's New Jalpaiguri, none hurt



KOLKATA, Jul 31 (Agencies): A wagon of a goods train derailed near Rangapani station in West Bengal's New Jalpaiguri Rail Division on Wednesday, a senior official said.

There was no report of any injury or fatality, the North-East Frontier Railway (NFR) official said.

The empty petroleum wagon, which was part of the goods train, was

headed for Rangapani siding when it jumped the tracks at 11:45 am, NFR CPRO Sabyasachi De told agency.

He said there was no disruption in railway traffic movement in the region.

Railway personnel cleared the tracks by promptly hauling the derailed wagon, De said.

The spot is not far from the site where three

coaches of Sealdahbound Kanchanjungha Express had derailed on June 17 as a goods train collided with it, claiming 10 lives.

Meanwhile, reacting to the incident, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said on X that we are very concerned about what is happening!! Another rail accident today, in the same Phansidewa/Rangapani area in North Bengal, where there was a most tragic accident just six weeks back! she said.

On Tuesday, two persons were killed and 22 others injured after 18 coaches of the Howrah-Mumbai Mail derailed in Jharkhand's Seraikela-Kharsawan district.



Top Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh killed in 2 am attack on Iran residence

Hamas, a Palestinian outfit engaged in a war with Israel in Gaza, said an 'Israeli' raid killed Ismail Haniyeh in his residence in Tehran.

TEHRAN, Jul 31 (Agencies): Top Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh was killed after his residence was targeted in Tehran at 2 am on Wednesday, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said in a statement, agency reported. Hamas, a Palestinian outfit engaged in a war with Israel in Gaza, said an "Israeli" raid killed Ismail Haniyeh and one of his bodyguards in his residence in Tehran.

In a statement, Hamas said Haniyeh was killed in "a treacherous Zionist raid on his residence in Tehran".

In the wake of the Hamas leader's killing, an emergency meeting of Iran's Supreme National Security Council is currently underway at Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's residence. Such a meeting only occurs during extraordinary circumstances, US media reported, citing two Iranian officials.

Chief of the IRGC's elite Quds Force chief is also in attendance



On Tuesday, Haniyeh, who led Hamas's political operations from exile in Qatar, attended the inauguration ceremony of Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian. He also met Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Israel said its military was "fully prepared for any scenario", The New York Times reported. "We prefer to resolve hostilities without a wider war," said Daniel Hagari, the Israeli military spokesperson.

Amid the Israel-Gaza war,

Haniyeh acted as a negotiator in the ceasefire talks. Hamas claimed in April that Israeli air-

strikes killed three of Haniyeh's

sons and four of his grandchil-

The military wing of Hamas is led by Yahya Sinwar, believed to be the mastermind of the October 7 attack on Israel that ignited the war in Gaza.

The development comes a day after the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) claimed to have killed Fuad Shukr, a top commander of Lebanese militant group Hezbollah. Israel had claimed Fuad Shukr was behind a drone strike that killed 12 children in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

The 62-year-old was born in a refugee camp near Gaza City. He joined Hamas in the late 1980s and swiftly rose through the ranks to become a close associate of Hamas's founder and spiritual leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin.

In the 1980s and 1990s, Haniyeh served several sentences in Israeli prisons. After Hamas's win in the 2006 legislative election, he became the Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority government. However, it was short-lived as the next year he was dismissed from his position by President Mahmoud Abbas in 2007.

Ten years later, in 2017, he was elected the head of Hamas's political wing. The same year, Haniyeh was named a "specially designated global terrorist" by the United States.

Russian drone attack hits Kyiv, one of largest attacks since war began: Military



KYIV, Jul 31 (Agencies): Russia launched several waves of drones on Kyiv in what was one of the war's largest attacks of its kind targeting Ukraine, the military administration of the city said on Wednesday, keeping the Ukrainian capital under air raid alerts nearly all night.

Ukraine's air defence systems destroyed more than 30 drones by 6:30 a.m. (0330 GMT) on Wednesday in what was also Russia's seventh attack on the city in July, Serhiy Popko, the head of Kyiv's military administration, said.

It was "one of the most massive attacks on Ukraine with attack drones during the entire war," Popko said on the Telegram messaging app.

"At this moment, according to the operational report at this moment, there are no casualties or damage in Kyiv."

The full scale of the attack was not immediately clear. There was no immediate comment from Russia.

Russian state news agencies reported, citing Russian fighters in Ukraine, that the attacks targeted several military airports and military warehouses across Ukraine.

Agency could not independently verify the Russian reports.

Kyiv and most of central and eastern Ukraine were under air raid alerts from 2000 GMT on Tuesday.

Air defence systems were engaged on approaches to Kyiv and in the region surrounding the capital several times during the night, Popko said.

Kyiv's Mayor Vitali Klitschko said on Telegram the attack on the city came from several directions.

Agency witnesses reported hearing blasts several times during the night in what sounded like air defence systems engaged in repelling an air attack.

China condemns 'assassination' of Hamas chief in Iran

BEIJING, Jul 31 (Agencies): China on Wednesday said it condemned the "assassination" of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh in a strike in Tehran, warning it could lead to further instability in the region.

"We are highly concerned about the incident and firmly oppose and condemn the assassination," foreign ministry spokesman Lin Jian said.

"We are deeply concerned that this incident may lead to further instability in the regional situation," he added.

"China has always advocated resolving regional disputes through negotiation and dialogue." he added.

"Gaza should achieve a comprehensive and



permanent ceasefire as soon as possible to avoid further escalation of conflict and confrontation," Lin said.

Hamas said Wednesday that Haniyeh had been killed in an Israeli strike in Iran, where he was attending the inauguration of the country's new president, and vowed the act "will not go unanswered".

China has historically been sympathetic to the Palestinian cause and supportive of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

It has positioned itself as a more neutral actor on the Israel-Palestinian conflict than its rival the United States, advocating for a two-state solution while also maintaining good ties with Israel.

This month, China hosted rival Palestinian factions Hamas and Fatah in Beijing, where they signed an agreement to form a "national unity government" in post-war Gaza.

Australia Launches Life-Saving Peanut Allergy Treatment For Babies

SYDNEY, Jul 31 (Agencies): Australian children with potentially deadly peanut allergies will be offered lifesaving treatment in a nationwide programme touted as a world first.

Eligible babies will receive daily doses of peanut powder for two years to build up their tolerance, said officials announcing the initiative on Wednesday.

Over time, the infants will be given increasing doses in the hope of reducing their sensitivity to peanuts, under the supervision of doctors at 10 paediatric hospitals around the country.

It is the first national peanut allergy treatment



programme offered in hospitals outside of a clinical trial setting, said Kirsten Perrett, head of oral immunotherapy at the National Allergy Centre of Excellence.

At the end of the two years, a food allergy test will determine if the treatment has led to a remission.

"Ultimately we want to change the trajectory of

allergic disease in Australia so that more children can go to school without the risk of a lifethreatening peanut reaction," Perrett said.

Previously, families have been told to ensure their children strictly avoid foods with peanuts.

Australian children have some of the highest rates of food aller-

gies in the world.

Peanut allergies affect three percent of Australian children by the time they are 12 months old, government data shows. Of those, only 20 percent will outgrow their

Of those, only 20 percent will outgrow their allergy by the time they are teenagers.

Nine-month-old Hunter Chatwin, who is among those in the free treatment programme, started developing hives after eating peanut butter.

"We are taking part in the programme to try and improve his chance of being able to safely eat peanut in the future," Hunter's mother Kirsten said.

"Many families are

desperate to protect their children from allergic reactions and anaphylaxis," she said.

"To have this programme available and free at public hospitals is a game-changer."

If successful, the programme will be rolled out more broadly, including in regional and remote areas.

Deaths from peanut allergies are rare in Australia, but almost 20 percent of the population has an allergic disease, data from Australia's leading allergy institute found.

This figure is estimated to grow by 70 percent by 2050, impacting 7.7 million Australians.

Russian military begins 3rd round of drills to train troops in tactical nuclear weapons

MOSCOW, Jul 31 (Agencies): The Russian military on Wednesday began a third round of drills with tactical nuclear weapons, part of the Kremlin's messaging intended to force the West to limit its support for Ukraine.

