

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, AUGUST 03, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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### Rithvik Dhanjani takes on a new avatar



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## BRIEFLY

### Man electrocuted in South Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Aug 3 (Agencies): An elderly man died after receiving an electric shock at his home in the Trich area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district, officials said on Saturday.

They said 75-year-old Ghulam Qadir Bhat, son of Mohammad Abdullah Bhat and a resident of Trich, Pulwama, was shocked while handling an electric motor during domestic work.

He was brought to District Hospital Pulwama in an unconscious state and later succumbed to his injuries.

The body of the deceased is at District Hospital Pulwama for medico-legal formalities.

### NC nominates Vijay Kumar as District President Udhampur Rural SC Cell

JAMMU, Aug 3 (Agencies): With the approval of the Provincial President Jammu Province Rattan Lal Gupta, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell nominated Er. Vijay Kumar, son of Prem Nath, resident of Surni Tehsil Ramnagar District Udhampur Rural as District President Udhampur Rural SC Cell in the interest of the party.

Gupta congratulated and hoped that newly nominated Er. Vijay Kumar would ensure strengthening of the party at gross root level and to address the issues pertaining to Scheduled Caste (SC) community in District Udhampur Rural.

### Kashmir reports 43 drownings in July, several confirmed as suicides

SRINAGAR, Aug 3 (Agencies): A video of a woman committing suicide by jumping into the Jhelum River has gone viral on social media. Many similar videos of people ending their lives by jumping into water bodies have recently emerged on these platforms.

Last month, the Kashmir recorded 43 drowning cases, with over a dozen being suicide attempts, according to an official from the State Disaster Response Force. "This year so far, there has been a significant number of drowning cases. As per the data available with us, 40 such incidents occurred last month, and out of them, more than a dozen were suicide cases," the

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## Home Minister urges nation to take part in 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign

SRINAGAR, Aug 3 (Agencies): Home Minister Amit Shah Saturday urged upon countrymen to hoist the tricolour at their homes from August 9 to 15 under the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign, and appealed them to upload their selfies on 'Har Ghar Tiranga' website.

Shah hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts of making 'Har Ghar Tiranga' a national movement, saying the endeavour awakened the spirit of unity in every



Indian across the length and breadth of the nation.

Taking to micro-blogging site X (formerly twitter) the Home Minister Amit Shah said: "PM Shri Narendra Modi Ji's Har Ghar Tiranga campaign has evolved into a national movement over

the last two years, awakening the basic unity in every Indian across the length and breadth of the nation".

"I appeal to all citizens to bolster this movement further and participate in it with the same enthusiasm again. Hoist our pride, our Tiranga, at your homes, take a selfie with the Tiranga, and upload it on the Har Ghar Tiranga website," he added.

Several events, expected to witness immense public participation, are planned under the 'Har

Gar Tiranga' campaign which was launched by the Ministry of Culture and has now transformed into a people's movement

Notably in his 112th 'Mann Ki Baat' episode on July 28, Prime Minister Narendra Modi also called upon all Indians to participate in the 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan' to celebrate Independence Day.

The PM highlighted the growing trend of taking selfies with the national flag and sharing them on social media.

## Govt terminates six employees over narco-terror links

SRINAGAR, Aug 3 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Saturday sacked six government employees, including five policemen, for their "deep involvement in anti-national activities", officials said.

J-K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha invoked article 311(2)(c) of the Constitution to terminate them from service, they said.

Under proviso 'c' of the Article, the president or the governor, is empowered to terminate an employee without



recourse to the normal procedure if satisfied that the person's retention in public service is prejudicial to the security of the State.

"The government today dismissed six employees — five from the police department (constables) and one from the education department (teacher)

— for their deep involvement in anti-national activities," an official said. Their activities had come to the notice of law enforcement and intelligence agencies, and they found them "thickly involved" in activities prejudicial to the interests of the State, evidencing their involvement in terror-related activities, they said.

The officials identified the sacked employees as Head Constable Farooq Ahmad Sheikh, Selection Grade Constables Saif

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## Grave injustices in J&K by BJP must be rectified: Mian Altaf

SRINAGAR, Aug 3 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Member of Parliament from Anantnag-Rajouri, Mian Altaf Ahmad Larvi, said that the PM's phrase "Dil ki Doori and Dilli Ki Doori" contradicts the injustices faced by the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

In his address during

the motion of thanks on the President's speech in Parliament, Mian Altaf said that the achievements outlined in the speech regarding J&K contradict the increasing issues faced by the people of the region.

He expressed concern that the address did not acknowledge the

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## United Opposition stages protest in Jammu for restoration of J&K's Statehood

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: All Party United Front (APUF), a Jammu-based amalgam of over a dozen opposition political and social parties, staged a demonstration here on Saturday to press for restoration of statehood ahead of the Supreme Court set September 30 deadline for holding of assembly elections in



Jammu and Kashmir.

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## SSB DG Chawdhary to hold additional charge of BSF

NEW DELHI, Aug 3 (Agencies): SSB Director General (DG) Daljit Singh Chawdhary will hold the additional charge of the Border Security Force following the premature repatriation of incumbent Nitin Agrawal, a government order said Saturday.

Agrawal, a 1989-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Kerala

cadre, was removed as the BSF DG on Friday by an order of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), headed by the prime minister.

A Union home ministry order issued on Saturday said that Chawdhary, a 1990-batch IPS officer of the the Uttar Pradesh cadre, will hold the additional

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## LIC announces relaxations for victims of Disaster at Wayanad

MUMBAI, Aug 3 (Agencies): Siddhartha Mohanty, CEO & MD, LIC announced concessions to mitigate the hardships for claimants of LIC Policies and also of Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana affected by the

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## 12 Injured after building on hill slope collapses in Kargil

KARGIL, Aug 3 (Agencies): At least 12 people were injured after a three-storey building on a hill's slope collapsed due to a cave-in when an earth-mover was working near it in Ladakh's Kargil district early Saturday, police officials said.

Of those hurt, five, including the earthmover's driver, were rescued from under the debris of the house, they said.



They have been hospitalised and a magisterial inquiry has been ordered into the incident that took place around 3:30 am at Kabaddi Nallah, the officials said. The condition of the injured is stated to be stable.

People from nearby houses were moved to safer places following the

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## Fresh batch of over 990 pilgrims leaves Jammu for Amarnath Yatra

JAMMU, Aug 3 (Agencies): Another batch of over 990 pilgrims, including 152 women, left a base camp here for the two main base camps in Kashmir early Saturday to embark on the annual Amarnath Yatra, officials said.

This was the smallest batch of devotees leaving Jammu's Bhagwati Nagar



base camp since

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## J&K parts to receive heavy rains during next 3-days, says MeT

SRINAGAR, Aug 3 (Agencies): Meteorological Centre Srinagar on Saturday issued an advisory in which it predicted heavy rainfall over few places of Jammu & Kashmir during next three-days.

It in the meanwhile also predicted intense showers for brief period with possibility of flashfloods, cloudbursts, landslides, mudslides and shooting stones over vulnerable parts of J&K.

From August 3rd to 5th, there is a possibility of brief spells of rain & thundershower at few places during daytime with spells of light to moderate rain & thundershower at many places of J&K towards night & early morning, the official said.

Similarly from August 6th to 8th a spell of rain & thundershower at scattered places of Kashmir division and many places of Jammu division is

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# MBA MOTORS

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**TENTH DAY/ KRIYA / UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Champa Devi** W/o Shri Jiya Lal Vaid R/o H.No. 278 Pacci Dhakki Jammu on July 25.



Smt Champa Devi

**Tenth Day** will be performed on 3rd August (Saturday) at 10 am at Shri Radha Krishan Mandir Rari Park Jammu.

**Kriya** will be held on 4th August (Sunday) at 12 Noon at Khatri Sabha Moti Bazar Jammu. **Bhog Prasadam** will be served from 1 PM to 3 PM & **Uthala/Rasam Pagri** will be performed from 3 PM to 4 PM on 5th August at Khatri Sabha, Moti Bazar Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Shri Jiya Lal Vaid - **Husband**  
Sh Aman Vaid & Smt Jyotsana Sharma - **Son & Daughter-in-law**  
Smt Sumitu Sharma & Rakesh Sharma - **Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Smt Roopali Sharma & Prikshit Sharma - **Daughter & Son-in-law**  
**Grand Children:** Gargi, Sudhpt, Riya, Manhar, Aabhir  
**Vaid Family**

**Mob. 9906037437, 8713025843**

**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Dr. Jodh Singh** (Retd Dy. Director, Health services Jammu) So Late Sardami & Sardar Manchar Singh, R/o Durga Lane, Talab Tilo, Jammu. He left for his heavenly abode on 27th July 2024 in Bangalore.



Dr. Jodh Singh  
(Retd Dy. Director, Health services Jammu)

**Bhog and Antim Ardas** will be held in Jammu.

**PROGRAMME:**  
\* At Gurudwara Tali Sahib, Talab Tilo, Jammu.  
\* 3rd August 2024, Saturday: **Arambh Sri Akhand Path Sahib** at 10:30 AM.  
\* 5th August 2024, Monday: **Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib** at 10:30 AM  
**Kriya and Antim Ardas** 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM followed by **Guru Ka Langar**

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Wife- Late Behinder Kaur  
**Son and Daughter-in-law**  
S. Mandeep Singh & Manjeet Kaur- 9419110287/9880173435  
S. Sumit Pal Singh & Tarleen Kaur 8861303354  
**Grand Children**  
Manat Kaur Khorana  
Araj Singh Khorana  
**Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law**  
S. Rajinder Singh Sahney & Narinder Kaur Sahney  
**Brother & Sister-in-law**  
Late Dr Gurdial Singh Khorana (Retd Dy. Director Animal Husbandry) & Late Harjeet Kaur  
S. Balbir Singh & Surjeet Kaur  
S. Mohinder Pal Singh & Kamaljeet Kaur  
**Sister & Brother-in-law**  
Late Gurdharan Kaur & Late S. Gurkirat Singh  
Bhupinder Kaur & Late S. Mohinder Pal Singh  
Gurdeep Kaur & S. Harshajan Singh

**Contact:**  
9419110287, 9880173435, 8861303354  
9023230390, 9986025919  
Navdeep Trading Co. Digiana  
9906874945

**BARKHI**

One year have passed since you left us for heavenly abode but your loving memories, will always remain with us. Physically you are not with us but we feel your presence in every moment of our life.



SMT. MOHANI DEVI FERIA

**BARKHI** of our beloved **Smt Mohani Devi Feria** W/o Late Dr. Bansil Lal Feria R/o Main Bazar Udhampur will be performed at Arya Samaj School, Arya Samaj Gali Udhampur on Sunday 4th Aug 2024 at 11.00 AM.

**DEEPLY MISSED AND REMEMBERED BY:-**  
**All Feria Family**  
**MOB: 9419162294, 9419143811, 7006081353, 6006403854**

**10TH DAY, KRIYA & UTHALA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Kuldeep Singh** (CAO Retd) So Col. Dev Singh R/o 273, U.N.O. Lane Talab Tilo, Jammu.



Sh. Kuldeep Singh  
(CAO Retd)

**Tenth Day** will be performed on 4/8/2024 (Sunday) at our residence at 10.00 am.  
**Kriya** will be performed on 7/8/2024 (Wednesday) at our residence at 11.00 am.  
**Uthala** will be performed on 7/8/2024 at Gurudwara Tali Sahib Talab Tilo, Jammu from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Madhu Jammaal (Wife)  
Shivani & Varun - **Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Shweta & Raj - **Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Dr. Shaqun & Adhya - **Daughter & Son-in-law**  
**Brother's & Sister-in-laws**  
Lt. Dr. Nasib Singh & Dr. Neera Singh  
Lt. Dr. Uday Singh & Smt. Anura  
Sh. Daljeet Singh & Smt. Nimrat  
**Sisters & Brother-in-laws**  
Smt. Maya & Sh. Sham Ji  
Smt. Aarti & Sh. Krishan Ji  
Lt. Smt. Kanta & Sh. Jagdev Singh  
**Nephew & Niece**  
Sh. Vikram Singh  
Dr. Manisha & Mr. Varun  
Dr. Nandini

**Brother-in-laws**  
Sh. Arun Singh Jammaal & Smt. Lalita  
Sh. Dignaj Singh Jammaal & Smt. Chanderkanta  
Sh. Narendra Singh & Smt. Rama Jammaal  
**Grand Childrens:** Aakashit, Anya, Sidhant, Aadya, Anyia, Akshat  
**Mob.: 9419115425, 9419103766, 8899483091**

**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 Padamkunj Apartments, Sector 1, Vaishali, Ghaziabad), on the 26th of July. He was a prolific scientist who served as a professor at the University of Sagar and the University of Kashmir. He was also a visiting professor at Utah State University, USA, and the University of Marseille, France.



Dr. Kishan Lal Handoo

The **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at **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, Ritvik, Shriya  
**ALL NEAR AND DEAR ONES**  
**PH NO.: 9560069101, 9810314806, 9910666519**

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt. Nancy Bhat - (Wife)  
Smt. Umashorie and Sh. N. Koul (Sister & Brother in Law)  
Smt. Anurita & Ashok Bhat (Daughter in Law & Son)  
Smt. Dazy & Manoj Bhat (Daughter in Law & Son)  
Smt. Pinki & Sh. Pk. Hangloo (Daughter & Son in Law)  
Smt. Simi & Sh. Veer Ji Raina (Daughter & Son in Law)  
Smt. Sakshi & Sh. Kuldeep Prandita (Grand Daughter & Grand Son in Law)  
Bhat's, Koul's, Saraf's, Mattoo's, Hangloos, Raina's & All Grand and Great Grand Children  
PH 9419844404, 9419605383, 7051338940

**PH NO.: 9560069101, 9810314806, 9910666519**

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

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



Sh Trilokinath Miya  
(1931-2024)

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

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

**Fondly Remembered By:**  
Nancy & Surendra Miya  
Asha & Avinash Wangoo  
Asmeeta & Jyoti Kachroo  
**Grand Children:**  
Jharna & Sumit Watali  
Sakshi & Rihan Miya  
Rishika & Siddhant Kachroo  
Shaersha & Anshul Wangoo  
Kalpita Kachroo & Angreh Wangoo

**Great Grand Children:** Vaidehi & Aadee  
**9899505506**

**OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With a heavy-heart we inform the sudden and untimely passing away of dear **Rajinder Kaul** (fondly known as "Raja ji"), H.No. 06, East Ext., Marble Market, near Sai Baba Mandir, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu S/o. Late Sh. Hirdey Nath Kaul originally from Malik Angan, Fateh Kadal, Srinagar.



Rajinder Kaul  
(fondly known as "Raja ji")

The **TENTH DAY KRIYA** shall be performed at Muthi Ghat on 08.08.2024 at 8.30 am.

**IN MOURNING AND DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:**  
**KAUL'S, TIKOO'S, RAINA'S, BHAT'S, KACHRU'S JOGI'S & EXTENDED FAMILY/ FRIENDS.**  
**9070590111, 9313655077, 9796382777**

**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.



Mrs. Jully Thakur

**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)  
**M.No.: 8803155498**

**TENTH DAY/ KRIYA**

With profound grief, we announce the demise of our beloved **Smt. Phoola Ji Kaul** W/o Lt. Sh. Soom Nath Kaul. Originally from Dalseer, District Anantnag, Kashmir, she resided at House No. 314, Lane No. 3, Suryavanshi Nagar, Lower Roop Nagar, Jammu. She left for her heavenly abode on 31st July, 2024.



Smt. Phoola Ji Kaul

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 09th August, 2024 at 8.30 A.M. at Muthi Ghat, near Director Education Muthi, Jammu.