The Russian Defense Ministry said the drills will feature units of the central and southern military districts armed with Iskander shortrange missiles. They will practice receiving nuclear weapons from storage and deploying them to designated launch areas. The maneuvers will also include air force units that will arm their warplanes with nuclear weapons and perform patrol flights.

The ministry said the drills are intended to maintain troops' readiness for combat missions.

Tactical nuclear weapons include bombs, warheads for shortrange missiles and artillery munitions and are meant for use on a battlefield. They are typically far less powerful than strategic weapons — massive warheads that arm intercontinental ballistic missiles and are intended to obliterate entire cities.

The previous two

The previous two rounds of the maneuvers were held in May and June. The drills in June were conducted jointly with the armed forces of Russia's ally Belarus.

Last year, Russia moved some of its tactical nuclear weapons into neighboring Belarus, which also borders Ukraine and NATO members Poland, Latvia and Lithuania. Belarus' authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko has relied on close ties with Russia and provided his country as a staging ground for sending troops to Ukraine in

February 2022.
Russian President
Vladimir Putin and his
officials have repeatedly reminded the West
about the country's

nuclear might in a bid to discourage NATO allies from ramping up their support for Kyiv.

The Kremlin has described the drills with tactical nuclear weapons as part of Moscow's response to statements by NATO allies encouraging strikes on Russian territory with Western weapons and the possible deployment of Western troops to Ukraine.

Amid recent battlefield gains in Ukraine, Putin has emphasized that Russia doesn't need nuclear weapons to achieve his goals. But he also reaffirmed that they can be used in the case of a threat to Russia's territorial integrity in line with the country's nuclear doctrine.

Russian hawks have urged the Kremlin to change the doctrine to lower the threshold for using nuclear weapons, and Putin said the document could be modified to take into account the evolving global situation.

Sudan's military says its top commander survived drone strike that killed 5

CAIRO, Jul 31 (Agencies): Sudan's military said its top commander, Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan, survived a drone attack on a military graduation ceremony that killed five people in the country's east.

The military said in a statement Wednesday that the attack by two drones took place in Gebeit, a town in eastern Sudan, after the ceremony was concluded. Military chief Burhan, who was attending, was not hurt, according to Lt. Col. Hassan Ibrahim, from the military spokesman's office.

Sudan has been torn by war for more than a year between the military and a powerful paramilitary group, the Rapid Support Forces. With fighting in the capital, Khartoum, the military leadership largely operates out of eastern Sudan near the Red Sea Coast.

The assassination attempt comes nearly a week after Sudan's paramilitary leader said that he plans to attend cease-fire talks in Switzerland next month arranged by the United States and Saudi Arabia.

Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo, head of the Rapid Support Forces fighting Sudan's army, emphasized at the time that the talks would become "a major step" toward peace and stability in Sudan and create a new state based on "justice, equality and federal rule."



Israel not invited to Nagasaki's annual peace ceremony



KREMLIN, Jul 31 (Agencies): The Israeli ambassador to Japan will not be invited to Nagasaki's annual peace ceremony, the city's mayor said Wednesday, adding the decision was taken to avoid unexpected trouble and was not politically motivated.

The city in southern Japan last month invited dozens of countries and territories to the August 9 event on the anniversary of the US nuclear bombing in 1945.

Nagasaki mayor Shiro Suzuki told reporters the decision was "not politically motivated" but based on a desire to "hold the ceremony in a peaceful and sombre atmosphere".

The city had been

holding off inviting ambassador Gilad Cohen due to the "potential risk of contingencies" arising from "various developments worldwide around the present Middle East situation".

Concerns over that risk still persist, Suzuki said, describing Cohen's exclusion as a "very tough decision".

Last month, Suzuki said Nagasaki had sent a letter to the Israeli embassy calling for an "immediate ceasefire".

The ambassador, for his part, called Wednesday's decision "regretable" and said it "sends a wrong message to the world".

"As a close friend and like-minded nation of Japan, Israel has attended this ceremony for many years to honor the victims and their families," he wrote on social media platform X. Israel launched a blis-

tering military offensive

in Gaza last year, following an attack by Palestinian militant group Hamas on the country. The Hamas attack on October 7 resulted in the death of 1,197 people in Israel, most of

them civilians, according to an agency tally based on official Israeli figures.

More than 39,400 Palestinians, mostly civilians, have been killed in

the Gaza Strip since the war broke out, according to data provided by the health ministry of Hamas-run Gaza.

Hiroshima has invited Israel to its ceremony but in its letter called for

a "ceasefire as soon as possible and resolution through dialogue", a city official said.

Around 140,000 people died in Hiroshima and 74,000 in Naga-

Around 140,000 people died in Hiroshima and 74,000 in Nagasaki when the United States dropped atomic bombs on the cities in August 1945, leading to the end of World War II.

Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation Commemorates World Rangers Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation (SGWF) marked World Rangers Day with a heartfelt ceremony, led by Dr. Sonia Verma, the Director of SGWF.

In her speech, Dr. Verma paid homage to the forest rangers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in their commitment to protecting our forests and wildlife.

She particularly remembered the 11 brave officers from the Uttarakhand Forest Department who lost their lives while combating forest fires. To honor their memory, a two-minute moment of silence was observed, recognizing these green unsung heroes, often referred to as the lesser-known khaki. On World Ranger Day, the international ranger community stops to recognise the critical role that the ranger profession plays in main-

If it were not for rangers unwavering commitment and passion for conservation, many species would already be extinct, and our ecosystems in a more degraded and perilous state than they currently are. We, as humans, are increasingly experiencing the ramifications of biodiversity loss and our negative impacts on healthy environmental systems. Rangers are, in many cases, putting their lives at risk so that society can enjoy fresh air,

fresh water, and a healthy planet. World Rangers Day, celebrated annually on July 31st, honors the dedication and courage of rangers worldwide, who are on the front lines of conservation. The day also serves as a tribute to rangers who have lost their lives or suffered injuries in the line of duty. It was established by the International Ranger Federation (IRF) to raise awareness about the vital role of cultural treasures.

This day underscores the challenges faced by rangers, including risks from poaching, illegal logging, and wildlife trafficking, and the need for global support for their work.

K.D. Sharma, Patron of SGWF, shed light on the historical significance of World Rangers Day, emphasizing its role in recognizing the critical contributions of rangers across the globe.

He noted that this day is not just a day of remembrance but also a call to action for increased support and recognition of these frontline conservationists

Sandeep Sharma, another key member of SGWF, highlighted the importance of the day, stating that the foundation is dedicated to supporting green warriors in all aspects of their work.

He emphasized the need for col-

governments, and organizations to ensure the safety and well-being of rangers and the preservation of natural habitats.

"As we commemorate World Rangers Day, we stand with the world's rangers," said Dr. Verma. "Their courage and dedication are crucial to the conservation of our natural heritage. SGWF is committed to joining hands with these green warriors, advocating for better support systems, training and resources to enhance their safety and effectiveness.'

The event served as a poignant reminder of the bravery and dedication of those who protect our natural heritage, often under challenging and dangerous conditions. SGWF remains steadfast in its commitment to partnering with these green warriors, ensuring they receive the recognition and support they deserve.

NSS SMVDU Katra organizes Cleanliness Drive in Sirah Village



Top News Report

KATRA, July 31: NSS volunteers of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra organized a cleanliness drive in Sirah village during the seven days special camp.

The main motive of the drive was to collect single-use plastic waste in the village and to educate villagers about the importance of cleanliness

During the drive around 2.5 km distance was covered. More than 25 NSS volunteers actively participated in the said event and collected around 40 Kg of plastic waste.

NSS student coordinator Sadhvi Sharma coordinated the whole event. NSS coordinator Dr. Rajiv Kumar was also present during the event.

Vice Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar appreciated the efforts of NSS volunteers in organizing

DD&OE JU organizes Fresher's Party for B.Ed Distance Learner's

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: A Frosh Fiesta (fresher's party) was organized for the Distance learners of the B.Ed. programme of Directorate of Distance and Online Education (DD&OE), University of Jammu, under the guidance of Prof Pankaj Kumar Shrivastav Director, DD&OE.

The inauguration ceremony initiated with lighting the lamp by the hands of Dr. Jaspal Singh B Ed Coordinator, Distance and Online Education and all the other resource persons. After that, a cake cutting ceremony was also the part of this event.