We pray for her soul to rest in eternal peace.  
**Grief Stricken**  
Sh. Vijay Kumar Kaul & Smt. Renu Kaul (**Son & Daughter-In-Law**)  
Sh. Krishan Kumar Sharma & Smt. Pammal Sharma (**Son-In-Law & Daughter**)  
Sh. Veena Ji Kaul W/o Lt. Sh. Bansil Lal Kaul (**Sister-In-Law**)  
Sh. Jagar Nath Kaul & Smt. Asta Ji Kaul (**Brother-In-Law & Sister-In-Law**)  
**Grand Children**  
Ms. Sushmita Sharma W/o Sh. Abhishek Sharma  
Muskan Sharma, Namrita Kaul, Hritik Kaul, Shreen Sharma  
**In Mourning and Deeply Remembered by:**  
**KAUL, RAINA AND SHARMA PARIVAR.**  
**Phone: 7006549242, 7006335849, 7006460963, 7006181887**

**TENTH DAY**

With deep grief and sorrow, we announce the passing of **Sh. Maharaj Krishen Peer** (Bhajan), son of Late Neelkanth and Arandati Peer, formerly of Vicharnag Srinagar, Kashmir, and currently residing at RH 175 Shahunagar, Chinchwad, Pune.



Sh. Maharaj Krishen Peer (Bhajan)

The **TENTH-DAY** ceremony will be held on August 5, 2024, at Morya Gosavi, Dashkriya Vidhi Ghat, Pimpri Chinchwad, Pune, Maharashtra, at 10:30 am.

**In Mourning,**  
Smt Ratni Peer (Wife)  
**Daughter and Son-in-law**  
Veronica and Kaustubh Patki  
Sakshi and Urvin Thusu  
**Grand Daughter:** Renae Patki  
**Samast Charagi Parivar**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of **Sh. Sham Lal Bhat** S/o Madow Lal Bhat of Harigam (Kewa) Qazigund at present 280/ C, SEC-1, Durga Nagar Jammu on 27th of July 2024.



SH. SHAM LAL BHAT

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 5-08-2024 (Monday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 8.30 A.M.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
SMT NANCY BHAT - (WIFE)  
SMT UMASHORIE AND SH. N. KOUL (SISTER & BROTHER IN LAW)  
SMT ANURITA & ASHOK BHAT (DAUGHTER IN LAW & SON)  
SMT DAZY & MANOJ BHAT (DAUGHTER IN LAW & SON)  
SMT PINKI & SH. PK. HANGLOO (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)  
SMT SIMI & SH. VEERJI RAINA (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)  
SMT SAKSHI & SH. KULDEEP PRANDITA (GRAND DAUGHTER & GRAND SON IN LAW)  
BHAT'S, KOUL'S, SARAF'S, MATTOO'S, HANGLOOS, RAINA'S & ALL GRAND AND GREAT GRAND CHILDREN  
PH 9419844404, 9419605383, 7051338940

**TENTH DAY/ KRIYA / UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Vijay Sharma** W/o Sh. Chandar Mohan Sharma (Retd. Principal) on Friday the 28th of July 2024.



Smt. Vijay Sharma

**Tenth Day** will be performed on Sunday, the 4th of August at 11.00 am at our residence H.No. 11, Lane No. 3, Anand Vihar, Patna Bhoi, Jammu.

**Kriya** will be performed on Monday the 5th of August at 12.00 Noon at our residence.  
**Uthala** will be performed on Monday the 5th of August between 5.00 to 6.00 pm at Shree Geela Mandir Smriti Shawan, Bakshi Nagar, Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Chander Mohan Sharma - **Husband**  
Achinav Khajuria - **Son**  
**Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Dr. Lalima Sharma & Sh. Yash Pal Sharma (Range Officer)  
Prof. K. K. Sharma & Mrs. Santosh Sharma - **Jeth & Jethani**  
Late Sh. Brij Mohan Sharma & Smt. Shashi Sharma - **Jeth & Jethani**  
Sh. Anil Sharma (P.N.B.) & Smt. Meena Sharma - **Brother & Bhabhi**  
Late Sh. Vinod Sharma (JKS) & Smt. Anju Sharma - **Brother & Bhabhi**  
**Contact No: 8419145243, 7006429166, 9419795268**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound sadness and deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved father, the esteemed **Karamyogi Shri Nana Ji Dassji (Chaman Ji)**, son of Late Bardi Nath Dassji, R/o H. No. 1, Cooradharan Lane, Tali Muth, New Plaza, Jammu.



Shri Nana Ji Dassji  
(Chaman Ji)

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be observed on 8th August 2024 at 8.30 am at Muthi Ghat, near Director School Education.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Smt. Lajwanti (Mother)  
Smt. Jas Kachri Kaul (Wife)  
**Son and Daughter-in-law**  
Vincy Dassji & Shivani Pandita (9910333612/9810589612)  
**Daughter and Son-in-law**  
Shanti Raina & Satish Raina (789359401)  
**Brothers and Sisters-in-law**  
Smt. Sheela Dassji W/o Late S. J. Dassji  
Sh. M. M. Dassji & Smt. Kamini Dassji  
**Grand Children:**  
Saksham, Siddhi, Krishna, Bhavik  
**In Laws (Brother & Sister in law)**  
Smt. Roopa Kaul W/o Late P. N. Kaul  
Sh. M. L. Kaul & Smt. Krishna Pyari Kaul  
Sh. H. K. Kaul & Smt. Krishna Kaul  
Sh. M. K. Kaul & Smt. Kundan Kaul (8178420051)

**TENTH DAY/SATSANG**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Sh Bishamber Dass** S/o Late Sh. Sewa Ram R/o Village Chack Bakhan, Ramgarh, who left for heavenly abode on 26th July 2024.



Sh Bishamber Dass

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on Sunday, 4th August 2024, at Tara Palace Ramgarh (Ramgarh Nandpur Road).

**Satsang Timing:** 12 Noon to 1 PM followed by **Guru Ka Langar.**  
**Grief Stricken:**  
Smt. Mayo Devi - **Wife**  
Smt. Ranoo Devi W/o Late Sh. Chander Dass Digo Bhabhi  
**Sons & Daughters-in-law**  
Sh. Santh Kumar Digo & Smt. Sunita Ji  
Sh. Sukhji Kumar Digo & Smt. Pinki Kumari  
Sh. Som Dutt Digo & Smt. Neha Bala  
Sh. Rajesh Digo & Smt. Juhli  
Sh. Naveesh Digo & Smt. Madhu Bala  
Sh. Rajesh Digo & Smt. Neeru Bala  
Sh. Manoj Kumar Meena & Smt. Pooja Meena - **Son-in-law & Daughter**  
**Grand Children:** Arpanam, Vaani, Kunal, Shubam, Ansh, Vijayant, Dhruv, Sourav, Gourav, Sonakshi, Ayushmaan, Divyansh, Shun Shan, Marjya, Lalitika  
**CONTACT: 9419161776, 9419043818, 9419376324, 8890455114, 7006054222, 7006036206**

**TENTH DAY/ KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our dear **Shri. Sham Lal Koul** originally from Hawanad Chowgam (Kulgam) Kashmir at present at Fardabad (Haryana) on 31st July 2024.



Shri. Sham Lal Koul

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on Friday 9th August, 2024 at 8.00 am at Murad Nagar, Canal Murad Nagar, UP.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Shakuntla Koul - **Wife** (8527556705)  
Bansi Lal & Ratanji Koul - **Brother & Sister-in-law**  
Maharaj Krishan & Ashaji Koul - **Brother & Sister-in-law**  
Shivani & Sh. Jagdish Ji (**Daughter & Son-in-law**)  
Sunita & Sh. Mohit Raina (**Daughter & Son-in-law**)  
Ari & Sh. Rishi Ji (**Daughter & Son-in-law**)  
Shana & Sh. Raj Nath Dhar (**Sister & Brother-in-law**)  
Santosh & Sh. Bhanu Lal Dhar (**Sister & Brother-in-law**)  
Sarla & Sh. Surinder Koul (**Sister & Brother-in-law**)  
**Samast Gash Koul Parivar / Saraf Parivar (Anantnag)**  
H.No. 2040, Block-C, Sainik Colony, Sector - 49, Fardabad  
**Contact Nos.: 9818162922, 9654088191**

**SHADMOS/MASWAR**

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



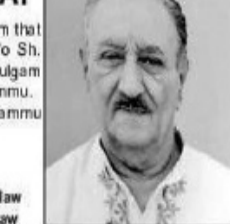
Late Sh Hirday Nath Kachroo

**Shadmos & Maswar** of my father **Late Sh Hirday Nath Kachroo**, So Lt. Sh. Kanth Ram Kachroo R/o Utam Nagar Sec-0 Kungwani Jammu will be performed on 3rd & 4th August 2024 at our residence.

**Deeply Remembered & Missed By:**  
Smt. Phola Devi (Wife)  
Smt. & Sh. Rajinder Kachroo (Brother)  
Smt. & Sh. Vijay Raina (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
Smt. & Sh. Hira Lal Kachroo (Son)  
Smt. & Sh. Veerji Kachroo (Son)  
**Smast Kachroo, Raina, Bhat, Koul, Munshi Families**  
**Mo.b: 8716845555, 9906244215**

**OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Roop Krishen Raina** S/o Lt. Triloki Nath Raina originally resident of Seer Jagr Sopore Baramulla Kashmir At present Block 118, Flat 21 Lane 20 Jagti Township Nagrota who left us for the heavenly abode on 31.07.2024.



Sh. Roop Krishen Raina

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Education Department on 9.8.2024 at 9 AM

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Usha Raina (Wife)  
Laksh Raina (Son) **Mob. 6005062568**  
Shriya Raina (Daughter) **Mob. 7889956690**  
**Brothers & Sister's in law**  
Smt. Rachna Ji & Sh. Ramesh Raina **Mob. 9419899756**  
Smt. Sunita Raina & Lt. Sh. Anil Ji Raina  
Smt. Meenakshi Raina & Sh. Rajesh Raina

**DISCLAIMER**

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# It is important to promote Sanskrit to connect younger generation with their culture: Rana

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: In the context of Sanskrit month, a program was organized by the Shri Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic sansthan Trust at HexaMed Diagnostics and Specialty Clinic, Channi Himmat.

The chief guest of the program was senior BJP leader Devendra Singh Rana, and the distinguished guests included RK Chhibber, Board of Directors of Jammu and Kashmir Bank, and Deepak Gupta, President of Warehouse Traders Federation, Jammu, along with other dignitaries.

HexaMed's MD, Nigam Gupta, stated that inspired by Mahant Rohit Shastri, who is playing a significant role in promoting the divine language Sanskrit, they decided that all boards of HexaMed Diagnostics and Specialty



Clinic will be in Sanskrit, and special concessions will be given to Sanskrit scholars in HexaMed jobs.

Senior BJP leader Devendra Singh Rana emphasized the social role in promoting Sanskrit, the foundation of all languages, and advocated making it mandatory for students from the first grade to keep them connected to their heritage.

He said that learning the Sanskrit language sharpens the mind and helps in gaining knowledge about ancient texts and scriptures, which are mainly written in this language.

He stressed that it is very important to promote Sanskrit to connect the younger generation with their culture.

The president of the Trust, Mahant Rohit Shastri, stated that the Trust is

making efforts to make the divine Sanskrit language a common language again. Sanskrit and culture hold great importance in everyday life. Sanskrit is our Vedic language and plays a crucial role in preserving culture. Sanskrit instills values. The initiative by HexaMed to have all boards in Sanskrit to promote the language will boost the morale of Sanskrit lovers.

RK Chhibber, Board of Directors of Jammu and Kashmir Bank, said that Sanskrit is being used scientifically and is being promoted for research on various ancient texts.

He congratulated Mahant Rohit Shastri and his entire team for the good work being done by the Trust in promoting the divine Sanskrit language.

Deepak Gupta, President of Warehouse Traders Federation, Jammu,

said that the style of abbreviation in Sanskrit is so wonderful that it is not found in any other language. Sanskrit is the best means to eliminate social divisions such as linguistic, class, caste, sect, and regional divisions.

Dil Bahadur Singh Jammwal stated that Mahant Rohit Shastri is committed to making the Sanskrit language popular and promoting it in daily life.

He said that our identity is due to the city of temples. Sanskrit is a language connected to our environment. It is also our responsibility to promote Sanskrit, the mother of languages.

On this occasion, Dr. Vikrant, Dr. Gaurav, Sunil Sharma, Kulveer Singh, Deepak, Ashok Singh, Sat Pal Khajuria, and other dignitaries were present.

# Satish Poonchi appointed State Convenor of Abhinav Bharat Party



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: The Abhinav Bharat Party pre-launched its activities in Jammu & Kashmir today.

Abhinav Bharat Party's National President and Founder Chetan Sharma has appointed Satish Jha as the Centre Observer.

Jha has, in turn, appointed Satish Poonchi, a well-known social and political activist in Jammu & Kashmir, as the State Convenor.

The Abhinav Bharat organization, founded by the renowned freedom fighter Amar Veer Vinayak Damodar Savarkar in Maharashtra in 1904, played a decisive role in India's freedom struggle,

as evidenced by historical documents.

However, subsequent governments have overshadowed its legacy and mission. Veer Savarkar's dream was to create a non-discriminatory society with social harmony.

Chetan Sharma emphasized that the people of Jammu & Kashmir have been misguided by various political parties over the years.

He asserted that Veer Savarkar's vision of a prosperous India could be achieved if people unite for this mission.

The party aims to ensure job and health security for the marginalized sections of society and plans to expose the hidden nexus between the Center and

State since 1947, which has misled the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

The party is committed to ensuring the personal security of civilians from cross-border terrorism, particularly in Hindu-dominated areas, and providing job guarantees to the educated youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

Newly appointed State Convenor Satish Sawhney (Poonchi) expressed his gratitude to the party leadership and pledged to streamline the party's manifesto and initiate a membership drive immediately.

The press meet was attended by Rohit Bajrangi, Ramesh Chander, Deepika Sawhney, and Ashwani Kumar Sharma.

# Reliance Motors launches Guerrilla 450 in Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: Royal Enfield has launched its latest motorcycle, the Guerrilla 450 in India. The bike was also launched in Jammu at Reliance Motors in a function held here yesterday.

The unveiling was done by Vikas Rathore, MD Reliance Motors.

This premium roadster is built on the Sherpa 450 platform and features a 452cc engine delivering 40PS and 40Nm of torque. The bike offers dynamic

chassis options and multiple riding modes for varied riding conditions.

Guerrilla 450 will be available in three variants and six colours, bookings have started with sales beginning on August 1, 2024.

Available in three variants – Analogue, Dash, and Flash – the Guerrilla 450 comes in six colour options.

Bookings in India have started, with test rides and retail sales. The introductory price is set at Rs 2,39,000 (ex-showroom).

# Under PM Modi's visionary leadership, India's Development has increased manifold: Khatana Says 936 Km of High-Speed Road Projects Worth Rs. 50,655 Crore to Boost Economy

Top News Report

NEW DELHI/JAMMU, Aug 3: Senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Er. Gulam Ali Khatana praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's steadfast dedication to developing world-class infrastructure in India. Khatana highlighted the significant impact these projects will have on advancing the nation's development trajectory.

"In a move set to significantly bolster India's infrastructure, the government has approved eight National High-Speed Road Corridor Projects. Spanning 936 kilometers at a cost of Rs. 50,655 Crore, these projects aim to revolutionize the country's transportation network," said Rajya Sabha MP Er. Gulam Ali Khatana.

Khatana praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dedication to developing world-class infrastructure in India. "Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary leadership, our country's development has increased manifold," he stated.

"In the last decade, we've witnessed the breaking of all barriers and the beginning of a new chapter in India's progress, firmly setting us on the path to becoming a developed nation." The MP highlighted the transformative potential of these projects, explaining that they are expected to reduce congestion on existing highways and



improve goods transportation efficiency. "By providing faster and more direct routes between key economic centers, these projects will slash travel times and operational costs for businesses across various sectors," Khatana said.

He emphasized that this infrastructure push aligns with the Modi government's broader vision of enhancing India's global competitiveness. "By improving connectivity and reducing logistical bottlenecks, these high-speed corridors are expected to attract more foreign investment and support the growth of domestic industries," the MP added.