The event was lit with dazzling performances from the students that were enjoyed by the audiences including the guests & teachers.

Singing to poetry, Shero-Shayari left the entire crowd be nothing less than mesmerized.

The Participants names were Maninder Sharma (Song and Bhajan), Deepak Kumar (Shyari) Shashi Kumar (Poem) Sayed Mazar Geelani (Shayri).

A tea party was set for all the students. The event was anchored by Anupama Sharma student of BEd. second semester and the whole programme was organised by the organizing committee of students Sharma, Anupama Saneha Sharma, Vishalli. Sahil. Arvind Kumar. Vivek, Seema, Aman-Vishal, Rahul,

Bhavana, Palki,

At the end of the event the Coordinator of B Ed. Dr Jaspal Singh and the senior most member of teaching faculty Prof. C L Shivgotra shared their wisdom words and blessed students for the upcoming second semester exams.

Dr Deep Kumar, Dr Rakesh, Dr Tajinder Kour, Dr Shifali Shrama, Dr Upasna, Dr PK Dhar, Dr VK Sharma, Dr Paramjeet Kour. Dr Sunita, Dr Rupa Mahajan, Meghna, Mukta, Remu Bala, Harvind Kour, Sanjeev Kumar, Ankit Bali and staff of DD&OE were also attended the fresher's

The event was concluded with vote of thanks by Dr Jaspal Singh Warwal.

U-23 J&K UT Wrestling C'ship-2024 from Aug 3

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: Wrestling Association of J&K is organizing U-23 J&K UT Senior Men Freestyle, Greeco Roman and Women Wrestling Championship which is scheduled to held at Jammu University Wrestling Hall on 3rd and 4th August 2024 in collaboration with the Directorate of Sports & Physical Education University of Jammu under the auspices of Wrestling Federation of India, J&K Sports Council and J&K Olympic Association.

The winner of each weight categories will represent J&K in upcoming U-23 National Wrestling Championship at

Rohtak , Haryana from 16th to 18th August 2024.

The Wrestler born in 2001 to 2004 [19 to 23] are eligible to take part and born in year 2005 [18 year] may participate with medical & parental certificate

All the Eligible wrestlers of the J&K UT, both boys and girls, are requested to report at the above mentioned venue at 8:00 AM along with a photocopy of Aadhar card and two passport size photographs.

For any clarification, the aspirants can contact Jai Bharat (8899790423), Sharma Dheeraj (9419685822), Parkash (9797596802) and Ravinder sharma (9149826972).

Anila Mengi installed as President Innerwheel Club Samparak Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: Anila Mengi, wife of Kamal Mengi was installed as President of Innerwheel Club Samparak Jammu in a ceremony held here in Hotel Asia Jammu.

Collar of installation was borne by PDC Dr. Santosh Gupta and District Vice-Chairman Preeti in presence of Past President Reva Raina.

Others who were elected Reva Katyal as Vice-President, Secretary Ravinder Kaur, Treasur-



er Shyama Anand, ISO Sonia Sharma & Editor Seema Sharma.

About 30 members participated prominent amongst them Rtd Principal Rattan Prabha who entertained the audience

with song in her melodious voice.

Rattan Prabha introduced the chief guest alongwith Secretary Ravinder and was widely applauded by those present in the ceremony

DGP J&K sanctions Rs 56 Lakh retirement gift in favour of 56 police personnel

11.19 Crore sanctioned as retirement gift for 1119 Police Personnel this year so far **Top News Report**

SRINAGAR, July 31: In recognition of their dedicated service to the Department, the Director General of Police. J&K, R.R. Swain, has approved a retirement gift of Rs 56 lakh for 56 police personnel who are retiring today after reaching superannuation or opting for voluntary retirement.

The retirement gift, amounting to Rs 1 lakh each, has been sanc-

tioned through PHQ J&K Order No. 2012 of 2024, in faovur of one gazetted officer, 39 non-gazetted officers, 09 lower subor-

dinates and 07 followers. These personnel belong to various units and wings of the department. The sanctioned amount

has been disbursed from the Contributory Police Welfare Fund and it is sanctioned in favour of officers/officials at the time of his/her retirement and serves as a token of

appreciation for his/her services rendered to the department

Notably, during the current year, police headquarters has already sanctioned Rs 11.19 for 1119 police personnel who have retired from their service.

This gesture of appreciation is a testament to the Department's commitment to acknowledging the contributions of its personnel.

ARTO Reasi organises Road Safety Awareness Camp

Top News Report

REASI, July 31: Under the guidance of District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, Team of ARTO Reasi organised a comprehensive road safety awareness camp at Gurukul Public Higher Secondary School

The event aimed to educate students and staff about safe road practices. The camp included informative sessions where participants learned about essential road signages, dos and don'ts on the roads, and the significance of being responsible road users.

Pamphlets containing critical information about road safety were distributed to reinforce the teachings. ARTO, Neeraj Sharma informed that MVD Reasi will organize more awareness camps to ensure that people

are well-informed about road safety measures.

Heritage School workshop fosters compassion and awareness in young minds The event began with interpret canine body

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: Heritage School hosted an insightful workshop on Humane Education organized by Save Animal Value Environment (SAVE) for the students of classes IV to VI on Wednesday.

The workshop, led by Inder Sandhu, Director of PEEDU's People, along with his team—including Devinder Kaur Madaan, Chairperson, Gurvinder Kaur and Hemlata Karki, Members of 'Save Animals Value Environment'-was designed to impart essential lessons in kindness, empathy and respect for all living beings.

a gracious bouquet presentation by the Principal. Akash Pradhan, to the resource persons and our special guest, Sunaina Gupta who is an animal enthusiast, a passionate animal lover and also a part of our Heritage family.

The workshop's core focus was on promoting compassion, addressing bullying and guiding students to make ethical decisions. Topics also included animal welfare, conservation of environment and social justice, aiming to integrate these values in students' daily lives.

Students participated eagerly in interactive activities, learning to

language, understanding rabies prevention and more. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with students expressing their enjoyment and appreciation for the knowledge gained.

The workshop concluded with Principal Akash Pradhan and Vice Principal Rashmi Thakur presenting mementos to the esteemed guests followed by vote of thanks by the Principal who expressed gratitude for their participation and support.

Heritage School continues to champion such educational initiatives fostering a more compassionate and informed generation.

Heavy Military fortifications near China's now**complete Pangong Lake** bridge

that have been under illegal occupation by China for around 60 years now. As you are well aware India has never accepted such illegal occupation."

Beginning in May 2020, Indian and Chinese soldiers had a series of violent skirmishes along the Line of Actual Control in Eastern Ladakh. 20 Indian soldiers were killed in action in the Galwan Valley which lies to the North of the Pangong Lake region being described in this report. China claims four of its soldiers were killed in the fighting though investigative reports have indicated that the true number was closer to 40 dead.

Soldiers from both sides also violently clashed on the North bank of the Pangong Lake though India and China agreed to reduce tensions in the area by creating a demilitarised zone which saw China remove dozens of structures that they had created between "Finger 4" and "Finger 8" - spurs which protrude into the Lake which are used as geographical markers to identify parts of the Northern bank of Pangong.

Customer service calls on hold resulted in 15 bn hours loss for Indians in **2023: Report**

"Indian businesses are at risk of losing two-thirds of their customer base in 2024 due to slow service solutions," said Sumeet Mathur, SVP and Managing Director, ServiceNow India Technology and Business

Structural problems are pushing wait times further with 48 per cent of Indians identifying inefficient internal communication as a major issue for customer service delays, while 47 per cent say customer service staff lack decision-making power.

About 66 per cent of respondents said they would consider switching to another company if their issue is not resolved within three working days.

"Businesses that can't meet that stan-

dard must act, installing Al-powered selfservice options available at the consumers' fingertips," Mathur added. Over half of Indians say their trust in chatbots (55 per cent) and self-help guides (56

per cent) has also increased. The study showed a notable surge in trust towards AI among Indians, with two-thirds (66 per cent) expressing confidence in

GenAl to deliver good customer service. "In an era where customer retention is increasingly challenging, it is time for enterprises to put AI to work and drive growth, improve efficiency, and deliver superior customer experiences in a competitive business landscape," said Mathur.

Close to 60 per cent of Indians would like to see customer service teams improve their speed of resolution while half would like to see a reduction in the time spent on hold, the findings showed.