Khatana noted that this approval continues the Modi government's focus on infrastructure development, a cornerstone of its economic policy since 2014. "The administration has consistently emphasized the importance of robust infrastructure in driving economic growth, job creation, and improving the overall quality of life for Indian citizens," he said.

# DIG Traffic Jammu reviews arrangements for Shri Baba Budha Amarnath Yatra 2024

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Aug 3: To review the traffic arrangements for the upcoming Shri Baba Budha Amarnath Yatra-2024, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Traffic Police Jammu, Dr. M. Haseeb Mughal, visited the Rajouri yatra camp and met with the pilgrimage organisers. The yatra is set to begin in three days.

Dr. Mughal was accompanied by Additional Superintendent of Police (Addl SP) Traffic Police, Mohammad Nawaz, DTI Rajouri Inspector Kapil Manhas, and other officers.

The Traffic Police unit of Rajouri-Poonch briefed Dr. Mughal in detail about

the traffic arrangements for the pilgrimage. These include the movement of the yatra convoy, parking at halt points and camps, and the deployment of traffic police at key points, diversions, and busy intersections.

Dr. Mughal interacted with the yatra organisers, discussing various aspects of ensuring a smooth pilgrimage. He assured them that all necessary steps for effective traffic management and the smooth movement of yatra convoys are in place.

He also urged the yatra organising committee to adhere to all guidelines and directions issued by the authorities regarding cut-off timings and vehicle routes for the yatra.

# Yasar Choudhary demands Pahari status for Bani, Lohai Malhar, Dugan, Dugain

Top News Report

BANI, Aug 3: Apni Party President, Kandi Belt (Bani – Basohli), Yasar Choudhary has demanded Pahari Status for Bani, Lohai Malhar, Dugan, and Dugain which are one of the remotest and undeveloped areas of District Kathua.

In a statement issued here, Yasar said that the above cited areas deserve Pahari status because these areas remained neglected regarding development, road infrastructure, health, and education sectors.

"The issue of backwardness of Bani, Lohai Malhar, Dugan, and Dugain has not been addressed since the last seven decades. There-

fore, these areas deserve Pahari status for its overall development, and equal opportunity to the people of remote areas," he added.

He said that the above cited areas have been neglected by the Govt and the people have been deprived of their constitu-

tional right for equal treatment regarding development, employment, road connectivity, health care, and education system.

To uplift the living standard of the people, he said that it becomes imperative for the Govt to grant Pahari status to the above stated areas in Bani.

NORTHERN RAILWAY	
Expression of Interest	
Chief Medical Supdt. Northern Railway, Firozpur for an on behalf of the President of India, invites expression of interest on the prescribed form for the following work:-	
Name of work	Expression of interest invited from ES/IECHS/CGHS/Others empanelled private hospital for treatment of Railway patients of Jammu Tawi, Udhampur, SVDK, Reasi, Banihal, Qazigund, Anantnag, Awantipura, Sangaldan Srinagar, Budgam and Baramulla, Kangra, Palampur, Baijnath Paprola stations.
Completion period	Two years from the Date of starting
Estimated Cost of work	N.A.
Bank Guarantee	Rs. 2 Lakhs for cities not covered under CGHS and Rs. 10 Lakhs for CGHS covered cities (To be deposited within 30 days from the date of issue of letter of empanelment)
Cost of application form on cash/By post	N.A.
Place & Time of submission of bids	Complete files of may be deposited at Divisional Hospital, Northern Railway, Firozpur upto 13:00 hrs on 30.08.2024
No: 139-Med/Recog/2024 Dated : 02.08.2024 2376/2024	
Serving Customers With A Smile	

**Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir**  
**Office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu**  
e-mail: [xennorth@gmail.com](mailto:xennorth@gmail.com)

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
e-NIT No. 136 of 2024-25

For and on behalf of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from the reputed/registered firms/Sole Prop. for the below mentioned work:-

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost (in ₹)	Cost of document/ tender fee (in ₹)	Earnest money (in ₹)	Validity of Rates	Bid validity
1.	Re-Construction of foundation block for laying of foundation plate of HC Pump set having specification of 50000 GPH x 122 Mtrs Head (unit-1) and allied works at CPS Muthi Village.	1,23,000/-	200/-	2,500/- in the shape of CDR / FDR	180 days	180 days

**Position of AAA: Accorded**  
**Position of TS: Sanctioned**

**Date of Publishing 01-08-2024 (04.00 pm).**

- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 01-08-2024 (04.00 pm).
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 01-08-2024 (04.00 pm) to 10-08-2024 (04.00 pm).
- The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- The Technical bids received shall be opened online on 12-08-2024 (04.00 pm) or any other subsequent date in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division North Jammu.
- The Financial bid of the bidders shall be opened online after scrutinizing the technical bid in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- The bidder should make payment for cost of bidding document in shape of single window challan of JMC / online payment through the JMC website link <http://www.lmcljammu.org/online-payment.html> in the name of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu.
- The original instruments in respect of cost of document, EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR and other relevant document of L<sub>1</sub> bidder will be required to be submitted to the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu after opening of financial bids on line. No separate intimation about opening of financial bids will be sent by this office / by the tender opening authority. In case the original documents are not submitted by the L<sub>1</sub> bidder opening of financial bid, the tender will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the division for a period of one year.

JSM/DNJ/2142-44  
Dated: 31-07-2024  
DIP/J-3716/24

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Jal Shakti Mech. Division North  
Jammu

# Katra Chamber meets Tourism Director to boost regional tourism

Top News Report

KATRA, Aug 3: A delegation from the Chamber of Tourism Trade and Industry Katra (CTTIK), led by President Raj Kumar Padha, met with tourism officials on Saturday to discuss strategic initiatives for promoting key destinations in the Jammu region, with a particular focus on Katra and the Vaishno Devi pilgrimage.

The meeting was held in the chambers of Tourism Director Vivekanand Rai and included key tourism officials such as Joint Director Sunaina Sharma Mehta and Deputy Director Shoukat Mattoo and others.

Atul Sharma, Secretary of CTTIK, was also present as part of the delegation.

President Raj Kumar Padha presented a series of innovative ideas aimed at boosting tourism in the region.

These proposals focused on enhancing the visitor experience, improving infrastructure, and leveraging digital marketing to attract a wider audience to Jammu's unique destinations.

Padha emphasized the need for improved transportation and facilities in Katra and surrounding areas to ensure a comfortable and memorable experience for pilgrims and tourists alike.

He sought to take initiatives to highlight the rich cultural and historical

heritage of the Jammu region, including festivals and events that can draw tourists year-round.

He proposed to enhance the region's online presence through targeted campaigns and social media engagement to reach a global audience.

He asked for encouraging partnerships between the government and private sector to drive tourism growth and sustainability.

Tourism Director Vivekanand Rai expressed his appreciation for CTTIK's proactive approach and reiterated the department's commitment to supporting initiatives that will enhance the region's tourism profile.

"The ideas presented today align well with our vision for the future of tourism in Jammu. We look forward to working closely with CTTIK to bring these plans to fruition," said Rai.

Joint Director Sunaina Sharma Mehta and Deputy Director Shoukat Mattoo also emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts in achieving sustainable tourism growth and highlighted ongoing projects that aim to improve the tourist experience in Jammu.

The CTTIK delegation expressed optimism about the collaboration with the tourism department and looks forward to implementing the proposed strategies to elevate Jammu's tourism landscape.

## EDITORIAL

## Cleanliness Drive for Better Tomorrow

A cleanliness drive is not just an activity; it's a movement towards creating a healthier and more sustainable environment. With increasing urbanization and the consequent rise in pollution and waste, it becomes imperative for communities to come together to address these challenges. A recent cleanliness drive organized in our locality serves as a shining example of collective effort and civic responsibility.

The idea for the cleanliness drive emerged during a community meeting where residents expressed their concerns about the growing litter problem. A committee was formed, including volunteers from various age groups and backgrounds, to plan and execute the drive. The committee decided on a weekend to ensure maximum participation and meticulously planned the event to cover all necessary aspects, from providing cleaning supplies to arranging for waste disposal.

A crucial part of the drive was spreading awareness about the importance of cleanliness and how individual efforts contribute to the community's well-being. The committee launched an awareness campaign a week prior to the drive. Flyers were distributed, social media platforms were utilized, and local schools and businesses were engaged to reach a wider audience. The campaign focused on educating people about the detrimental effects of littering and the benefits of a clean environment.

On the day of the drive, volunteers gathered early in the morning, equipped with gloves, trash bags, brooms, and other cleaning tools. The drive was divided into several phases.

Volunteers were briefed about safety protocols and the areas assigned to them. Emphasis was placed on wearing gloves and handling waste properly to avoid injuries or infections.

Volunteers were instructed to segregate waste into biodegradable and non-biodegradable categories. This segregation aimed to facilitate proper disposal and recycling processes.

Volunteers spread out across the locality, focusing on public parks, streets, and areas around schools and markets. The enthusiasm and dedication were palpable as everyone, from children to senior citizens, actively participated in the cleaning process.

Collected waste was transported to designated disposal points. The committee had coordinated with the local municipal authorities to ensure efficient waste management, including recycling wherever possible.

The cleanliness drive was a resounding success, resulting in noticeable improvements in the cleanliness of the locality. The immediate benefits were visible: cleaner streets, parks free from litter, and a significant reduction in the unpleasant odor from waste accumulation. However, the drive's impact extended beyond the physical cleanliness.

The drive brought residents closer, fostering a sense of community and shared responsibility. Neighbors who rarely interacted before worked side by side, strengthening community bonds.

The awareness campaign and hands-on involvement in the drive helped instill a sense of environmental responsibility among participants. Many pledged to maintain cleanliness and avoid littering in the future.

The segregation of waste during the drive highlighted the importance of recycling. The community resolved to continue segregating waste and promoting recycling practices in their daily lives.

Encouraged by the success of the drive, the committee plans to make cleanliness drives a regular activity. Monthly mini-drives and quarterly major drives are proposed to ensure sustained cleanliness. Additionally, the committee aims to work with local schools to integrate environmental education into the curriculum, fostering a culture of cleanliness from a young age.

The cleanliness drive was more than an event; it was a testament to the power of collective action. It demonstrated that when a community comes together with a common goal, significant and positive changes are possible. Cleanliness is not a one-time effort but a continuous process that requires dedication and active participation from everyone. Through such initiatives, we can pave the way for a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future.

## Beyond Doctors and Engineers Exploring careers in pure science

By: Vijay GarG

When it comes to choosing a professional degree for a secure career, in India many people still prefer taking up a doctor or engineering course over studying pure science. However, did you know about the many career options one can have after studying pure sciences? In this article, Venkat Koushik Pulla, who is a trained scientist and works as a Senior Manager Commercial Marketing at Merck, tells us more about the perks and challenges of being a scientist, and more. Excerpts:

1. As a trained scientist, what are the career options in pure science that you think people should know about?

There are many aspects to explore in pure science, and it's all about discovering your interests. These days, having a multidisciplinary skill set is critical for career advancement. Existing skills and technologies are becoming obsolete, so constant upgrading is essential no matter your field. With AI taking over monotonous tasks, creativity and unique perspectives are key to standing out.

Career options in pure science include:

## Research Scientist

This is perhaps one of the most obvious choice for pure science graduates. Research scientists work in labs across academia, government research institutions, and private industries such as pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, and materials science. They conduct experiments, analyze data, and contribute to scientific discoveries.

## Data Scientist

With the rise of big data and analytics, there's a growing demand for data scientists who can apply statistical analysis and computational techniques to interpret complex data sets. Pure science graduates often have strong analytical skills and a solid foundation in mathematics and statistics, making them well-suited for this role.

## Science Communication

Scientists who can effectively communicate research findings are employed as scientific writers by pharma companies. They bridge the gap between scientific research and the public through writing, journalism, and multimedia. Science journalists play a vital role in bridging the gap between scientific research and the general public, informing and educating

audiences about important discoveries and developments.

## Patent Examiner

Patent examiners assess whether inventions meet the requirements for patentability and play a key role in shaping innovation. A background in pure science provides the necessary technical expertise for this profession.

## Techno-commercial Roles

Trained scientists are very important for life science organizations to promote, demonstrate technical products. Who else could be better to position the products in a right way - as they would have used similar products during their research days. They have the advantage of meeting different scientists and understand their challenges, and support them to give suitable solutions.

## Science Education and Outreach

Pure science graduates can pursue careers as science educators in schools, museums, and educational institutions, inspiring and mentoring future scientists.

## Clinical Research Associate (CRA)

In the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, CRAs oversee clinical trials to ensure compliance with protocols and regulatory requirements. A background in pure science provides the foundational knowledge necessary to understand the scientific principles underlying clinical research.

## Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) Specialist

QA/QC specialists ensure that products, processes, and systems meet quality standards and regulatory requirements. In industries such as pharmaceuticals and biotechnology, they play a crucial role in maintaining product quality and safety.

## Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Many pure science graduates have entrepreneurial aspirations and the ability to innovate. The government supports their aspirations with initial seed grants, allowing them to start their own companies, develop new technologies, or collaborate with industry partners.

It's important to emphasize that studying pure science not only opens doors to these specific career paths but also equips individuals with critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills that are highly valued across various industries. As the world continues to advance technologically

and scientifically, the demand for skilled pure science graduates will only continue to grow, making it a promising and rewarding career choice.

2. What are the challenges of becoming a scientist?

Becoming a scientist is a rewarding pursuit but also comes with several challenges that people aspiring to be scientists should be aware of:

## Education and Training

Becoming a scientist typically involves obtaining higher education degrees, such as a bachelor's, master's, and often a PhD. This requires dedication, perseverance, and a strong academic foundation.

## Competitive Environment

Scientific research is highly competitive, with challenges in securing funding, grants, and research positions due to limited resources and a high number of qualified applicants.

## Time and Patience

Scientific research often requires long hours of experimentation, data analysis, and writing. Progress can be slow, with breakthroughs taking years or even decades to achieve.

## Funding and Resources

Conducting research requires funding for equipment, materials, and sometimes personnel. Securing adequate funding can be a constant challenge, particularly for early-career researchers.

## Publishing and Peer Review

Publishing research in reputable scientific journals is essential for career advancement and recognition. The peer review process can be rigorous and sometimes subjective, requiring persistence and resilience.

## Balancing Innovation and Reproducibility

Striking a balance between pursuing innovative research and ensuring reproducibility of results is crucial. Maintaining scientific integrity and rigor is essential but can be challenging in a competitive environment.

## Career Instability

Career paths in science can be less predictable compared to other professions. Short-term contracts, postdoctoral positions, and the need to relocate for research opportunities are common, leading to uncertainty and instability.

## Work-Life Balance

The demanding nature of scientific research can impact work-life balance. Long hours, deadlines, and the pressure to publish can

lead to stress and burnout if not managed effectively.

Despite these challenges, a career in science offers the opportunity to make significant contributions to knowledge, innovation, and societal progress. Overcoming these challenges requires resilience, passion for discovery, and a commitment to the scientific process.

3. Being a trained scientist, you work as a Commercial Marketing Manager. Please elaborate your job profile.

As a Commercial Marketing Manager at Merck, my job revolves around promoting and commercializing scientific innovations and products. Here are some key roles and responsibilities:

## Product Positioning and Branding:

Developing strategies to position our products effectively in the market. Creating compelling messaging and branding initiatives that resonate with our target audience.

## Marketing Campaigns:

Planning and executing marketing campaigns across various channels such as digital marketing and conferences. Visiting customers to understand their needs and market trends. Collaborating with creative teams to develop promotional materials and run events.

## Data Analysis:

Analyzing data to assess the effectiveness of marketing campaigns. Identifying workflow gaps and developing targeted campaigns.

## Sales Support:

Working closely with the sales team to provide effective tools, materials, and training to support their efforts in driving sales.

## Customer Engagement:

Building relationships with key opinion leaders through webinars, roadshows, and conferences.

## Market Development:

Identifying new market opportunities and potential applications for existing products. Developing strategies to expand our market presence and drive growth.

Overall, my role bridges the gap between scientific innovation and commercial success, ensuring that our products meet customer needs and achieve business objectives.