Ganderbal Court issues

FROM PAGE 1 show-cause notice to **DC** following 'Personal **Attack'**

In a more recent order dated July 23, the court stated that Deputy Commissioner Shyambir retaliated against the judicial directive by targeting Judge Qureshi. The judge accused Shyambir of conspiring with other district officials to fabricate charges against him, including an inquiry into land

owned by the judge. "Out of the steps decided to be taken by the contemnor Deputy Commissioner against the Presiding Officer, one step was to frame the Presiding Officer in any fabri-

cated incident," the court noted. Judge Qureshi elaborated that Shyambir had discovered two kanals of land in Ganderbal owned by him and allegedly misused his official position to investigate this property without any legitimate grounds. A patwari, acting under Shyambir's direction, visited the land multiple times, purportedly to demarcate it as part of a scheme to undermine the judge's credibility.

The court asserted that these actions by Deputy Commissioner Shyambir were intended to "scandalise the Judge who passed a judicial order" and constituted an abuse of power. Such acts, the court argued, are not only contemptuous but also warrant criminal proceedings under the Prevention of Corruption Act for misuse of official position for personal vendettas.

In response to these developments, the court has called for administrative action against Deputy Commissioner Shyambir, recommending his transfer and further

investigation into his conduct. The Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir, Atul Dulloo, has been apprised of the situation and urged to take appropriate measures.

Amarnath Yatra breaks records with 4.71 Lakh devotees in 32 days

17 vehicles carrying 456 pilgrims left for the North Kashmir Baltal base camp. The second escorted convoy of 34 vehicles carrying 1,198 Yatris left for the South Kashmir Nunwan (Pahalgam) base camp", officials

Arrangements of security, community kitchens (Langars), transit and base camps and the ubiquitous presence of security forces all along the highway from Jammu to Kashmir have ensured a safe, smooth and hassle-free Yatra this year.

The most important helping hand to the Yatris is provided by the locals. These locals employ ponies and work as porters for the pilgrims often carrying the weak and infirm devotees on their back up and down the treacherous mountain route on both sides of approach.

The cave shrine houses an ice stalagmite structure that wanes 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 Yatris 4-5 days to reach the shrine. The Baltal-Cave shrine axis is 14 Km long and takes one day for the pilgrims to have 'darshan' and return to the

the pilgrims both at Baltal on the North Kashmir route and at Chandanwari on the South Kashmir route.

Helicopter services are also available for

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

No restrictions for August 15 at Bakshi Stadium. says Div Com

Srinagar on 15th of August in which the Lieutenant Governor, Jammu and Kashmir will host the National Flag.

Kashmir to get 6,000 new transit quarters for **Migrant Employees**

The decision is aimed at creating some allied infrastructure facilities for the transit accommodations which shall facilitate early allotment of quarters to the employees.

The decision shall enable early completion of construction of targeted accommodation for migrant employees by providing additional funds for construction purposes.

Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction shall ensure that allied works related to security arrangements like watch tower, installation of CCTV cameras etc. are taken up to ensure security of the inhabitants.

Swarnkar Sangh Jammu City announces New Working Committee

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: Ajay Verma, President of Swarnkar Sangh Jammu City, announced the appointment of his working team, marking a significant step forward in strengthening the organization's leadership and enhancing its commitment to the community.

The new key appointments include Kunal Kapoor as Senior Vice President, Ankush Nischal as General Secretary, and Sajan Babbar as Additional General Secretary. Pawan Anand will serve as Treasurer. The Vice Presidents appointed are Sunil Bhalla, Pawan Chouhan, Vinod Verma, Rakesh



Jain as Media Secretary.
The Joint Secretaries include Hitesh Anand, Sunil Verma, Mukesh Kohli, and Rakesh Kapoor. Additionally, Hemant Suri, Gorav

Luthra, Sonu Verma, and Arun Thothla will serve as Secretaries. All Presidents and General Secretaries of the adjoining units Talab Tillo, Janipur, Nanak Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, and Nagrota will be members of the Executive Committee. Parveen Babbar, Vinay Talla, Surinder

Verma (Sonu Ji), Rajesh

Nischal, and Inderjeet Verma (Bittu Ji) will serve as Advisors to the team.

The Special Advisory Committee includes senior members such as K.L. Abrol, Parduman Kapoor Ladda, Ashok Nischal, Ramesh Chouhan, Rattan Lal Gondi, Brij Mohan Nischal, Ramesh Suri, Baldev Nischal, Jugal Kishore, Naresh Kapoor, Pawan Talla, Heera Lal, Vijay Gondi, Mahesh Sethi, and Ved Prakash.

Ajay Verma expressed his gratitude to all the appointed members for their commitment and dedication, emphasizing that the collective expertise and experience of this team will drive the Swarnkar Sangh Jammu City towards new heights, fostering growth and development within the community.

Swarnkar Sangh Jammu City is a prominent organization dedicated to the welfare and development of the community, aiming to foster unity and progress through collective efforts and strategic initiatives.

LG addresses Certificate Award Ceremony, congratulates people & artisans on receiving prestigious title

It's great honour for ancient city 'Srinagar' known for its priceless cultural, artistic heritage: Sinha

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, July 31: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday addressed the Certificate Award Ceremony marking the recognition of Srinagar as 'World Craft City' by World Crafts Council (WCC).

Srinagar is the 4th city of India to receive the prestigious title of 'World Craft City'. The Certificate Award Ceremony was attended by World Crafts Council President Sa'ad Hani Al-Qaddumi and other prominent personalities of the Council.

In his address, the Lt Governor congratulated the people, artisans, craftspeople and all stakeholder departments on the momentous occa-

"Truly delighted to see Srinagar being awarded the certificate of 'World Craft City' by World Crafts Council (WCC). It's a great honour for the ancient city known for its priceless cultural and artistic heritage. It will go a long way to preserve and promote J&K's crafts and craftsmanship," he

The Lt Governor appreciated the World Crafts Council for its endeavours to inspire and promote the artistic traditions of the cities across the world.

J&K is proud to have an inclusive cultural ecosystem, which always inspired the weavers and craftspeople. I believe in honouring the Srinagar city, the World Crafts Council has also honored the 5000-year rich Indian civilization which kept alive creative traditions



and always promoted gifted artisans for their ingenuity and craftsmanship, he observed.

"I want to see Jammu and Srinagar becoming the best art cities of India. I want to see both the cities claim the title of best home for the artists and favourite destination for seekers of priceless art," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor highlighted the efforts of the UT Administration to preserve and promote the unique cultural and artistic heritage of Jammu Kashmir and provide sustainable livelihood opportunities to the artisans and craftspeople of J&K.

Jammu Kashmir is known as a Crown Jewel of India not only because of its geographical position but also because of its quest for spiritual wisdom and its ageless Indian cultural assets, which can be witnessed in the infinite variety of creative products, the Lt

He reiterated the commitment of UT Administration to support the artisans in marketing and exports of handicrafts, handloom products and promotion of all craft forms.

Governor observed.

We are giving greater attention to training of young generation of craftspeople so they can be part of this traditional occupation, the Lt Governor said.

He said the UT Administration is also determined to ensure that their creative products are financially attractive and the work is professionally satisfying.

The Lt Governor commended the efforts of Handloom and Handicraft department and the Industries and Commerce department for leading the change in the vital sector of J&K's economy.

"I am sure the recognition of Srinagar now as 'World Craft City' will not only provide a new identity to Srinagar in the global market but craftsmanship will re-establish its position as a prestigious occupation," the Lt Governor said.

Speaking on the occasion, Sa'ad Hani Al-Qaddumi, President World Crafts Council International, congratulated the J&K Government on the recognition of Srinagar as 'World Craft City'. Srinagar has joined the well-deserved ranks amongst the craft cities across the world, he said.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor released a publication depicting the 60-years journey of World Crafts Council.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department; Dr Hina Shafi Bhat, Vice Chairperson, J&K KVIB; Heads of Departments, members of the World Crafts Council, and artisans and craftspeople in large number were present.

GDC Ramgarh organizes Plantation Drive under theme 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam'

Top News Report

RAMGARH, July 31: In a concerted effort towards environmental conservation and sustainable development, the NSS Unit 'Prabha' and the Department of Environment Sciences of Government Degree College (GDC), Ramgarh jointly organized a plantation drive under the theme 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' in collaboration with Social Forestry Department Jammu (Vijaypur Range).