*(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational  
columnist Malout)*

## Loss of children's education due to climate change is concern



By: Amarपाल Singh Verma  
(Independent journalist)

Climate change is a cause of concern for the whole world. It is becoming a serious problem, which is affecting the health, education and future of children. Children are being affected by famine, floods, heat, forest fires and various diseases due to climate change. The recent global

education monitoring report shows that climate change is causing loss of children's education.

This report, jointly prepared by UNESCO, Monitoring and Evaluating Climate Communication and Education (MECE) and the University of Saskatchewan, Canada, is a cause of concern. According to the report, due to climate change events, schools are being closed every year in most low and middle income countries. This is increasing the risk of loss of children's education and their dropping out of school. While education systems and their consequences are already being disrupted by the effects of climate change, this report revealing the facts of school closures is certainly worth considering.

The direct effects of climate

change mentioned in the report include the destruction of education infrastructure as well as deaths and injuries to students, parents and school staff. The report shows that schools were closed during at least 75 percent of extreme weather events in the last 20 years, affecting 5 million or more people. While children and teachers lost their lives due to the continuity of natural disasters like floods and cyclones, it also caused damage to school buildings. The report also mentions in detail the impact of climate change on India.

When various states in our country are affected by floods, children miss school for a long time. Children are unable to go to school during forest fires. In different states, every year, holidays have to be given to small children in

the harsh winter by the order of the District Collector. Similar precautionary measures are taken during extreme heat and rains. Certainly, this is harming the education of children. If they fall behind in studies, they are unable to score the expected marks. Climate change is a big crisis, to avoid it, full preparation will have to be done. Education is necessary for this. Only educated children will be able to understand the causes of climate change and ways to deal with it. Today, as much as literacy is necessary, climate literacy is also as inevitable.

*(The author is a  
freelance journalist  
from Rajasthan.)*

Contact number: 9829019785

## Bahu residents seeks open area for playing, walking Rajeev Charak demands mini stadium, walk-ways on vacant land says only sports push youth away from drugs

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: A delegation of youth from Bahu area headed by Akshay Sagotra met BJP leader Rajeev Charak and apprised him about the problems being faced by the local youth and elders due to lack of playground and walkways.

The delegation apprised BJP leaders that in absence of a sports ground, youth not able to pursue sports as profession and unable to participate in competitions.

They said that there is no such open ground in the Bahu Fort area, where the youth can practice in the morning and evening and utilize their energy in construc-



tive way, which is also a reason that lot of youth pushed towards drugs in absence of any sports activity.

While interacting with young sportspersons, Charak apprised the delegation and said that Prime Minister of India is paying more attention to sports and started many projects for the youth through Khelo India but most of the people of Jammu and Kashmir are

still deprived of it.

He said we understand that the progress of any city, village, state, country is an important role of the youth class, for that the youth should be kept away from drugs, which is only possible if energy if youth is channelized to sports and other activities.

He said sports is a medium with which the youth can keep themselves physically healthy

on the one hand, while it can also keep the youth mentally healthy.

He said there is a lot of potential among youth of Bahu Fort, Gorkha Nagar, JDA New Colony, Bahu Fort and Shiv Nagar Bahu Fort areas, but due to lack of any playground in the area, the youth are either limited to computer or mobile games, or get trapped in bad habits like drugs. He said its dire need to create sports infrastructure in Bahu area.

He said that we demand from the government of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha about 130 meters long and 130 meters wide sports ground in Bahu area.

Due to lack of grounds,

the youth have to go here and there. If there is a sports ground in the Bahu area, then the youth can enhance their talent and illuminate the name of the state and the country.

Charak said that the State Forest Corporation's Bachan Sale depot in Bahu Fort has been closed, a lot of land is lying vacant there, a playground should be built on that vacant land.

Others who accompanied the deputation included Susheel Malakar, Deepak Kumar, Kartik Kumar, Ansh, Mayank Charak, Abhinandan Chib,

Abhimanyu Mehra, Nishant Mehta, Nitin Kalsi, Akash Gupta and Tiny Lada.

## GDC Darhal holds plantation drive under Swachhta Pakhwada

Top News Report

DARHAL, Aug 3: Building on the ongoing Swachhta Pakhwada program, the Government Degree College (GDC) Darhal has organized a special plantation drive with the theme "Ek Ped Maan Ke Naam" (One Tree for the Mother).

The event saw enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and the local community, who came together to plant saplings across the college campus and its surrounding areas. The initiative aims to contribute to environmental conservation and promote a greener, healthier ecosystem.

The "Ek Ped Maan Ke Naam" drive aligned with the broader objectives of the Swachhta Pakhwada program, which focuses on fostering cleanliness,



waste management, and sustainable practices.

The drive was conducted by students and faculty in presence of Principal Prof Zamir Mirza, Dr Ghulam Abbas, Dr. Mohd Saleem Wani, Dr Mohd Akhlaq, Dr Taseem, Prof. Anzar Ahmed and others.

During the event, participants were educated on the importance of tree plantation and its role in combating environmental challenges, such as

climate change, soil erosion, and air pollution. Experts provided guidance on proper planting techniques and the care required for the saplings to thrive.

The college administration emphasized the significance of this collective effort, as it not only beautifies the campus but also contributes to the larger goal of increasing green cover and combating the effects of deforestation.

## Patriotic fervour ignites GDC Darhal on Independence Day



Top News Report

DARHAL, Aug 3: In a vibrant display of patriotism, the Government Degree College (GDC) Darhal hosted a painting competition on Saturday themed "Love for Mother India" as part of the ongoing Independence Day celebrations.

The event witnessed an enthusiastic participation from the college's students in presence of Prof Zamir Mirza Principal, Dr Mohd Saleem convenor IQAC and coordinator of the events, Dr Taseem, Dr Ghulam Abbas, Dr Ikhlaq, Dr Anzaar and many others who channeled their artistic talents

to express their deep-rooted affection for the nation.

The competition provided a platform for the youth to showcase their creative abilities while commemorating the spirit of India's independence.

The paintings created by the students reflected the diverse cultural tapestry and the unwavering commitment to the country's progress and prosperity.

The college administration lauded the students' efforts and emphasized the importance of such initiatives in fostering a sense of national pride and unity among the youth.

## Swachhta Pakhwada going on with full zeal in GDC Udhampur

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Aug 3: To commemorate the 77th year of independence by remembering the freedom fighters who toiled with their blood to attain the independence, the Swachhta Pakhwada is going on with full zeal in GDC Udhampur.

In the ongoing series of events, the students of the college participated in poster making cum painting intra college competition to express their emotions on the canvas for the saviours of the motherland. The program was held under the able guidance of Principal Dr. Sanjay Verma.

The Principal, while starting the competition, appreciated the students for their aptitude for the creative skills to express their minds with colors.

The Coordinators of the event and NSS POs Dr. Gurpreet Kour and Prof. Sanjeet Singh briefed worthy Principal sir about the rules of the completion and the theme, 'Indian Struggle for Freedom'.

The Jury of the event comprised of Dr. Shobhna Sambyal, Dr. Shivi Mehra and Dr. Rajesh Manhas.

The Poster of Sumit of B.A bagged 1st Position while Taniya of B.Sc. was adjudged at position 2 while Rahul of B.A took 3rd Place.

The vote of thanks at the end of event was presented by Prof. Sanjeet Singh. The program ended with recitation of National Anthem.

## GGM SC College organizes "Run for Unity" to promote National Integration



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: NSS and NCC units of GGM Science College on Saturday hosted a "Run for unity" event to commemorate 77th Independence Day celebrations.

The "Run for Unity" is organized to celebrate the spirit of unity and to encourage the community to come together as one.

This initiative aligns with the college's mission to promote values of inclusivity and harmony among students and the broader public.

The event was organized under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of GGM Science College.

He said that "Run for Unity" is not only a race but it also instills values such as unity, teamwork and the feeling of national integration among the participants.

He further emphasized the importance of unity in diversity and encouraged students to uphold the values of unity, peace and brotherhood.

The "Run for Unity" also serves as a platform to inspire the youth to actively participate in activities that strengthen societal cohesion.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from NCC cadets, NSS volunteers, faculty members and local community members. A 2 km

run around the college campus was flagged off by the worthy principal of the college. This event served as a tribute to India's independence Heroes and reminder of the importance of staying united as a nation. Refreshment was served to the participants after the event.

The event was coordinated by ANO's Lt. Dr. Devinder Kumar Sharma, Dr. Shafia Saleem and NSS Program Officers Dr. Neha Sharma and Dr. Rahul Kait.

Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta lauded the coordinating team and volunteers, whose dedication made the event a grand success.

## Capacity Building Programme for Krishi Udyami on HADP held

Top News Report

RAMBAN, Aug 3: In a significant initiative aimed at empowering the agriculture sector, the District Administration Ramban, under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner, Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary, organized a comprehensive capacity-building programme for Krishi Udyami and Agriculture Extension Officers in the district. The programme focused on sensitizing participants about the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) and importance of Kisan Khidmat Ghars.

Presiding over the training session, Chief Planning Officer Ramban, Shakeeb Ahmed Rather, urged the participants to set up and work diligently in their respective Krishi Khidmat Ghars (KKG). He emphasized the

importance of their role in serving the farmer community, particularly in assisting them with the various online schemes offered by the Agriculture and allied departments. Seven KKG are being established in the district in 1st Phase, he added.

Key officers attended the programme including District Nodal Officer DHAP, CAHO, Dr Suhail Kousa; CHO, Anil Gorka; DSHO, Sabir Khan; DSO, Kuldeep Singh; DAO, Ravi Sharma; and various other concerned officers.

The concerned departments highlighted their respective schemes during the session, providing an in-depth understanding of their benefits and application processes. They called upon the officers to further sensitize farmers about these schemes and provide the necessary support to help

them avail the online benefits effectively.

This initiative is part of the UT Government ongoing efforts to enhance the capabilities of its agricultural workforce, ensuring that they are well-equipped to guide and support farmers in maximizing the benefits of government schemes.

By fostering a deeper understanding of the HADP and other relevant programs, the administration aims to drive sustainable agricultural development and improve the livelihoods of the farming community in Ramban.

The participants were imparted both soft and hard skills of operating KKG through PowerPoint presentation and screening of relevant videos by the experts of Agriculture Development Ramban besides providing IEC material, books to participants.

## Ghulam Hassan Mir inaugurates party office in Kunzer

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 3: Apni Party Senior Vice President Ghulam Hassan Mir, on Saturday, inaugurated the party office in the Kunzer area of north Kashmir's Tangmarg.

The event was attended by local leaders and senior party workers.

Speaking on the occasion, Ghulam Hassan Mir said, "Establishing a party office here has been a long-pending demand by our leaders and senior workers in Tangmarg. I am sure that you will utilize this space not only to strengthen bonds and stay well connected with each other but also to remain engaged with the common people. This office space will serve the purpose of spreading Apni Party's message and raising awareness about the party's agenda and policies."

He further said, "The local population has high expectations of Apni Party. However, having been out of power for more than 10 years, we are currently not in a position to do much. Nevertheless, as soon as Apni Party receives a public mandate to serve the people, we will do everything to ensure the well-being and prosperity of the people."

The prominent party leaders who were present on this occasion included DDC Tangmarg Advocate Tajamul Ishfaq Mir, DDC Kunzer Sheikh Nazir Ahmad, Party's Provincial Secretary Baigh Aftab, Block President Kunzer Abdul Kareem Dar, Block President Tangmarg Abdul Rehman Lone (Kaka Ji), Nazir Ahmad, Zonal President Abdul Majeed Khanday, Block President Wanigam Nazir Ahmad, and others.

## JTGC organizes Junior Golf Cup 2024 at Sidhra

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: The Jammu Tawi Golf Course (JTGC) organized Junior Golf Cup, 2024 at Jammu Tawi Golf Course, Sidhra in order to promote the game of Golf in the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

Manav Gupta Secretary Jammu Tawi Golf Course teed off the first ball of the event.

Arinn Satya Gupta, Bakhtawar, Avinash, Wadana, Atharv Rishi, Adhyan Gujral, Arhana, Arindham Sudan, Hisham Baba, Tejal, R.S Gupta and Tehleel Ahmed participated during the tournament.

Arindham Sudan was

adjudged as the overall winner of the tournament while Rayan Satya Gupta and Master Bakhtawar was declared as runner-up of the tournament respectively. Master Adhyan Gujral bagged the award for the straight drive (1 feet 1 inch.). The longest drive award went to Adhyan Gujral (190 mtr). While Nearest to the pin at Hole no. 2 went to Master Adharav Rishi.

Bakhtawar, Arinn Satya Gupta, Arindham Sudan, R.S Gupta were chosen as Best in Four Balls amongst their groups.

Congratulating the winners, Secretary Jammu Tawi Golf Course, Manav

Gupta stressed the need for inculcating golfing culture among the younger generation.

Appreciating the management of JTGC for successfully conducting the event, he said that such tournaments will be organized on a regular basis.

Manav Gupta, Secretary, Jammu Tawi Golf Course presented trophies and Medals to the winners, runner-ups and other players, who were adjudged best in different categories.

Manav Gupta thanked all the Junior Golfers for participating in the tournament with great enthusiasm and zeal.

## IGNOU's MBA in Agribusiness Management nurtures commercial agriculture and start-ups in country

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: IGNOU has introduced an MBA programme in Agribusiness Management (MBAABM) in the ongoing July 2024 admission session.

This program aims to include competent business professionals to enhance the agri-business activities in turn the farmers' economy. This MBA program is getting enthusiastic responses from aspiring learners nationwide due to good entrepreneurial and employment opportunities in the agribusiness field.

The IGNOU's MBA (Agribusiness Management) program addresses the critical need of providing human resources with desired management competency.

The ability of the farm community, youth and agri-stakeholders will be enhanced to improve income prospects and overall agricultural productivity.

The MBAABM programme of IGNOU aims to generate competent business professionals in agriculture, food, rural and allied sectors; fostering start-ups and entrepreneurship among farmers, intermediaries and traders within the agri-business chain.

It seeks to equip these professionals with specific managerial skills, develop expertise in managing the techno-commercial aspects of agribusiness and impart the knowledge necessary to effectively address national development plans, agricultural policies and global trade.

The programme caters to trad-

ers, intermediaries, technicians, and managers in agro-industries and enterprises dealing with agricultural inputs and outputs. Professionals from NGOs, cooperatives, FPOs, SHGs, corporate entities, and financial and marketing organizations will be benefited as well.

The MBAABM program aids in becoming an entrepreneur, involved in private companies, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and international institutions, providing diverse opportunities for learners to make a significant impact in the agricultural sector.

MBAABM programme includes a comprehensive set of courses designed to equip learners with a broad range of skills in management and agribusiness.

Detailed learning will be provided on all the new aspects of agriculture and allied activities like horticultural production, post-harvest management, livestock, agri-equipment, renewable energy in agriculture, organic farming, food safety & quality and agricultural extension.

"The programme is of 2 years duration and graduates in any discipline are eligible for admission. Admission to the programme is open for the July 2024 session. For registration in the programme, learners are advised to visit the IGNOU admission portal <https://ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in/> for which the last date has been fixed at August 14, 2024", said Dr. Jai Prakash Verma, Regional Director, IGNOU, Regional Centre Jammu.

## Fight against Non-Reliable Indians

*Megha Barsege, which brings to fore the plight of abandoned brides by NRI grooms, aims at sensitisation of women in the region*

Today we speak of women being equal to men, or even superior, in different walks of life. Academics, professions, managing home or business, sports or space, women are thriving. But when it comes to a wedding, one harsh truth raises its ugly head for these very accomplished women.

"Teri beti koi doctor ya engineer thodi hi hai jo koi free mein le jayega," the father of a girl is asked in the promo of Colors' latest show Megha Barsege. The show, based in Punjab, brings to fore the plight of 'abandoned brides' by the NRI grooms.