The programme was conducted under overall guidance and patronage of the principal of the college, Prof. (Dr.) Geetaniali Andotra.

She underscored the critical role of trees in maintaining ecological balance and sustainable development.

development. She emphasized that such initiatives not only contribute to enhancing green cover but also play a vital role in mitigating

climate change impacts.
The whole event was coordinated by Nodal Officer Prof. Brham Dutt (NSS) and Ashok Kumar,

The event was graced by the presence of Keshav Sharma, DDC Chairperson, district Samba, who attended as the Chief Guest. Amreek Singh, forest officer and other officials from forest department were also present.

Dr. Shivali Panjgotra, extended a warm welcome to all attendees, emphasizing the significance of collective action in promoting environmental awareness.

During the event, some of the students of the college also shared their

perspectives on environmental conservation, highlighting their role in taking proactive steps towards a greener future.

Keshav Sharma delivered an impassioned speech on the theme "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam," stressing the interconnectedness between trees and environmental sustainability.

His address resonated with the audience, urging them to take active steps towards protecting our natural resources.

Further, a tree-planting session commenced with enthusiastic participation from faculty members, students, and volunteers.
Together, they planted a

Together, they planted a variety of indigenous saplings, symbolizing their commitment to environmental conservation and biodiversity enhancement.

Shubham Verma's brother should be given job in police on compassionate grounds: Mahant Rohit

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: Mahant Rohit Shastri, the head of Shri Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, met Anand Jain (IPS), Additional DGP of Jammu and Kashmir Police, and submitted a memorandum.

He mentioned that a few days ago, Shubham Verma, son of late Subhash Chandra Verma, resident of Naradni, passed away.

Shubham was the sole breadwinner of the family. He used to support his family by doing electrical fitting work.

The economic condi-



tion of Shubham's family is extremely poor. It is requested that Sahil Verma, the younger brother of late Shubham Verma, be given a job in the police on compassionate grounds so that the family can sustain themselves.

Health awareness seminar held at Jammu Club

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: A yoga and health awareness seminar titled "Feel 18 at 80" was held at the Jammu Club, bringing together the intellectual section of society from Jammu. The event was organized by Dr. Richa Arora, Radiologist & Zonal Medical Officer, Gangyal, and Dr. Pawan Arora, Surgeon.

Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner. State Chairman of the Indian Yoga Association, and President of Vichar Kranti Manch International, explained the importance of incorporating yoga into daily life. He emphasized that yoga is a way of life and can help individuals make decisions with clarity, focus, and awareness. Stress, a common issue in modern life, can be allevi-



ated through yoga, which promotes calmness and peace by opening blockages at the mind, body, breath, and emotional levels. This practice helps ensure that the body is not constantly in a state of stress, allowing for rejuvenation, rest, and growth.

Dr. Jain also shared wellness tips, including a simple remedy for pain and stiffness using cumin, oregano, fennel, and car-

damom in an 8:4:2:1 ratio. He advised consuming one spoon of this mixture with water every night to alleviate old bone pain. He also recommended replacing biscuits with roasted peanuts for a healthier snack option. Additionally, he provided anti-aging tips, highlighting five superfoods: amla (gooseberry), curd, peanuts, desi ghee, and

breathing exercises, avoiding chilled water, and mindful drinking habits were also advised to maintain vitality.

The seminar was attended by several dignitaries, including Prof. Ram Bahadur Shukla, HOD Sanskrit Department, Jammu University; Prof. Pritam Chand Shastri, Former Principal, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan; Dr. Bharat Bhushan

Sharma, Sanchalak Rashtriya Bhasha Prachar Samiti & Regional Secretary Bharat Vikas Parishad: Padma Shri Former Director, Radio Kashmir Jammu; Lakshmi Datt Shastri, Retired Principal, School Education; Ruby Sharma, President VKWS; Bharat Bhushan Gupta, Vice President, Vasudev Kutumbkam Welfare Society; and Ramnika Jalali, Former HOD Sanskrit Department, Jammu University.

The 92nd birthday of Dr. Ram Pratap, a Sanskrit scholar and Former HOD Sanskrit Department, Jammu University, was also celebrated with enthusiasm. Dr. Jain presented a poetic life sketch of Dr. Ram Pratap, adding a special touch to the celebration. The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Richa Arora.

L&E Deptt conducts awareness programmes on Self-Employment initiatives & e-Shram Registrations at Rajgarh

Top News Report

RAMBAN, July 31: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary, an awareness program regarding various Self Employment Schemes under Mission Youth J&K and e-Shram Registration was conducted on Wednesday at BDO office Rajgarh.

The program was conducted in coordination with the Rural Development Department.

The event aimed at generating mass awareness about the self employment schemes of Mission Youth among the unemployed Youth of the block and benefits of e-Shram Registration among the labourers.

At the beginning of the programme, Amit Kumar Assistant Labour Commissioner having additional charge of Assistant Director Employment Ramban briefed about the schemes of Mission youth like MUMKIN, Tejaswini and Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiatives.

He elaborated the eligi-

He elaborated the eligibility conditions, benefits and procedure of apply-

ing under the schemes. He further requested the youth to think innovatively and bring out innovative ideas to set up their own business models and units and this department is ready to provide the required financial and other kind of support.

He further assured that such camps shall be held on a monthly basis in each Block. Nearly 70 people participated in the event and about 15 young people showed their willingness to apply under these schemes.

Block Development
Officer Rajgarh Ashfaq
Ahmed, Naib Tehsildar
Rajgarh and representatives of Agriculture
Department were also
present in the event.

The camp was also attended by various labourers/ construction workers, to whom ALC Ramban gave detailed information about welfare schemes being provided by the the JKBOCWWB and benefits of e-Shram Registration.

He briefed the new rates of the education assistance to be provided to the wards of the registered construction workers applicable from this financial year 2024-25. He further urges e-Shram

registrants who don't have ration cards to approach the concerned TSO office to get themselves registered for obtaining the Ration Cards.

BDO Rajgarh also encouraged the youth and labourers to cooperate with the labour and employment department and take the benefits of the schemes being implemented by these departments. He assured that further support shall be provided to the Labour and employment department for conducting such

camps in Block rajgarh.
At the end, Young Professional Sh. Lovepreet offered a vote of thanks to the Officers and participants present in the

camp.

Officials of the Labour and employment department went out in the market places of Rajgarh and visited Local Bank branches, CSC centres and awared the people about the schemes and also distributed the information pamphlets of e-Shram and Mission youth Schemes.

Farmers delegation meets DC Reasi

corrections are made on

Top News Report

REASI, July 31: A delegation of farmers, led by District President Sohan Lal Sharma, on Wednesday met with Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, to present various demands and address the issues faced by the people in their areas.

The delegation highlighted several key concerns, including the poor condition of water channels (Kuhls) in the district. They also stressed the urgent need to issue land record pass books to farmers, which has been delayed due to incomplete land settlements.

They emphasized the importance of conducting Girdawri at the field level, ensuring necessary

the spot. Many houses constructed on private land are not reflected in the Girdawri records, and this needs to be rectified. A significant demand

from the farmers is the organization of awareness camps at every tehsil by the Revenue Department to educate them about new and changing land laws. Additionally, they requested the construction of a Kissan Ghar at the district headquarters in Reasi.

The delegation called for the restoration of ownership rights to farmers who have been evicted from state-declared lands, taking into consideration existing land laws. They also urged the establishment of a proper

mechanism for acquiring land from farmers to resolve ongoing disputes.
Other demands includ-

papaya. Regular deep

Other demands included the revision and regularization of rent for land under Army use in Reasi, construction of small check dams under MGN-REGA scheme, reorganization and strengthening of Cooperative Societies in the district and construction of Passenger Shed at Serward/Hut.

The Deputy Commissioner listened attentively to the farmers' grievances and assured them that their demands would be given due consideration. He emphasized the administration's commitment to the welfare of farmers and promised to take immediate steps to address the issues

Vishali brings laurels to GDC Marh

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: Government Degree College, Marh organised a felicitation function in the College to honour College Student Vishali D/O Amit Kumar and Babli, who scored third position in B. Sc, University of Jammu external examination 2024 by securing 84.45% marks. Principal of the College, Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul welcomed the student and her family and appreciated the hardwork of Vishali bringing laurels to the family, college and faculty members namely Dr. Ram Dayal (Mathematics), Prof Asha Kumari (Geography), Prof Anita Kumari (English), Dr. Ruchika (English) and Dr. Brij Bir Singh Jaswal (Physics).