To promote the show, its lead cast — Neha Rana and Kinshuk Mahajan — made a pit stop in Chandigarh on Friday. "Megha Barsege deals with a serious offence. There are as many as 40,000 women in Punjab alone who have been abandoned by their NRI grooms," they say. Kinshuk was looking dapper in his new lean look; Neha effervescent in a magenta bridal get-up with tikka, nath and chuda with Manoj written on it. "While there are exceptions, more often than not it's the girl who carries the tag of chodi huyi aurat despite the act being committed by a man," opens up Kinshuk. He plays Manoj, a conman who beats one and all.

Kinshuk readily said yes to the role as he has seen one such case in his family, and wanted to be part of the project that could spread awareness about it. The process has been a huge learning for him. "Playing Manoj gives me chance to be this Mr Right on screen, someone that every girl dreams of. His other shade



is that of a man who actually believes that it's all right to turn a girl into a free naukarani for his family and run away abroad to earn." He has shed considerable pounds for this role, enlisting the help of a dietician to turn from the elder brother of Pandya clan in Pandya Store (his last show) to Manoj of Megha Barsege.

For Neha, it was a homecoming. This girl from Ludhiana loved the experience of shooting the initial bit in Amritsar. "Food, people and their hospitality, it

was like being at home. People were so kind that they opened up their halls for us to rest in between shoots, such was their love and concern. And, here I am not talking of crew, but actual residents of the locality we shot in." She said yes to play Megha realising that her mother is a thanedarni. "A thanedarni's daughter looked intriguing to me." She has had her challenges essaying the part. "Our story is rooted in reality. To play this diffident girl who is very differ-

ent from the real me took some effort. The support of the other cast members helped me get into the groove."

Such frauds are being reported from different parts of the country, but most are from Punjab. "I am happy that now Punjab police is actively pursuing the cases. Yet, there are many awaiting justice. If our show helps even one single woman and saves her life, our goal is fulfilled," she avers.

(The show airs from August 6 at 7:00 pm on Colors)

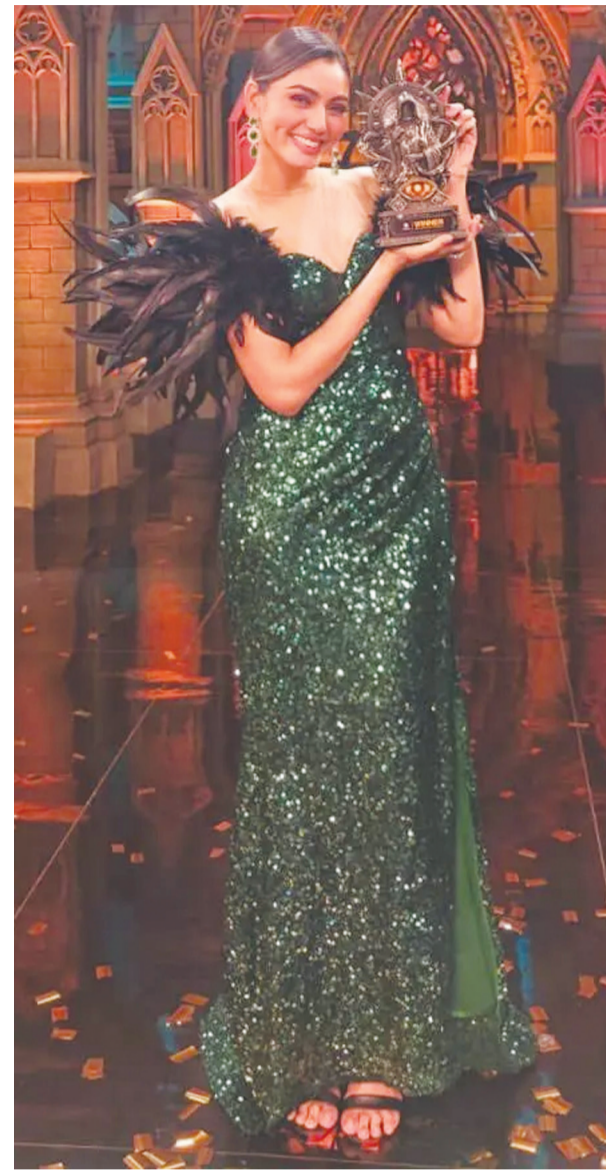
Director Sangeeta Rao at the helm

Megha Barsege has been directed by Sangeeta Rao. "It's rather a rarity having a woman directing a TV show. There are only two that I know of — Sangeeta ji and Nandita ji (Nandita Mehra). I was pretty scared of how it's going to be. Sangeeta ji is one passionate, gentle director with whom I loved working," shares Kinshuk Mahajan. "Working with her was like a mother gently guiding one on the path," offers Neha Rana.

Plot line

Megha Barsege charts journey of an Amritsar girl Megha, whose father has saved Rs 25 lakhs for his daughter. He doesn't want to spend on the wedding, but give her as gift to secure her future. Enters a conman who smooth talks the girl and family, robbing them of their hard-earned money. The show sees Neha Rana in the role of Megha, Neil Bhatt as an IAS officer Arjun, who is on a mission to catch the culprit. Kinshuk Mahajan plays the grey lead Manoj, the fraudster NRI groom.

## TV actor Sana Makbul wins Big Boss OTT 3



Popular TV actor Sana Makbul, known for her show "Vish", became the winner of the third season of "Big Boss" OTT, beating friend Naezy.

Show host and Bollywood star Anil Kapoor presented the trophy, prize money of over 25 Lakh to Makbul on

Friday night.

The show, which began on June 21, saw rapper Naezy emerge as the first runner-up, while actor Ranvir Shorey ended up in the third spot.

TV actor Sai Ketan Rao, known for serial "Mehndi Hai Rachne Wali", finished on the

fourth place in audience vote, whereas Youtuber Kritika, who is known mostly for being second wife to another contestant Armaan Malik, ended up in the fifth spot.

"I would like to share this moment with him (Naezy). In this journey, he was the only guy who believed in me. From day one, Naezy told me, 'You have the strength'. And I definitely have strength," Makbul told Kapoor after she was declared the winner.

The grand finale also saw Bollywood star Shradha Kapoor promoting her upcoming film "Stree 2" along with co-star Rajkumar Rao.

Contestant Armaan Malik, who entered the house with his two wives created quite a stir. Malik also got involved in a slap incident with Youtuber Vishal Pandey. Actor Shorey and Makbul stayed in the news for their constant arguments.

Chandrika Dixit, who became famous for her Vada Pav stall in Delhi, Youtuber Shivani Kumari, Lovkesh Kataria, Sana Sulthan, Payal Malik, professional boxer Neeraj Goyat, Tarot card reader Munisha Katwani, actor Paulomi Das and journalist Deepak Chourasia were also among the 17 participants of the third season.

## Rithvik Dhanjani takes on a new avatar

After winning hearts with his acting chops and dramatic flair as a host, Rithvik Dhanjani is set to showcase his lesser-known quirky side in Sony Entertainment Television's new show Aapka Apna Zakir. Rithvik will be seen as a charismatic 'love sceptic' who doesn't believe in love anymore, but has his own funny reasoning for the same.

About taking up this new challenge, Rithvik Dhanjani said, "I've always found immense joy and growth in exploring new avenues of entertainment, right from acting to hosting.

Now, I'm incredibly excited to delve into comedy, a genre I've long admired for its power to bring laughter and smiles.

The ability to spread joy is something I deeply value, and I'm thrilled to collaborate with Zakir Khan, whose global impact in comedy is truly inspiring. I'm eagerly looking



forward to this new journey and the chance

to connect with people through laughter."

## Here are the real khiladis!

*As Khatron Ke Khiladi's Season 14 takes off, the contestants talk about fear and how the mind learns to overcome it*

There is a thin line between being brave and being foolish. These guys walk this line and they are for sure brave! As Khatron Ke Khiladi's Season 14 takes off on Colors TV, the dashing host Rohit Shetty is back with a bag full of chills and thrills. With the new tagline Desh Naya, Khel Naya, the reality show, shot in Romania, has an interesting lineup of contestants who have overcome fear and faced each task with gusto.

Daughter of Bollywood's celebrated actor Jackie Shroff, Krishna Shroff is one among them and hopes to ace every challenge thrown at her. She shares, "I'm excited because taking risks in life and not setting limitations for yourself sets the tone for how far you can go. Fear is something that lingers in the mind, which leads to reactions and emotions. Being encouraged by fellow contestants and



yet competing with them is a great feeling though. Also, getting trained each day is something that helped conquer that fear factor from within."

Aditi Sharma, a popular face from the television industry, is quite excited too as she feels the urge to do something adventurous. "The best part about adventure is that you feel nervous, but then you love

it! This show is actually something where no strategy works; all you can do is be on the spot and just dive into it. And now I'm no more scared of lizards, cockroaches and spiders; I can just ignore them. I have emerged as stronger and courageous." As for Sumona Chakravarti of The Kapil Sharma Show, it's a break from the comedy genre. "This

is all about getting real. It's the kind of reality show that is quite balanced. It resonates with my vibe and sensibility because I love travelling as well as adventure. It's once-in-a-lifetime kind of opportunity because of the stunts you get to perform. It's the kind of reality show where you don't have to over-dramatise something just for masala or content purposes; there are no judge giving you points, no public voting. Adventure for me is adrenaline, the element of surprise, of the unknown, the head-rush you get when your heart starts beating really fast. Anything thrilling, not necessarily dangerous, which gives me butterflies in the stomach is adventurous for me," she says.

Karanveer Mehra, a television veteran who has also worked in Bollywood films, is all set to show his brave side through this thrilling reality show. He says, "You

get to travel and experience, for which you get paid! From hiking to diving, everything is adventurous."

Another contestant, Gashmeer Mahajani believes it is all in the mind. "It has nothing to do with your body or physical strength. I feel fear is something that is very important. It keeps you alert and aware. It's just that fear shouldn't be able to control you; you should be able to control it. I just stop thinking about the thing I'm scared of," he says.

Niyati Fatnani too wanted to get out of her comfort zone and do something adventurous. She says, "Anything that is out of your comfort zone and makes you a little uncomfortable is an adventure. Fear of failure is the biggest fear. No one wants to fail and which is why everyone strives to be successful. The show has definitely helped me come out stronger."

## 'Khel Khel Main' trailer: Akshay Kumar, Vaani's fun game unveils secrets

The trailer of 'Khel Khel Mein' is now out. With an ensemble cast that includes Akshay Kumar, Vaani Kapoor, Ammy Virk, Taapsee Pannu, Fardeen Khan, Aditya Seal and Pragya Jaiswal, the trailer shows how a fun game unveils some well-kept secrets that threaten to upset everything.

The trailer starts off simply as the friends, along with their spouses,

gather together for a night of fun.

The women discuss how every man has secrets that are well known within the 'boys group'.

In a bid to lay bare the secrets, Vaani Kapoor's character suggests a game where every phone will be put on the table and whatever calls or messages appear will have to be shared with the entire group.



As one can imagine, it gives rise to a hilarious ride as secrets are unveiled.

This film is an official adaptation of the 2016 Italian comedy thriller 'Perfect Strangers' and is set to release on August 15.

It will be clashing with 'Stree 2' at the box office.

The movie has been directed by Mudassar Aziz.

## Pari Bhatti does not like rain



Pari Bhatti, who plays the role of Juhi Jadhav in Rahul Kumar Tewary and Rolling Tales Production's Udne Ki Aasha, says while she doesn't like the rains too much, but it's fun on sets as they often treat themselves to yummy snacks.

"The fun behind-the-scenes moments for us are definitely the chit-chat sessions with tea and biscuits in the breaks.

When we are shooting, we make sure to eat something new every day.

But, honestly, I'm not much of a monsoon person.

Personally, I don't like rain because of the gloomy weather," she says.

## India food surplus nation, aims to find global food security solution: PM MODI

*The Prime Minister said agriculture is at the centre of India's economic policies, and the Union Budget 2024-25 has given a big push to sustainable and climate-resilient farming and developing a complete ecosystem to support Indian farmers.*

NEW DELHI, Aug 3 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said India has become a food surplus country and is also working to provide solutions for global food and nutritional security.

The Prime Minister said agriculture is at the centre of India's economic policies, and the Union Budget 2024-25 has given a big push to sustainable and climate-resilient farming and developing a complete ecosystem to support Indian farmers.

He was addressing the 32nd International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE), which is being organised in India after 65 years.

Recalling the last International Conference of Agricultural Economists, PM Modi mentioned that India was then a newly Independent nation, and it was a challenging time for the country's agriculture and food security.

"Now, India is a food surplus country," he said, adding that the country is the number one producer of milk, pulses and spices in the world.

Also, the country has become the second-largest producer of foodgrains, fruits, vegetables, cotton, sugar and tea.

"There was a time when India's food security was a concern for the world. Now, India is working to provide solutions for global food security and global nutritional security," he said at the conference, attended by about 1,000 delegates from around 70 countries.

Therefore, PM Modi said, India's experience is valuable for discussions on food system transformation and will benefit the global south.

The Prime Minister reiterated



India's commitment to global welfare as a 'Vishwa Bandhu'. He highlighted various mantras put forward by India on various fora, including 'One Earth, One Family and One Future', 'Mission LiFE' and 'One Earth One Health'.

He underlined India's approach of not viewing the health of humans, plants and animals in silos.

"Challenges before sustainable agriculture and food systems can only be tackled under the holistic approach of One Earth, One Family and One Future," he said.

PM Modi emphasised the importance of the agriculture sector in the Indian economy and highlighted the work done by his government in the last 10 years for the growth of the farm sector in a sustainable manner.

"Agriculture is at the centre of India's economic policies," he said.

In Indian agriculture, 90 per cent of farmers own very little land, and these small farmers are the biggest strength of India's food security, PM Modi said.

He pointed out that a similar situation is prevalent in several developing countries in Asia, making India's model appli-

able. The Prime Minister also said India has provided 1,900 new climate-resilient varieties of crops in the last 10 years.

India is promoting chemical-free natural farming, he added.

He also said the country is moving towards achieving the 20 per cent ethanol blending target in petrol.

The conference will highlight India's proactive approach to global agricultural challenges and showcase the nation's advancements in agricultural research and policy.

The Prime Minister also acknowledged the seriousness of the nutrition challenge, along with water scarcity and climate change. He presented Shri Anna, Millet, as a solution given the superfood's quality of minimum water and maximum production.

PM Modi expressed India's willingness to share India's millet basket with the world.

In his speech, he also talked about how India is leveraging digital technology in the agriculture sector.

He also mentioned the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, where money is transferred to the bank accounts of 10 crore farmers with a single click, and a digital

public infrastructure for digital crop survey that provides real-time information to farmers and enables them to make data-driven decisions.

He emphasised that crores of farmers will benefit from the initiative and improve their economic condition.

PM Modi also spoke about a huge campaign for the digitisation of land, where farmers will be given a digital identification number for their land and the promotion of drones in farming, where 'drone didis' are trained to operate them.

These steps will not only benefit the farmers of India but also strengthen global food security, he added.

Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Member of NITI Aayog Ramesh Chand, Conference President Matin Qaim and Secretary of DARE and DG, ICA Himanshu Pathak were also present on the occasion.

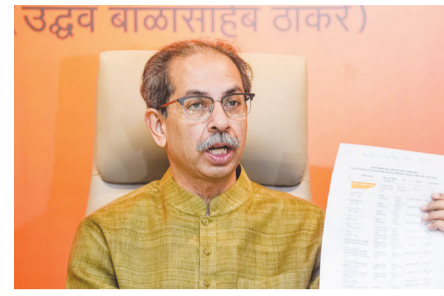
The conference will provide a platform for young researchers and leading professionals to present their work and network with global peers.

It aims to strengthen partnerships between research institutes and universities, influence policymaking on both national and global scales, and showcase India's agricultural progress, including advancements in digital agriculture and sustainable agri-food systems.

The triennial conference, organised by the International Association of Agricultural Economists, is being held from August 2-7.

The theme for this year's conference is "Transformation Towards Sustainable Agri-Food Systems."