Vishali had participated in National Mathematics Day speech competition, Dr. C.V. Raman Anniversary Physics Competition, fabricated two models on Science Day project, poster making competition in University of Jammu under Science Day week long programme "Vigyan Sarvatra Pujyae". One day Students conference in University of Jammu by Department of Mathematics (Alka Memorial Competition) and Science Quiz organised at Government Degree College Marh.

ised at Government Degree College Marh. The contributions of Vishali improved the Academic spirit of competitions as being inspiration for other students. Principal Prof Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul presented a memento to Vishali and announced a cash prize in her favour. Presently she has joined M.Sc. Physics at University of Jammu and the College has promised her to help her in all respects to reach her aim in life of becoming a Professor.

Chairman DLSA Samba chairs Monitoring & Mentoring Committee meeting

Top News Report

SAMBA, July 31: Under the aegis of NALSA and as per the Action Plan issued by the J&K Legal Services Authority for the month of July, 2024 and also under the guidance of Adnan Sayeed, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority Samba (also Pr. Distt

& Sessions Judge), Mentoring & Monitoring Committee meeting held on Wednesday at ADR Centre Samba for close Monitoring of the Court based Legal Services rendered and the progress of the cases in Legal Aided Matters and to guide and advise the Panel Lawyers.

The meeting was

chaired by Chairman DLSA Samba, whereas Secretary DLSA Samba and Senior Advocate, Vijay Gupta joined the meeting as members of the Monitoring and Mentoring Committee. The meeting was attended by officers of LADCs Samba and almost all the Panel Lawyers of DLSA Samba.

'Golden Arms' of Surya, Rinku headline India's Super Over win, T201 series sweep

Shubman Gill (39 off 37 balls) and Riyan Parag (26 off 18 balls) add 54 runs for the sixth wicket after India were left tottering at 48 for 5 at one stage

PALLEKELE (SRI LANKA), Jul 31 (Agencies): Skipper Suryakumar Yadav and Rinku Singh turned out to be 'men with golden arm' as Sri Lanka's saga of inexplicable collapses continued in a low-scoring thriller as India won the third T20I in Super Over to complete a 3-0 series whitewash, which didn't look possible in the 38 overs.

Chasing a target of 138 on a rank turner, Sri Lanka were cruising along at 110 for 1 in 15.1 over before they once again lost their way -- third time in four days to be tied at 137 for 8.

In the latest instance, the hosts lost seven wickets for 27 runs in a space of 4.5 overs.

Having miraculously lost their way in the regulation game, the Indians were way more buoyed in the Super Over where Washington Sundar got both wickets giving away only two runs and then the captain fittingly completed the proceedings with a first ball sweep shot.

No amount of credit is enough for the new Indian leader, who came into bowl in the 20th over with six runs to defend and got two wickets in his first two balls.

This was after Rinku, another part-timer, rolled his arm over for the first time in a T20I to bag a couple of wickets, including that of Kusal Perera (46) when all Lanka needed was 9 runs in 12 balls.



The 19th over cost India only three runs and suddenly the match that looked all but over after Khaleel Ahmed's profligate 18th over with six wides came into life.

But when Kusal Mendis (43), Pathum Nissanka (26) and Perera (46) were in cruise control mode with stands of 58 and 52 for the first and second wicket stands, the story looked different

However, just like winning, losing is also a habit and the Islanders have caught that bad

As far as Surya is concerned, in his first series as the skipper, he could do no wrong and also was the reason behind head coach Gautam Gambhir's wide grin when Rinku was brought in the 19th over and removed

Earlier, Lankan spinners caught Indian batters napping on a track that offered big turn and variable bounce, but the visitors did manage 137 for 9 which seemed decent on a pitch that was not conducive for slambang approach.

While Matheesha Pathirana, the premier slinger couldn't bowl due to a shoulder injury sustained while fielding, Sri Lanka skipper Charith Asalanka used their four-pronged spin attack to good effect choking the runflow and also getting wickets at regular intervals.

Shubman Gill (39 off 37 balls) and Riyan Parag (26 off 18 balls) added 54 runs for the sixth wicket after India were left tottering at 48 for 5 at one stage, but most of them would put hand

on their hearts while admitting that the shot-selection left a lot to be desired.

Sanju Samson scored his second duck in successive matches and the manner of his dismissal would certainly bother

With Rishabh Pant rested, Samson got yet another opportunity but a desperate slog off debutant seamer Chamindu Wickramasinghe (1/17 in 4 overs) saw him being holed out in the deep cover.

Rinku Singh (1) after a dream first season is going through a rough patch and a moment of indiscretion brought about his downfall as the left-hander didn't reach to the pitch of the length bowl while going for a big hit.

Suryakumar's staple shot behind the square found a fielder and Shivam Dube (13) mostly couldn't read the deliveries that turned away from him. Maheesh Theekshana (3/28) was the standout bowler for Lanka.

In the midst of this, Gill curbed his natural attacking instincts while Parag showed glimpses of his batting talent as they complemented each other for a while.

Gill's inside out lofted boundary over covers and Riyan's successive maximums off Wanindu Hasaranga were the highlights of Indian batting before both fell while attempting glory shots.

Rising & shining

After second Olympics medal, Manu says there's a long way to go

CHATEAUROUX, Jul 31 (Agencies): Success has gone to Manu Bhaker's heart — she's more serene than ever before.

"Shooting is a sport where your heart races very fast, you got to control that," said Manu today after winning her second medal at the Paris Olympics.

Manu, indeed, has managed to control her heart. Sports shooting needs you to do that — shooting needs you to have ice coursing through the veins rather than hot blood. Sudden emotion, a surge in the flow of blood can cause a tremor in the finger that pulls the trigger.

Manu's heart is calm and serene. No longer does she have the desire to impose her will on others — she doesn't try to crush your hand any more, as she was wont to do as a 16-year-old. She doesn't talk about her adeptness at karate and calligraphy, boxing and skating, lawn tennis and cricket.

At 22, Manu Bhaker is all grown up. She doesn't have the teenager's need to prove she's a high-value person — a lesson some don't learn in a lifetime. Manu's wisdom shone again today when she spoke about winning her second Olympics medal in three days. "I can't claim this medal for myself, for the entire country has been supporting me," she said. "People made me able to win the medal."

She was asked if she can be called the 'female icon of Indian shooting', a counterpart to Abhinav Bindra. "I don't know sir! Can you tell me that?" she retorted. Told that she was no less than Bindra, Manu said: "If you say so, sir! I can't say that. I can't say so myself. If people call me that, I'm grateful that they do." There's a long way to go, she

said, and the journey must continue. "I'll keep working hard, win or lose," Manu said. "My journey will continue, there is no stopping me."

Manu's wisdom comes from suffering; at 22, she's seen greater, more intense highs and lows than a commoner experiences in a lifetime. At 16, Manu became a Commonwealth Games gold winner in the 10m air pistol event; she became a junior world champion and Youth Olympics gold medallist in 10m individual air pistol and a silver medallist in the mixed team 10m air pistol events. Manu, possessing a dazzling smile and equally dazzling medals, seemed to have the world at her feet.

Then came the heartbreak at Tokyo 2020 — her gun malfunctioned and her performance was dismal as she failed to finish among even the top-10 in the women's individual 10m and 25m air pistol events. She lost her place in the national team.

Young shooters rise spectacularly, but some fade away; the young are intrepid and carefree and shoot without fear, without the tremor of the heart. Success, expectations make them fearful. Manu was in danger of falling by the wayside, but she fought hard — she won team medals in the mixed team category at the World Championships in 2022 and 2023, and an individual 25m silver this year.

She was fighting back, and she was helped by the words she believes in, but which she can't even read herself — a tattoo at the back of her neck that says 'Still I Rise'. These words, from Maya Angelou's poem 'And Still I Rise', kept her going.

Only 22, Manu says she's determined to rise and shine and keep on going.

"Rahul Dravid Slept In Economy Section": Details Of Barbados-Delhi T20 WC Flight Out

NEW DELHI, Jul 31 (Agencies): It's been a month since India lifted the T20 World Cup 2024 title, beating South Africa in the final. The result helped Indians ease the pain caused by repeated failures in ICC events over more than a decade. After India won the title, their return home was delayed by a few days due to a hurricane in Barbados. When India finally boarded a flight, it became one of the most tracked in history. The 16-hour-long flight, however, didn't just have members of the Indian team but also some journalists were stuck in the island nation.

Now, some details from India's return flight have emerged, suggesting that no player slept for more than 6 hours on the flight. In fact, in desperate need of some sleep, head coach Rahul Dravid had to sleep in the economy section.

"On this flight, Barbados to Delhi, I think hardly anyone slept for more than six hours. That would have been the maximum. At no point was anyone quiet. Everyone was mingling around

Players came to meet the members of the press and few others. Star Sports engineers were also part of the flight because theirs was cancelled and they were also accommodated. But there was a lot of interaction. Rohit Sharma came several times. I believe at one moment, Rahul Dravid came up to the economy section to figure out if there was a 4-seater because he wanted to sleep. He came there from the business class and slept there for some time," a producer said,

as per Hindustan Times.
The report also suggested that Rohit, being the notorious character that he is, was scolding someone jokingly during the flight.

"I remember I was sleeping and I could suddenly hear Rohit scolding somebody. I saw and he was standing right there. But Rohit, in his style was scolding jokingly. After that, Hardik came, Rishabh came and they were all having discussions with the media. So obviously, there was a lot of chatter."

Paris Olympics: India's Swapnil qualifies for 50m rifle 3 positions event final

PARIS, Jul 31 (Agencies): India's Swapnil Kusale finished 7th in the men's 50 m rifle 3 positions to make it to the final medal round as compatriot Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar finished 11th at the Paris Olympics 2024 on July 31, Wednesday. Swapnil looked to be the most consistent of both men and scored 198 points in the Kneeling round, 197 in the Prone round and 195 in the standing round to finish 7th. He had a total of 590 points and 38 inner 10s.

With this, Swapnil became the 5th shooter to qualify for a final in the Paris Olympics 2024 after Manu Bhaker, Arjun Babuta, Sarabjot Singh and Ramita Jindal. Yukun Liu of China finished first in the round and also set an Qlympic qualification record as he scored 594 points and had 38 inner 10s.

How the action unfolded It was Swapnil who had started the brightest of both shooters in the kneeling round as he was



able to get off to a flyer and got 3 straight 10s in the first series. A 9 would break the streak but started another one as he finished the series with 6 straight 10s.

He would hit 99 in the second series as well to finish 5th in the standings after the kneeling round was done. Aishwary didn't have a great first series in the kneeling round as he had a couple of 9s and scored 98 points. The second series gave him 99 points but he finished outside top 10 as the competition was getting tough.

In the Prone round, the roles was reversed as Aishwary showed his skill and started with a perfect 100. The second series was almost perfect as the 8th shot was a 9. Swapnil had 2 9s in his first series of the Prone round and the second one yielded 99 points. But he ended up in the 10th spot as we headed into the Standing round. Aishwary

was in 6th, but slipped out to 8th on inner 10s.

Aishwary started his standing round first series with a 10 while Swapnil hit a 9. Aishwary, however, hit 2 9s to slip out of the top 8, while Swapnil moved in as he hit 7 straight 10s and move into 8th. Aishwary continued to struggle as he hit a 3rd 9 on the trot.

Swapnil, however, fell out of the top 8 as he his first series ended with a 9, giving him 98 points. He would start the second series with a bang and hit 4 10s as he moved into the top 5 as Aishwary continued to slip down.

However, 3 straight 9s would force Swapnil out of the top 10. He finishes his final series with 3 10s. Aishwary ended his final series with 193 points to his name and was left depending on other results. In the end Swapnil did enough to make it to the final, which will be played on August 1.

SL vs IND: Virat Kohli irked after fans in Sri Lanka call him 'chokli' during training

COLOMBO, Jul 31 (Agencies): Batting superstar Virat Kohli had to deal with trolls during his first training session in Colombo ahead of a three-match ODI series against Sri Lanka. Kohli was seen doing shadow practice in the dressing room with his teammates when chants of 'Chokli, Chokli' were heard from the background.

The T20 World Cup champion quickly turned his head toward the chant and looked seemingly unhappy with the chants.

Agency was not able to verify the authenticity of the video and the chants in the video that was circulating on social media. 'Chokli' is a derogatory term that trolls on social



media have used to target the batter whenever he suffers a rare failure with the bat. The term is a mix of Virat Kohli and 'Choker'.

Virat Kohli is in Sri Lanka for the threematch ODI series, starting August 2. Kohli and Rohit Sharma were included in the 15-man squad for the ODI series, which is the first assignment for head coach Gautam Gambhir in the format. Kohli and Rohit will look to combine well with the new head coach as India begin their preparation for the Champions Trophy.

Virat Kohli silenced his naysayers in the T20 World Cup in the USA and the West Indies, hitting a match-winning 76 off 59 against South

Africa in the big final. On a day when India's big guns, including Rohit Sharma, Rishabh Pant and Suryakumar Yadav failed to get going, Kohli stepped up and shone on the biggest of all stages, helping India post 176, which turned out to be a winning total. Virat Kohli won the Player of the Match award in the final as India ended their 11-year-long wait for an ICC trophy in men's cricket.

India are heading into the ODI series on the back of a 3-0 win in the T20I series. Suryakumar Yadav and Gautam Gambhir's combination tasted success in its first assignment as India took a lot of positives with a young team.

Paris Olympics: PV Sindhu storms into pre-quarters after hammering Kristan Kuuba

PARIS, Jul 31 (Agencies): Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu kept her hopes of a third Olympic medal alive on Wednesday. Sindhu broke no sweat as she stormed into the Round of 16 of Women's Singles badminton at the Paris 2024 Olympics on Wednesday, July 31. Sindhu, seeded 10th at the Paris Olympics, delivered a clinical performance against 73rdranked Kristin Kuuba of Estonia in her final Group M match.

Sindhu took just over 30 minutes to defeat Kuuba 21-5, 21-10 on Court 1 at La Chapelle Arena. She topped the three-woman Group M with 4 points from 2 matches, remaining unbeaten in the group stage. Sindhu began her campaign with a



comfortable straightgame victory over Abdul Razzaq Fathima on Sunday and has not dropped a game so far.

Sindhu started strong in her match against Kuuba, winning the first three points and quickly establishing an early lead. She extended her advantage to six points with a net shot followed by a deceptive return that left Kuuba unable to respond. Despite

a few points for the Estonian, Sindhu maintained control. Kuuba tried an awkward drive shot but failed to keep it in bounds, conceding another point. Sindhu briefly lost a point due to a delayed return but soon regained her momentum with a crosscourt drive, securing a 13-point lead. Sindhu continued to dominate, extending the score to

18-3 before a long return

allowed Kuuba a rare point. Ultimately, Sindhu reached the game point and comfortably won the first game with a commanding score of 21-5.

Sindhu aimed to con-

serve energy for the upcoming knockout stage by wrapping up the match quickly. Despite a stronger showing from Kuuba, who leveled the score at 2-2, Sindhu's powerful smashes and consistent play saw her take the lead. Kuuba struggled to match Sindhu's pace, committing errors and losing crucial points. Sindhu's aggressive play, including a rapid smash and precise drop shots, secured her a commanding 15-6 lead. Ultimately, Sindhu's dominance on the court sealed her win, as she took the match in straight games.

AAI Women Welfare Committee hosts plantation drive at Chani Himmat

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: The AAI Women Welfare Committee, Kalyanmaee. conducted a plantation drive at ChanniHimat, Jammu.

The event, aptly named "Maa Ke Naam Ek Paed," was organized to promote environmental awareness and foster community involvement

During the drive, members of the Kalyaanmayee committee planted various trees and greenery in the area. This initiative not only aims to enhance local green spaces but also contributes significantly to environmental



conservation. Such activities are crucial in mitigating the effects of climate change and ensuring a healthier, greener environment for future generations.