## Uddhav Thackeray accuses BJP of indulging in 'power jihad'; hits out at Shah



PUNE, Aug 3 (Agencies): Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday launched a broadside against the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), accusing the former ally of indulging in "power jihad" by breaking political parties to form a government.

Hitting back at Union Home Minister Amit Shah for his "Aurangzeb Fan Club" barb aimed at him, he dubbed the top BJP leader a political descendant of Ahmad Shah Abdali, the Afghan king who defeated the Marathas in the third battle of Panipat.

Addressing party workers at the Shiv Sankalp rally here, he also accused the Eknath Shinde-led dispensation of bribing voters by giving "revdis" (freebies) to them in the form of schemes like the Mukhyamantri Ladki Bahin Yojana, under which eligible women in the state will get Rs 1,500 every month.

Accusing the former ally of breaking parties, he said, "If Muslims are with us after we explained to them our Hindutva, then we are (according to the BJP) the Aurangzeb Fan Club. Then what you are doing is power jihad."

During an event in Pune last month, Shah had attacked Thackeray and dubbed him "the head of the Aurangzeb fan club" who was "sitting with people who sought pardon for 1993 Mumbai serial blasts convict Yakub Memon".

Referring to his remarks, Thackeray, who had challenged his friend-turned-adversary and Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis that "either you will be there or I will (in politics)", said he was not referring to any person.

"Some people thought I challenged someone, but I don't challenge bed bugs. Here, 'I' means my cultured

Maharashtra and 'you' means the party which loots Maharashtra," the former chief minister said.

Bed bugs are not supposed to be challenged, but crushed, he said.

Attacking Prime Minister Narendra Modi over photos of leakage in the new Parliament building, Thackeray said the new complex has started leaking in just 14 months.

The PM asks what the Congress did in 60-70 years, but Modi should give an account on why the new Parliament building, which was built barely a year ago, started leaking, he said.

"This government (at the Centre) is a leakage government. There are paper leaks also," he said.

Thackeray also accused the BJP of engineering division among castes.

"This is not the Hindutva taught to us by Chhatrapati Shivaji. This (the one practised by the BJP) must have been taught by Aurangzeb which we do not believe in. Our Hindutva is the one that takes forward the Maharashtra dharma of Chhatrapati Shivaji," he said.

Taking a dig at the delay in getting judgement on disqualification of MLAs who rebelled against him, Thackeray said, "We have faith in the judiciary. The result will be given in 5-50 years. The term of (the legislative assembly) is getting over. Even if they (the rebel MLAs) are disqualified, they can contest polls."

Thackeray added that democracy was getting murdered in broad daylight and stressed that justice will be delivered in the court of the people.

Talking about the pothole-riddled roads during the monsoon, he hit out at Union Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari.

"Potholes are everywhere, including in Mumbai, Pune and other cities. Gadkari once said he will build such roads that even after 200 years there will be no single pothole on it. But looking at the condition of roads, Gadkari should be given the 'Khadde Purush' (man of potholes) award. The Mumbai-Goa Highway is still under construction," Thackeray added.

## Man dies as car swept away while crossing submerged bridge in West Bengal

KOLKATA, Aug 3 (Agencies): One person died after his car was swept away by water while crossing a submerged bridge in West Bengal's Paschim Bardhaman district, officials said on Saturday.

The vehicle was crossing the submerged Kalyanpur Housing area bridge in Asansol when it was swept away by water.

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) recovered the body on Saturday and sent it for post-mortem, they said.

Locals said that the driver had been warned against crossing the submerged bridge.

Torrential rains have led to waterlogging in both Paschim Bardhaman and Purba Bardhaman districts and in



Kolkata.

Flight operations to and from the Kazi Nazrul Islam (KNI) airport at Andal in West Bengal's Paschim Bardhaman district were temporarily suspended on Friday due to water logging in and around its premises.

Officials said the airport is expected to be operational later on Saturday. Water levels on the runway and other airport service areas are receding, and restoration work is progressing, they said.

In Birbhum district swollen rivers have inundated many temporary bridges.

The sanctum sanctorum of Kankalitala Temple in Birbhum has been under water since Thursday.

The relentless downpour has caused the Koppai River to flow above the danger mark, leading to the closure of Kankali Temple.

In Salt Lake City, the Bidhannagar Municipality has deployed pumps to drain out from the IT hub and other areas.

him were heard pleading for help. "He has been shot. Please someone take him to a hospital," a man was heard saying.

Some lawyers who were at the premises caught the accused, locked him in a room and informed the police.

The police have detained the accused.

Another video showed Singh lying in a pool of blood outside the court as several flanked him, trying to take him to the hospital.

He died on the way to the hospital.

## U'khand: Operation to rescue stranded Kedarnath pilgrims enters third day; over 10,500 evacuated

*Personnel of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and police are engaged in the rescue operation.*

RUDRAPRAYAG, Aug 3 (Agencies): The operation to rescue pilgrims stranded along a rain-ravaged trek route to the Himalayan Kedarnath shrine in Uttarakhand entered its third day on Saturday.

More than 10,500 people have been evacuated, some airlifted by air force helicopters.

Officials said around 1,300 pilgrims are stranded in Kedarnath, Bhimbali and Gaurikund, and are safe.

Personnel of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and police are engaged in the rescue operation.

The Indian Air Force's Chinook and Mi17 helicopters airlifted some pilgrims from the area on Friday.

Rudraprayag Superintendent of Police (SP) Vishakha Ashok Bhadane dismissed rumours of



a large number of people missing following a cloudburst near the trek-route.

"Almost all reported individuals have reached home," the official said and appealed to the public not to believe rumours.

She said, "Many people may not be able to contact their families due to poor network and bad weather."

The pilgrim, who died in a landslide near Tharu camp at Lincholi on Friday, was identified as Shubham Kashyap. He was a resident of Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh, District Disaster Management Officer Nandan Singh Rajwar said.

Two mobile-phones were among the items found near the body and have been handed over to the Lincholi police outpost, Rajwar said.

The trek route to Kedarnath suffered extensive damage as a result of a cloudburst in Junglechatti near Lincholi on Wednesday night.

The pilgrims got stranded beyond Bhimbali along the Gaurikund-Kedarnath trek route when a 20-25 metre stretch of the road was washed away by the waters of a swollen Mandakini river.

The trek route to the Himalayan temple is blocked by boulders at Ghoraparav, Lincholi, Badi Lincholi and Bhimbali.

The yatra to Kedarnath has been put on hold for the time being, with an advisory of the Rudraprayag administration asking pilgrims to wait wherever they are till the route is cleared of debris and repaired.

Two helpline numbers -- 7579257572 and 01364-233387 -- and one emergency number 112 have also been issued by the district administration to help people get information about their stranded kin among the pilgrims, the officials said.

## Ex-cop shoots dead bureaucrat son-in-law inside Chandigarh Court

CHANDIGARH, Aug 3 (Agencies): A bureaucrat was shot dead inside a court in Chandigarh this afternoon allegedly by his father-in-law, a suspended assistant inspector general of the Punjab police.

The victim, Harpreet Singh, was an IRS officer (Indian Revenue Service) in the irrigation department.

There was allegedly a domestic dispute going on between the families of the victim and the accused and both the parties had reached the Chandigarh Family Court in

connection with the same matter.

A mediation session was underway between both sides when the accused - Malwinder Singh Sidhu - excused himself to use the wash-room and his son-in-law offered to show him the way.

Both went out of the room. Moments later, five shots were heard.

Out of the five shots that Sidhu fired, two bullets hit Singh who collapsed to the ground.

Videos from inside the court complex showed Singh on the floor with people accompanying

him were heard pleading for help. "He has been shot. Please someone take him to a hospital," a man was heard saying.

Some lawyers who were at the premises caught the accused, locked him in a room and informed the police.

The police have detained the accused.

Another video showed Singh lying in a pool of blood outside the court as several flanked him, trying to take him to the hospital.

He died on the way to the hospital.

## Tied up dogs were being thrown off a bridge in Madhya Pradesh, rescued

SATNA, Aug 3 (Agencies): Its feet and mouth tied up, stuffed in gunny sacks, scores of dogs were being taken away on an e-rickshaw to be thrown into a river in a Madhya Pradesh city, showed a disturbing video.

The incident, which took place on Friday night, was reported from Satna, some 500 km



east of capital Bhopal. A group of men inter-

vened and managed to free more than a dozen dogs.

The video shows the tied up dogs in gunny sacks and the men untangling the ropes and setting them free.

A case has been registered against accused Nandu Basor and his accomplice Pradeep Basor, residents of Bajraha Tola in the City Kotwali area. They

accused are on the run.

Police are questioning their family members and conducting raids at the homes of relatives in an effort to locate them.

Post a comment According to City Superintendent of Police, Mahendra Singh Chauhan, the accused were identified through the video, which is in wide circulation.

## 32 Killed In Al-Shabaab Suicide Bomb Attack In Somalia's Capital

*The Al-Qaeda-linked jihadists have been waging an insurgency against the internationally backed federal government for more than 17 years and have previously targeted the Lido beach area.*

MOGADISHU, Aug 3 (Agencies): An Al-Shabaab suicide bomber and gunmen attacked a busy beach in the Somali capital Mogadishu, killing 32 people and wounding scores more, in one of the deadliest attacks in months, police said on Saturday.

The Al-Qaeda-linked jihadists have been waging an insurgency against the internationally backed federal government for more than 17 years and have previously targeted the Lido beach area, popular with business people and officials.

Unverified videos shared online in the immediate aftermath of the attack showed people scattering along a street, with a number of clips purporting to show bloodied bodies lying on the beachfront.

"More than 32 civilians died in this attack and about 63 others were wounded, some of them critically," police spokesman Abdifatah Adan Hassan told reporters during a press conference.

"Targeting and blasting to kill



32 members from the civilian population means these Kharijites are not going to target only government centres, soldiers and officials," he said, using the term Somali officials adopt to describe Al-Shabaab.

The assault, for which Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility in a post on a pro-Shabaab website, began late on Friday when a suicide bomber detonated a device and gunmen stormed the area, police and witnesses told agency.

Officer Mohamed Omar told agency they had "shot civilians randomly".

He said security forces had

ended the attack and killed five gunmen, while a sixth member of the group "blew himself (up) at the beach".

Witnesses said there were many people at the popular location when the explosion occurred, describing how gunmen then stormed the area.

- Lido Beach attacks -  
"Everybody was panicked and it was hard to know what was happening because shooting started soon after the blast," witness Abdilatif Ali told agency.

He said that people attempted take cover on the ground or flee. "I saw many people strewn (on the ground) and some of them

were dead and others wounded," he said.

Ahmed Yare witnessed the attack unfold from a nearby hotel.

"I saw wounded people at the beachside. People were screaming in panic and it was hard to notice who was dead and who was still alive," he told agency.

Al-Shabaab has claimed responsibility for numerous bombings and attacks in Mogadishu and other parts of the country, whose government is pressing on with an offensive against the Islamist militants.

The Lido area has been the target of previous attacks, including a six-hour Al-Shabaab siege of a beachside hotel in 2023, which left six civilians dead and 10 wounded.

Five people were killed in a powerful car bomb blast at a cafe in the capital last month.

In March, the militants killed three people and wounded 27 in an hours-long siege of another Mogadishu hotel, breaking a relative lull in the fighting.

## Hamas commander among 5 killed in Israeli airstrike in West Bank

*An Israeli airstrike on a vehicle in the occupied West Bank killed a Hamas commander and four others, with their identities still not clear.*



RAMALLAH, Aug 3 (Agencies): An Israeli airstrike on a vehicle in the occupied West Bank killed a commander in the Palestinian armed group Hamas on Saturday, Hamas media reported, while Palestinian news agency WAFA said four other men were also killed.

The identities of the others were not clear, according to the WAFA report, which cited health officials.

The Israeli military said it had carried out

an airstrike against a terror cell around the West Bank city of Tulkarm. Hamas media said a vehicle carrying fighters had been struck and that one of the commanders of its Tulkarm brigades was killed.

Violence in the West Bank was on the rise before the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza began on October 7 and has risen since, with frequent Israeli raids in the territory, which is among those that the Palestinians seek for a state.

Regionwide tensions have soared this week after the assassination of Hamas' leader, Ismail Haniyeh, in Tehran on Wednesday, a day after an Israeli strike in Beirut killed Hezbollah senior military commander Fuad Shukur.

Haniyeh's death was one in a series of killings of senior Hamas figures as the war in Gaza between the Palestinian outfits and Israel nears its 11th month and concern grows that the conflict is spreading across the Middle East.

Hamas and Iran have both accused Israel of carrying out the killing and have pledged to retaliate against their foe. Israel has neither claimed nor denied responsibility for the death.

Hezbollah, like Hamas, is backed by Iran and has also vowed revenge.

## Vietnam's Communist Party names To Lam top leader

HANOI, Aug 3 (Agencies): Vietnamese President To Lam was formally named the country's top leader Saturday, pledging to "speed up" a sweeping graft campaign that has snared thousands in recent years.

The Communist Party elected Lam as general secretary in the morning, the party said at a press conference, making him the most powerful figure in Vietnam's leadership structure.

It was not immediately clear if Lam would simultaneously continue to serve as president, a largely ceremonial position.

In his first remarks as general secretary, Lam pledged to "speed up" a sweeping anti-corruption campaign that has seen thousands -- including top officials and senior business leaders -- caught up in the crackdown.

"(I will) continue to speed up anti-corruption ... regardless of who the person is," Lam told a press conference.

"We have gained the trust of the people, and international friends, in our fight". Lam's appointment comes two weeks after the death of General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong, Vietnam's most powerful leader in decades.

Trong died in the capital Hanoi "due to old age and serious illness" and Lam was informally handed the reins of power.

Lam's succession to the top job follows a long career within the secretive public security ministry, which deals



with the monitoring of dissent and surveillance of activists in Vietnam, a one-party state.

Lam, 67, led the ministry from 2016 until earlier this year, when he was voted in as president.

That came in the wake of the resignation of his predecessor, as part of the sweeping anti-graft purge.

The so-called "blazing furnace" campaign has proved popular with the public, but analysts have warned the turmoil is threatening the country's reputation for stability.

The communist party has undergone a series of upheavals in recent months, with ministers, business leaders and two presidents all falling from grace as part of the vast campaign.

And with many fearful of being caught in its crosshairs, everyday transactions within business and the state apparatus have slowed.

## At least two dead, 17 went missing after landslides in southwest China

BEIJING, Aug 3 (Agencies): Landslides in southwest China destroyed homes and caused a highway bridge to collapse on Saturday, killing at least two people and leaving around 17 others missing, authorities said.

State broadcaster CCTV said "local mountain torrents and land-

slides" swept away part of Ridi village in Garze Tibetan autonomous prefecture, Sichuan province.

In a separate statement, Garze's local government said "a sudden mountain torrent and landslide" caused a highway tunnel bridge to collapse along the highway between Kang-

ding and Luding. Traffic was suspended along stretches of two highways in Garze, the government said in a further statement. Garze lies in a mountainous area at the foothills of the Himalayas and has a large Tibetan population.

Officials had confirmed that at least three vehicles had plunged off

the road, carrying six people of whom "one person has been rescued and five are missing", the government said in a social media post.

A string of natural disasters woes China. China has seen a string of natural disasters this summer, many linked to extreme weather.

State media reported on Friday said that the death toll from another highway bridge collapse in northern Shaanxi province last month had risen from 12 to 38, with 24 still missing.

In May, a highway in southern China was collapsed after days of rain, leaving 48 dead.

## 22 injured during explosion in paddock area at Germany's Nuerburgring racing track

BERLIN, Aug 3 (Agencies): Twenty-two people were injured by an explosion in the paddock area of Germany's famous Nuerburgring racetrack, police said Saturday.

Police said the accident, which they believe was caused by the explosion of a compressed air canister on Friday night, injured one person severely, three seriously and the others slightly, German news agency dpa reported. Police were still on the scene to investigate the cause



on Saturday.

Several people were taken to nearby hospitals by helicopter.

The accident took place behind a pit in track's paddock area during a test and set-up run ahead of the NLS4 race, officials at the track in the West German town of Nuerberg said in a statement.