The drive saw enthusiastic participation from community members and AAI staff, all united in their commitment to creating a sustainable environment. By planting trees, the

participants contributed

footprint, improving air quality, and enhancing the overall aesthetic of the area. S. K. Garg, Airport

to reducing the carbon

Director, expressed his appreciation for the initiative, stating, "We are immensely proud of the efforts put in by the AAI Women Welfare Committee, Kalyaanmayee in organizing this plantation drive. It is heartening to see such dedication towards environmental conservation. Initiatives like these not only help in greening our surroundings but also inspire others to take up similar

NSF observes 84th Death anniversary of Udham Singh

Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: National Secular Forum (NSF) paid tributes to Saheed Udham Singh on his 84th Death Anniversary at University Campus. Amid slogans Udham Singh Zindabad, Inqulaab Zindabad. Bharat Mata ki jai and garlanded the portraits of the son of soil.

Ankush Abrol Provincial Joint Secretary, JKNC was the Chief Guest and Dr Vikas Sharma, Secretary Central Zone and Coordinator Jammu Distt (Urban), J&K National Conference presided over the function. Dr Sukhdev Singh State President NSF was the guest of honour and Vikshay Vashist State Secretary NSF

was the Special guest. Speaking on the occasion, Ankush Abrol appreciated the efforts of NSF members to come forward and organize these func-

He also said that the right tribute to Udham Singh would be to launch the struggle for restoration of full status of Jammu and Kashmir State.

He maintained that the fight for restoration of statehood to J&K shall be the foremost agenda of the party. "People of J&K have suffered a lot during the past five years since the abolition of statehood.

On this occasion, Zonal Secretary JKNC Dr Vikas Sharma threw light on the life and supreme sacrifices of "Udham Singh".



Sharma said that the real tributes to the martyrs would be eradicating evils prevailing in the society like drug addiction. He exhorted the youth to refrain from drugs and intoxicants.

Dr Vikas JKNC also said that we all should take oath not to sit silent and continue our endeavor to regain Jammu and Kashmir State.

He further said that J&K suffered immensely due to misadventures of the Centre. Post abrogation of statehood people here were suffering due to rising unemployment, inflation and discrimination.

He mentioned that during the Jenab Omar Abdullah led NC government, jobs were provided to a large number of youth, RTI Act was enacted to eradicate corruption and several other revolutionary steps were taken to push J&K on the path of development.

Dr Sharma urged the youth to come together on a single platform to push for this demand. NC would leave no stone unturned to achieve statehood for

Dr Sukhdev State President NSF, also spoke on the occasion and threw light on the life of martyr Udham Singh was born 'Sher Singh', on 26 December 1899. Udham Singh became involved in revolutionary politics and was deeply influenced by Bhagat Singh and his revolutionary group. Udham Singh was hanged to his death on July 31, 1940.

Vikshay Vashist State Secretary NSF, also spoke on the occasion.

Roshan Sharma District President delivered the welcome address: Abhishek Uppal District Chairman delivered the vote of thanks.

Among those who were present on the occasion included, Vinod Kumar, Mohd Umer Farooq President University Unit, Vineet Gupta Chairman University Unit, Umar Charak, Ishtyaq Ahmed, Aditya Sharma, Sumit Manhas and others.

GDC R S Pura launches college beautification drive

Top News Report

R S PURA, July 31: Provision of conducive teaching and learning environment is the need of present era for the successful uplifting of educational activities in the campus. Beautification of the campus has positive impact in enhancing students' learning

in the college campus today on 31.07.24 by cleaning and maintaining paths and parks. seating chairs, towering trees and softy grass. Though this campus is surrounded with lush green scenic beauty and reflects a picture of daffodil blossoming in the vicinity. This sense of

Campus Beautification Cell, often referred to as CBC, is responsible for enhancing the aesthetics and overall appeal of a college campus which plays a vital role in creating a positive and attractive environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

The drive was orga-



and in which faculty and students can work and study comfortably. This helps students in developing their interest in seeking quality education too. Keeping this in mind, NSS unit of the college in collaboration with the beautification committee launched siderably contributes into students' critical thinking, personality maintenance

and love for nature. The event was organized under the able guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour, Principal of the College who was also instrumental in orga-

nizing the drive.

Angral, the NSS PO and Convener beautification committee and Prof. Shifali Abrol, co-convener beautification committee and coordinated by Dr. Hari Singh and Dr. Sunil Kumar, members of NSS unit and near about 30 NSS Volunteers participated in the drive with

Flash floods cause significant damage in Lamayuru and Lingshed villages in Leh



Top News Report

LEH, July 31: In an unfortunate incident last night due to heavy rainfall, massive flash floods led at Lamayuru and Lingshed villages area causing damage to public property, private property and National Highway.

Under the direction of Chairman/CEC, Tashi Gyalson, officers of District Administration, Leh immediately activated respondent team, provided immediate relief and restoration. Additionally, CEC has ordered the urgent restoration of the Lamayuru road and dispatched a team to assess the situation in Lamayuru

Similarly, on the direction of CEC, an assessto the damaged area of Lingshed village headed by SDM, Tehsildar and all the sub divisional officers for the restoration of affected area.

All subdivisional officers, including those from Nubra, Changthang, Khaltse, and Leh subdivisions, have been instructed to remain on

CEC Tashi Gyalson assured all the flood victims of his support and also instructed all the sub divisional officers and officials to assess the damage caused by the recent flash floods in all the affected villages and ensure timely restoration and provision of relief materials to the flood victims including due compensation mea-

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Rich Harvest School hosts Sahodaya **Inter-school Painting Competition**



Top News Report

JAMMU, July 31: RHS Bari Brahmana had the pleasure to host Colours of Hope-an Interschool Painting Competitionunder the aegis of Sahodaya Schools Complex on 31st July 2024.

Budding Artists from more than 35 CBSE Schools of repute poured their colourful imagination on canvas making the judges job a tough one.

The jury comprised of renowned Artists of J&k-K K Gandhi, Mahesh Kumar Sharma and Vikas Dogra.

The Chief Guest Th Gulchain Singh Charak-Former Minister R&B and higher education, Gambhir Dev Singh Charak-Managing Director of the School, Ruchi Charak-

Director, Dr Vikesh Kour--President Sahodaya Schools Complex and the Esteemed Jury were accorded a warm welcome by the Head of the Institute Anita Bhatia.

The illustrious guests, participants and guest faculty members were entertained by the RHS Scholars with glittering song & dance performances during the Prize Distribution Ceremony. Dr. Vikesh Kour

expressed joy at the mass participation while congratulating RHS for organizing an event of such magnitude.

The Chief Guest congratulated the young Artists and expressed joy at the amazing talent displayed by the participants. The Managing Director

of the School encour-

aged the young Artists to be passionate about the Visual Arts and make it part of their growing years. distinguished The

guests gave away the prizes to the proud winners: 1st prize was bagged by Maliha Fatima of IDPS. 2nd Prize went to Anuva Sharma of Heritage School, 3rd prize was won by Samaksh Gupta of SNS Vidya Mandir and Aliza Choudhary of Rich Harvest School, Sanskriti Sisodiya of APS Kaluchak, Ravi Ranjan Kumar of Chinar Primary School Nagrota received consolation prizes.

The mega event concluded with the vote of thanks by the Vice Principal Dr Anita Sharma followed by the National Anthem

Notorious drug peddler booked under NDPS Act in B'la: Police

SRINAGAR, July 31 (Agencies): J&K Police on Wednesday booked a drug peddler under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act 1988 (PIT NDPS) in Baramulla district.

Police said in a statement on Wednesday, "Acting tough against drug peddlers and to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, police booked notorious drug smuggler under PIT NDPS Act in Baramulla after obtaining formal detention order from the competent authority."

"The notorious drug smuggler namely Nazir Ahmad Gagroo alias Nazira, son of Abdul Karim, a resident of Arampora, District Baramulla, has been booked under PIT-NDPS Act after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent Authority," the police stated.

The accused drug smuggler has been detained and subsequently lodged in Central Jail Kot-Balwal Jammu.

"Pertinent to mention here that many cases are registered against the said drug smuggler who was involved in promoting drug abuse trade by supplying drugs to local youth of Sheeri. Fatehgarh, Old Town, New Town, Kanispora, Delina & amp; other areas of District," police

said in the statement. "Despite his involvement in many FIRs, he did not mend his activities and was again involved in promoting drug abuse trade by supplying drugs to local youth," the police added.

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