Organizers said the NLS24 race would go ahead after consultation with all parties involved, but said participation was voluntary.

## Hezbollah to choose targets, strike "deeper" inside Israel: Iran

TEHRAN, Aug 3 (Agencies): Iran said on Saturday it expects Lebanon's Tehran-backed Hezbollah group to hit deeper inside Israel and no longer be confined to military targets after Israel killed the Hezbollah military commander.

Hezbollah has been exchanging near-daily fire with Israeli forces, saying it is targeting military positions over the border, since its Palestinian ally Hamas attacked Israel on October 7, sparking war in Gaza.

But a strike claimed by Israel in an overcrowded residential area of South Beirut changed the calculus, Iran's mission to the United Nations said.

"We expect... Hezbollah to choose more targets and (strike) deeper in its response," said



the mission quoted by the official IRNA news agency.

"Secondly, that it will not limit its response to military targets."

The strike on Tuesday killed Hezbollah commander Fuad Shukur. According to Lebanon's health ministry, five civilians -- three women and two children -- also died.

Israel said Shukur was responsible for rocket fire that killed 12 youths in the annexed Golan Heights, and had directed Hezbollah's attacks on Israel since the Gaza

war began.

"Hezbollah and the (Israeli) regime had observed certain lines", including limiting strikes to border areas and military targets, Iran's mission said.

The Beirut strike crossed that line, it added.

Hours after Shukur's killing, the political leader of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, was killed in a pre-dawn "hit" on his accommodation in Tehran, Iran's Revolutionary Guards said.

Israel has declined to comment.

On Thursday, Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah said Israel and "those who are behind it must await our inevitable response" to the killings of both Shukur and Haniyeh.

Iran and Hamas have also vowed to retaliate.

## Islamic State commander among 3 arrested in Pakistan's Punjab



LAHORE, Aug 3 (Agencies): Pakistani law enforcement agencies have arrested three suspected terrorists, including an "important" commander of Islamic State (ISIS) in the Punjab province of the country, police said on Saturday.

The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of Punjab Police said in a statement that three ISIS terrorists have been arrested during an intelligence-based operation in the Faisalabad, Jehlum and Chakwal cities.

The CTD said that an "important" commander of ISIS, Abdul Wahab, has been among the arrested terrorists. The other two ISIS terrorists have been identified as Saifullah and Khurram Abbas.

Explosives and weapons have been recovered from the suspects, according to the statement.

Those arrested have been shifted to an undisclosed place for further investigation.

Last month, the CTD arrested 38 suspected terrorists, mostly belonging to ISIS and the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) in the Punjab province.

## 6.8-magnitude earthquake hits off Philippines' Mindanao: USGS

MANILA, Aug 3 (Agencies): A 6.8-magnitude earthquake struck off the coast of the southern Philippines on Saturday, but no tsunami warning was issued and there were no immediate reports of damage, said the United States Geological Survey.

The shallow quake hit just before 6:30 am (2230 GMT) about 20 kilometres (12 miles) away from the village of Barcelona on the east of Mindanao island, USGS said.

A series of aftershocks were felt in some areas in Mindanao, with the strongest at 5.9 magnitude about 36 kilometres east of Barcelona, according to USGS.

The local seismological agency said no

damage was expected from the earthquake.

In Lingig municipality, where Barcelona is located, local disaster officer Ian Onsing said he was woken by the tremor.

"The shaking was quite strong. The things around here were moving. I guess, the shaking took around 10-15 seconds. So far, there are no reported casualties or damages. We are now monitoring the shores for any rough movement," Onsing told agency over the telephone.

"Aftershocks are happening here every after two minutes, but we're glad it's not as strong as the earthquake this morning," Onsing said.

Philippines is an earthquake prone country

Earthquakes regularly strike the Philippines, which sits along the Pacific Ring of Fire, an arc of intense seismic and volcanic activity that stretches from Japan through Southeast Asia and across the Pacific basin.

Most earthquakes are too weak to be felt by humans but strong and destructive that come at random with no technology available to predict when and where they will happen.

In December, a 7.6-magnitude quake struck off Mindanao, briefly triggering a tsunami warning that sent residents along the east coast of the island fleeing buildings, evacuating a hospital and seeking higher ground. At least three people died.



## IDPS akhnoor hosts investiture ceremony for academic year 2024-25

### Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Aug 3: IDPS Akhnoor proudly held its Investiture Ceremony on Saturday officially inducting the new student leaders for the academic year.

The ceremony was honored by Chief Guest Dr. Dheeraj Jamwal Sharma, Managing Director IDPS Akhnoor, and Guest of Honour Dr. Gurdeep Singh, Principal of KV No. 2 Akhnoor.

Attendees included other notable dignitaries including Principal KCS Mehta, Vice Principal Vinay Khajuria, Headmistress Anchal Gupta, and Senior Coordinator Rajni Sharma, alongside teachers, staff, and students.



The event featured a formal induction of the student leaders. Navdeep Sharma was appointed as Head Boy, and Saraniya Rajput as Head Girl. Aryan Khan was named School Ambassador, with Shakshi serving as Career Advisor.

The sports leadership

team includes Master Pankaj Kumar and Yasheen Kaur as Sports Captains, and Aditya Dev Sharma and Komal Sharma as Vice Sports Captains.

Discipline Incharges Sushant Pabha and Riti-sha Rajput, along with Vice Discipline Incharge

es Divyam Dubey and Sneha Bhau, were also announced.

Kreeti Rajput and Bhavya Sharma were appointed as Cultural Captain and Vice Cultural Captain, respectively. With House Captains Riffat Jabin, Mehak Devi, Kuljeet Singh, and

Simran Bhau leading their houses alongside their Vice Captains and Prefects.

The ceremony was further enlivened by an enchanting dance performance and a heartfelt group song by the young IDPIANS, which was met with great admiration from the audience. The performances showcased the vibrant spirit and talent of the students, adding a celebratory touch to the proceedings.

The event concluded with the pinning of badges, symbolizing the new leaders' dedication and responsibility. IDPS Akhnoor looks forward to a year of exceptional leadership and accomplishments.

## Swachhata Pledge, string of events held at SPPND GDC Samba



### Top News Report

SAMBA, Aug 3: SPPND Government Degree College, Samba under the leadership of the Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri organized a series of events comprising Essay Writing Competition, Quiz Competition, National Anthem Singing Competition, Painting Competition, Cleanliness Drive and Oath-Taking Ceremony aligning with Independence Day celebrations.

The events saw enthusiastic participation from students across various disciplines, showcasing their talents and knowledge in a supportive and competitive environment. Participants were tasked with writing Essays on the theme "Role of National Heroes in India's Freedom Struggle".

The aim was to encourage the students to

develop critical thinking and articulate their ideas effectively. Geetika from Semester V was the winner in this competition.

The quiz competition tested students' knowledge based on the freedom struggle and National Heroes. This competition aimed to promote learning in an engaging and dynamic manner. Team B comprising Sonali Sharma, Janvi Pangotra and Nageeta Kumari from Semester V were the winners of the event.

National Anthem Singing Competition was a tribute to the Nation's heritage and it was aimed at instilling a sense of pride and respect for the country among the students. Mridula Jasrotia from Semester 3rd was the winner in this competition.

The painting competition provided a platform for students to express their creativity and artistic skills. Participants created visually stunning artworks on various themes depicting important events of the freedom struggle.

Suneha Ladgotra from Semester 3rd was the winner in this competition. Earlier, the cleanliness drive, a Shapath Samaroh (oath-taking ceremony) was organized, where all participants pledged their dedication to the "Swachh Bharat, Swasth Bharat" mission.

The Principal of the College emphasized the importance of remembering the sacrifices made by our national heroes and the significance of the freedom struggle in shaping modern India.

She encouraged the students to actively participate and learn from such events. She also applauded the efforts of the students in making the event a grand success.

## GDC Thannamandi organizes National Anthem Singing Competition

### Top News Report

THANNAMANDI, Aug 3: Cultural Club in collaboration with NSS and Literary Committee of Government Degree College (GDC) Thannamandi organized an intra-college National Anthem singing competition as part of Swachhata Pakhwara here on Saturday.

An intra-college National Anthem singing competition organized under the patronage of Col-

lege Principal Prof. (Dr.) Farooq Ahmed to instill spirit of patriotism and unity among the students. Dr. Naseem Ahmed Convener, Cultural and Literary Committee co-ordinated the event.

The competition featured passionate solo and group performances that showcased the talent and dedication of the participants.

Students delivered heartfelt renditions of the national anthem,

emphasizing its significance and fostering a sense of national pride.

The competition highlighted the importance of cultural and literary activities in nurturing the spirit of unity and patriotism among the youth.

Trained by specially deputed teacher Khalid Raina and Dr. Gulshan Rashid, HoD Geography, Sheraz Ahmed won first prize whereas Rabia Sheikh and

Heena Khan stood 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Prof. Rizwana Kosser conducted the proceedings of programme whereas Dr. Nagina Kosser presented the formal vote of thanks.

A large number of students participated in this patriotic event. Prominent among others present on the occasion were Dr. Nazakat Hussain, Dr. Abdul Haq Naim Prof. Asif Ajaz Lone Dr. Ather Aziz Raina and Prof. Romy Dar.

## FROM PAGE 1

### Govt terminates six employees over narco-terror links

Din, Khalid Hussian Shah and Irshad Ahmad Chalkoo, Constable Rahmat Shah and teacher Nazam Din.

Saif Din, a resident of Shigani Bhallesa in Doda district, was a "deeply motivated and committed drug peddler as well as an over ground worker for terrorists of proscribed terrorist organisations like the Hizbul Mujahideen", the official said.

"He had established drug channels which are being used by anti-national agencies and elements to smuggle weapons, narcotics and to facilitate infiltration of terrorists into J-K," the official added.

Head Constable Sheikh, a resident of Ibkote Tangdar area of Kupwara, along with Khalid Shah and Rahmat Shah received a huge consignment of narcotics from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir-based smugglers from across the LoC, the officials said.

Sheikh was in contact with Pakistan-based terrorists who have been involved in smuggling narcotics, weapons and money from across the Line of Control (LoC), they said.

Khalid Shah, a resident of Chanipora Payeen Tangdar area of Kupwara, used his knowledge of the area to establish contact with drug smugglers in PoJK. He was at the forefront of running a drug cartel in the Kupwara-Karnah region.

The officials said Rahmat Shah, a resident of Panjowa Pingla Haridal in the Karnah area of Kupwara, had received a huge consignment of narcotics from across the LoC for selling it in other parts of the country. The earnings were to be used for a "larger game plan of adversary agency to destabilise J-K", they said.

The officials said all three — Sheikh, Khalid Shah and Rahmat Shah — had established contacts with Pakistan-based terrorists.

"They used to smuggle drugs from Pakistan, and the money generated through the illegal trade of these drugs was being used for fuelling unrest as well as financing terrorism activities..." the official said.

"They were in contact with large number of drug peddlers and over ground Workers of a proscribed terrorist organisation, and were a part of the modus operandi for arranging funding for terrorism in the Kashmir Valley and other parts of the country," the official added.

Chalkoo, a resident of Silikote area of Uri in Baramulla, had developed a close relationship with terrorist associates in the area and started working as an over ground worker for the Laskhar-e-Taiba, the officials said.

"He was in close contact with various Kashmiri origin terrorists based in PoJK, through encrypted messaging applications and had received arms/ammunition for further delivery to the terrorists," the official said.

Being a resident of Uri, Chalkoo utilised his knowledge of the local terrain to establish contact with terrorists based in PoJK. He used to assist terrorist groups, during infiltration, by providing logistics and transportation of their illegal arms and ammunition in the interior areas of the Kashmir Valley, the officials said.

Teacher Nazam Din, a resident of Kirni Haveli of Poonch district, is a "highly motivated and committed drug peddler", and an over ground worker for terrorists of the Hizbul Mujahideen, they said.

"He had received consignments of narcotics from across the LoC for onward delivery to drug peddlers, even in Punjab. He was in constant touch with hardcore terrorists in Pakistan, who ex-filtrated for terrorist training

and are currently active in terrorist activities from PoJK," the official said.

"He smuggled drugs from Pakistan, and the money generated through illegal trade of these drugs was used for fuelling unrest as well as financing the terrorism activities in the Kashmir valley, as well as other parts of the country, being an important source in the narco-terror system," the official said.

### SSB DG Chawdhary to hold additional charge of BSF

charge of the post of BSF DG "till the appointment of a regular incumbent or until further orders, whichever is earlier."

Chawdhary is the DG of the Sasashtra Seema Bal (SSB), the force that guards India's frontiers with Nepal and Bhutan.

The ACC on Friday ordered similar premature and immediate repatriation of Agrawal's deputy and Special DG (west), Yogesh Bahadur Khurania, to his parent cadre of Odisha.

The government's decision to remove the two top BSF officers comes against the backdrop of the Jammu region, along the India-Pakistan international border, witnessing a spate of terror attacks leading to killing of number of army and security personnel as well as civilians.

The BSF is responsible for guarding the India-Pakistan front on India's west side and Bangladesh on the east.

### Grave injustices in J&K by BJP must be rectified: Mian Altaf

absence of a democratically elected government in the region since 2014.

"Jammu and Kashmir has been stripped of its status and downgraded to a Union Territory. This move was rejected by the people of J&K and Ladakh. Never before has such a measure been taken, where a full-fledged state has been dismantled in this way. The people of J&K and Ladakh reject these decisions. It is time to rectify these injustices. Our statehood must be reinstated, and a democratically elected government should be restored to the region," he said.

He also highlighted the decline in conditions at the Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) in Lok Sabha. During his speech regarding health grants in the budget, Mian Altaf noted the negative impact of removing SKIMS' autonomy on hospital management and patient care.

"SKIMS is an old health institution of Kashmir whose autonomy was ended by the BJP government. BJP aimed to end the autonomy of Jammu and Kashmir but not the autonomy of SKIMS. Removing SKIMS' autonomy affected hospital management and patient care," he added.

He also referred to the issues of transferring state power projects from the State Hydro Power Corporation to NHPC.

"Despite the power generating potential, locals receive a small share of it, and what they receive is at high rates. The return of hydel projects has been a long-standing demand of J&K, which remains unfulfilled. There is no action to address this issue. Is this how they plan to bridge the gap between the people and the capital? There are no visible initiatives to make these promises a reality," the Anantnag-Rajouri MP said.

He noted that the President's address ignored key issues facing JK, including inflation, unemployment, and lack of development.

He also mentioned that the recruitment process in the region has been stagnant

for a decade, leaving educated youth with degrees in limbo.

"There is no mention of metro trains for Srinagar and Jammu. Tribals have been neglected and receive no support. Promises for tribal communities are rarely implemented. The government should involve tribal MPs in formulating policies for the tribal population," he added.

### United Opposition stages protest in Jammu for restoration of J&K's Statehood

The protesters, including senior members of the Congress, National Conference, PDP, CPI (M) and Shiv Sena (UBT), assembled outside the statue of Maharaja Hari Singh near Tawi bridge in the heart of the city, also seeking rollback of a recent Central Government order providing more powers to the Lieutenant Governor.

"The main opposition parties, minus BJP and its cohorts, have come together to convey a strong message that we want immediate restoration of the full statehood before holding of the assembly elections along with democratic rights to the people of Jammu and Kashmir," Pradesh Congress Committee senior vice-president Ravinder Sharma said.

He accused the BJP-led Central government of "shamelessly downgrading" the historic Dogra state and snatching the "status, dignity, identity and rights" of people.

"The BJP is on record having promised restoration of statehood to the people of J&K in Parliament and the Supreme Court. It failed to keep its promise and also hold assembly polls in the last six years. Now when the Supreme Court set the deadline for assembly elections draws nearer, it has given more powers to the Lt Governor to continue its proxy rule," Sharma said.

Last month, the Union Home Ministry gave more powers to the lieutenant governor by amending rules framed under the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

This act, passed alongside the abrogation of Article 370, bifurcated the erstwhile state into two Union Territories — Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

The move empowered the Lieutenant Governor to make decisions on crucial matters such as police and all-India services officers and granting sanctions for prosecution in various cases.

The protesters were carrying placards and chanted slogans in support of restoration of statehood, land and job rights and holding of the assembly elections.

Sharma also criticized the BJP-led Government for its failure to tackle terrorism and said the situation has worsened especially in the peaceful Jammu region where the terrorists have carried out sensational attacks in the recent past.

National Conference provincial president Rattan Lal Gupta also slammed the BJP for delaying the assembly elections and expressed hope that the Election Commission which is visiting J&K next week will ensure the holding of much awaited polls.

"National Conference is going to form the next Government and will revoke all the black laws implemented by the BJP," he said, demanding restoration of statehood before holding of the assembly elections.

J&K Shiv Sena (UBT) president Manish Sahni said a spark has been lit with this peaceful protest and it will turn into a flame in the coming days if the BJP delays restoration of statehood.

"We will intensify this struggle across Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Last month, the APUF constituted an 11-member core committee to carry forward the struggle for restoration of full statehood.

The committee, headed by former MP Sheikh Abdul Rehman, included members from the Congress, PDP, National Conference, Shiv Sena (UBT), AAP and CPI(M) among others.

### 12 Injured after building on hill slope collapses in Kargil

cave-in, they said. The officials said a rescue operation was launched immediately after receiving information about the building collapse. Police and army personnel and local volunteers were involved in the operation.

Most of those injured were tenants, they said and added that it took rescuers around three hours to remove debris and pull out the earthmover's driver from inside the heavily damaged cabin of the machine.

Chairman and Chief Executive Councillor of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Kargil, Mohd Jaffer Akhoun and Kargil Deputy Commissioner, Shrikant Balasahab Suse supervised the rescue operation.

"We have taken the incident seriously and a magisterial inquiry has been ordered to probe the incident. Those found guilty will be punished," Suse told reporters.

He said the administration has decided to form a committee to inspect structures in "vulnerable areas" of the district.

"The committee will also check for any violation in building regulation laws and identify the guilty," the official said.

### Fresh batch of over 990 pilgrims leaves Jammu for Amarnath Yatra

the commencement of the 52-day-long yatra from the twin base camps of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district on June 29.

More than 4.85 lakh pilgrims have so far visited the cave shrine situated at the height of 3,880 metre, housing an ice-shivling. The natural formation, which has now melted completely, is the main reason behind the declining number of pilgrims over the past week. Officials said that around 5,000 pilgrims are still visiting the cave on a daily basis to offer their prayers. The pilgrimage will enter its final phase on August 14 when the 'Charri Mubarak', the holy mace of Lord Shiva, will join the yatra in Pahalgam.

Officials said the 37th batch, comprising a total of 991 pilgrims, who also included 41 sadhus and nine sadhvis, left Bhagwati nagar base camp for the valley amid tight security arrangements around 3.30 am. While 815 pilgrims are heading for the traditional 48-km Pahalgam route, 176 yatrins have opted for the 14-km Baltal track, the officials said.

### J&K parts to receive heavy rains during next 3-days, says Met

expected, he said. He added from August 9th to 11th a brief spell of rain & thunder-shower at isolated places of Kashmir division and fairly widespread places of Jammu division may take place.

In its advisory the Met said that intense showers for a brief period with possibility of flashfloods, cloudbursts, landslides, mud-

slides and shooting stones over vulnerable places of J&K, and heavy rainfall at few places of Jammu & Kashmir during next three-days is expected.

### Kashmir reports 43 drownings in July, several confirmed as suicides

official said. The National Crime Record Bureau also highlights the spike in suicide cases in Jammu and Kashmir. According to the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) report, Jammu and Kashmir accounted for about 30 percent of all suicides in India in 2022.

Dr Yasir Ahmad Rather, Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, IMHANS, GMC Srinagar, said that 90 percent of suicide cases have underlying mental health issues. He said if these issues are addressed, individuals can be prevented from taking such drastic steps.

"Suicide has symptoms, and such persons mostly suffer from severe depression due to various reasons including financial issues, domestic violence, relationship failure, or academic pressure. Because of mental illness, the person is not able to cope with the stress and takes a life-ending step," he said.

Dr Yasir claimed the increasing suicide rate depicted prevailing mental issues within society. He noted that suicide cases show multiple warning signs before taking the life-ending step. "The person prefers to spend time in isolation, disconnected from society. Their social media handles too show signs of their mental health," he said.

Dr Yasir said one of the strong reasons for the recent spikes in suicides can be explained by the copycat phenomenon. "When someone who died by suicide is all over the news, their circumstances are discussed, which can trigger imitative behaviour in a person who shares a similar situation. Those struggling with mental health issues may start having stronger suicidal ideations after listening to or seeing reports of suicide," he said.

He said society, particularly parents and religious scholars, can play an important role in combating increasing suicides. "Religious scholars and leaders have a significant influence on people. They can raise awareness and discuss such topics within the backdrop of religion. Similarly, parents and teachers too can counsel children," he said.

Parenting and Mass Awareness: The Need of the Hour

Kashmir's Grand Mufti, Nasir-ul-Islam, said that effective parenting and raising mass awareness can prove beneficial in curbing such evils. "Parenting is the most important aspect here. A parent has to check whether their son or daughter is going through any mental issues. They can sit together and resolve it. Parents have to develop a close connection with their child," he said.

Mufti Nasir-ul-Islam said mass awareness can also help restrict suicide cases in Kashmir. "Awareness regarding the consequences of suicide needs to be spread within society. Such topics should be discussed so that every person gets educated and refrains from taking such a step even if their life is disturbed," he said

### LIC announces relaxations for victims of Disaster at Wayanad

Disaster at Wayanad in the State of Kerala. Entire LIC family of employees and agents share the grief of lives lost and stand firmly with the family members of the victims.

Nodal officers have been nominated at Kozhikode Division for liaison with the State Government official in this regard for expeditious claim settlement.

## Azad consults party leaders, workers on Assembly polls strategy

*Committed to Honesty—My Mission is Development & Peace for J&K: DPAP Chairman*

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: Ghulam Nabi Azad, Chairman DPAP held extensive consultations with party delegations in Srinagar and Jammu.

The meetings were convened to gather suggestions and insights from party leaders and workers in preparation for the upcoming assembly elections.

During the discussions, he highlighted the significance of involving party members at all levels in the decision-making process.

He underscored the need for a unified and collaborative approach to ensure that the DPAP's electoral strategy effectively

addresses the needs and aspirations of the people.

Azad said that the recently held Lok Sabha elections have been largely focused on national issues, but the assembly elections will present a different scenario.

He further said that due to delay in assembly elections, the public is now eager for the elections, as many of their concerns remain unresolved.

Azad also pointed out the lack of developmental work, which has further intensified the demand for timely elections and effective governance.

Azad reaffirmed his commitment to hon-

esty and transparency, declaring that he will never mislead or lie to the people.

He said that his mission is centered on promoting development and peace for the people of J&K.

He further said, "Lok Sabha elections were based on a national narrative, where people felt victim to false propaganda and exploitation but received nothing in return. In the assembly elections, local issues must be the focus. The development we initiated must continue. People are innocent, and the parties only engage in politics based on religion and caste, which ultimately harms the public. Our focus should be on

development, peace, and the return of our rights-Job and land, including statehood."

Meanwhile, leaders and workers who led the delegations urged Azad to take a strong stand against the parties that exploit innocent people and spread false allegations.

They emphasised the need to abandon a purely secular ideology and to work inclusively for the benefit of all communities.

The leaders also suggested that Azad initiate conventions and public meetings to connect with the people, raise their concerns, and address the pressing issues they face.

They expressed their readiness to prepare for the upcoming assembly elections with the aim of forming the next government.

Azad expressed his deep appreciation for the leaders and workers who put in tremendous effort during the Lok Sabha elections, despite the challenges posed by a new party and symbol.

He acknowledged their hard work and dedication & learning from past mistakes to ensure a stronger performance in the upcoming assembly elections.

Azad urged everyone to continue their efforts with renewed vigor, aiming for victory in the next electoral battle.

## Aryans celebrates Teej with great fervour



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: The 'jovial' festival of 'Teej' was on Saturday celebrated with fervour and gaiety at Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, near Chandigarh. Female staff of Aryans participated in various colourful activities on this women oriented occasion.

The staff made rangoli,

recited 'Bolian' and performed 'Giddha' to welcome the 'Savan', the rainy month, with which the festival is associated. Women wearing colourful attires broke into dances on the beats of the Punjabi music.

Director General, Aryans Group, Dr. Parveen Kataria talking about the significance of the Teej festival quotes

"by participating in such traditional festivals we stay connected to our rich cultures. She appreciated the efforts of the girls and said the celebration of festivals is a way of reviving and keeping alive the traditions and customs which are vanishing these days. The girls enjoyed traditional swings and folk songs.

## Shastri Judo Club organises anti-drugs awareness rally in Jammu North

*Uday asks youth to shun path of drugs, contribute in Nation building*



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: In a spirited display of community engagement and social responsibility, the students of Shastri Judo Club organized an impactful anti-drugs awareness rally today in the Jammu North Assembly segment. The rally aimed to educate the public about the dangers of drug abuse and promote a drug-free society.

The event was graced by the presence of Uday Bhanu Chib, General Secretary of the Indian Youth Congress, who served as the chief guest. The rally witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, club members, and local residents, all united by the common goal of combating drug addiction.

In his address, Uday Bhanu Chib commended the efforts of Shastri Judo Club and its students for taking a proactive stance against drug abuse. He emphasized the importance of youth involvement in social causes and encouraged the participants to continue their efforts in spreading awareness and supporting those affected by drug addiction.

"Drug addiction is a menace that affects not just individuals, but entire communities," said Uday Chib. "The initiative taken by Shastri Judo Club is commendable and sets an example for others to follow. It is crucial for the youth to lead the charge in creating a healthier, drug-free society. I urge everyone to support this cause and work together

to eradicate drug abuse from our community."

Uday Chib also called on the youth to shun the path of drug addiction and instead focus their energies on contributing to nation-building. "Our country needs the strength, passion, and dedication of its youth. By staying away from drugs and engaging in constructive activities, you can play a pivotal role in shaping the future of our nation," he added.

The rally included various activities such as distributing informational pamphlets, displaying banners with anti-drug messages, and engaging the public in conversations about the harmful effects of drugs.

Fiaz Diwan, Surinder Kumar, Romi Jamwal and other were also present.

## Care Foundation and Charitable Trust Holds core members meeting

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 3: The Care Foundation and Charitable Trust held a core members meeting on August 3rd at the International Hotel in Sonwar, Srinagar, under the supervision of Chairperson Dr. Mehjabeen Nabi. The meeting was attended by over 20 core members and focused on defining roles and responsibilities for the upcoming Independence Day event on August 15, 2024.

The program began with Vice Chairman Tawseef War summarizing the key points for the upcoming event. Each member had the opportunity to offer valuable suggestions with enthusiasm

and dedication.

Malik Noorul Ameen was appointed as Central Coordinator, Advocate Irfan Rashid Mir was appointed as Legal Head, Prof. Wahid Raza will serve as the program host for all Care Foundation events.

During the meeting, new members were welcomed by Chairperson Dr. Mehjabeen Nabi, who delivered the presidential address. She expressed her gratitude and encouragement to all members for their hard work and dedication to societal betterment.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks from Dr. Mehjabeen Nabi, acknowledging the members' efforts and contributions.

## Community Sensitization on Sex Ratio at Birth in Kunfer Panchayat

### Top News Report

RAMBAN, Aug 3: As part of the 100-day calendar activities led by MD Mission Shakti, Harvinder Kour, a community sensitization session on Sex Ratio at Birth was held in Kunfer Panchayat, Chanderkote.

The session was organized by OSC Nodal Officer, Rahul Gupta.

This initiative, under the Department of Social Welfare, Ramban, aims to raise awareness about the critical issue of sex ratio and promote gender equality. The event saw active

participation from local women and children, emphasizing the community's role in addressing gender biases.

Participants were informed about the importance of maintaining a balanced sex ratio and the adverse effects of gender discrimination.

The session highlighted the collective responsibility of the community in fostering a more equitable society.

The Department of Social Welfare continues to engage in such awareness drives to ensure the success of Mission Shakti's objectives.

## DAV National Sports 2024 Tournament held at MHAC Nagbani

### Top News Report

JAMMU Aug 3: The DAV National Sports 2024 (Cluster Level) Tournament for the U-14, U-17, and U-19 categories was successfully held at the MHAC School Nagbani premises from August 2nd to 3rd, 2024.

Schools from the Jammu cluster under DAV management participated in this event.

The tournament featured twelve events, with more than 200 students from various schools under the DAV JK Zone participating.

The games were held for both boys and girls across different age categories. The events included Basketball, Skating, Volleyball, Cricket, Football, Kho-Kho, Chess, Athletics, and Martial Arts.

The opening ceremony was inaugurated by Brij Mohan, the Principal of MHAC School, Nagbani Jammu. The ceremony began with the Sports Oath and the official opening of the games by the Chief Guest.

In his address, Brij Mohan encouraged the players to compete fairly and embody the true spirit of sportsmanship. The closing ceremony was graced by Vandana Kumari, Ex. Sarpanch Flora, Nagbani, who congratulated the students on their excellent performance and praised their sportsmanship and discipline.

The two-day mega event witnessed intense competition among the participating schools. Guest schools included MHS DAV Cent. Public School, Akhnoor, and MHS DAV Public School, R.S Pura.

The overall trophy was won by MHAC School, Nagbani Jammu.

## Discontent among unemployed youth in J&K against Govt: Manjit Singh

*Youth pin hopes with Apni Party, seek employment opportunities*



### Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, Aug 3: - Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and former Minister, Manjit Singh on Saturday accused the Govt of its failure to provide employment to the unemployed youth in Jammu and Kashmir.

As per a press release, the former Minister chaired a meeting with the youth at Vijaypur to discuss the burning issues being faced by the young generation.

District President, Legal Cell, Samba, Adv Sahil Bharti, District President Youth Wing, Samba, Mangat Ram, and others were present in the meeting.

During the deliberation, the youth expressed their resentment towards the Govt for its inability to provide ample job opportunities to them within Jammu and Kashmir that were available in the past.

"The youth extended its support to the BJP because they thought it would fulfill the promise of providing jobs and create employment opportunities in the private sector with vast industrializa-

tion and Multi - National Companies," said Manjit Singh.

He said that the Govt disappointed the youth with the false slogans, and assurances that they could not fulfill and hence, the unemployment reached its peak in Jammu and Kashmir in a record manner.

He said that the Govt sector was the major organization that would provide employment to the youth in Jammu and Kashmir because the erstwhile state faced multiple challenges being a border state with the enemy country Pakistan.

"The youth have faced difficult times and hence, they should be provided special employment packages in Govt sector, paramilitary, J&K Police and Indian Army to meet the challenge," he stated.

He further stated that the situation has compelled the unemployed youth to raise their voice and express their dissatisfaction with the Govt that has failed to fulfill its promises.

"The youth are deeply involved with the present situation. Many have crossed their maximum

age limit to apply for a Govt job. Therefore, the resentment is growing, and it has alienated the unemployed youth from the Govt," he added.

In this situation, he said that the Apni Party has emerged as a hope for unemployed youth, who have extended their support to the party.

"I assure you that if the Apni Party forms the next Govt in Jammu and Kashmir, a policy would be framed to address the growing unemployment," assured the Former Minister, while listing the problems of the unemployed youth.

He said that the youth are frustrated because their personal life has been badly hit with no employment, little scope to settle in life with minimum source of income amid the spike of essential commodities, and marriages are happening at a later age that has impacted their life in general.

He said that the issues of the educated unemployed youth have increased manifolds, and the present Govt has completely failed to address these issues.

## Illegal miners, drug traffickers not be spared whatever their clout: Dr Jitendra

### Top News Report

HIRANAGAR, Aug 3: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh here on Saturday said that a campaign has jointly been launched by the administration and the police to deal with illegal mining, drug cartels and bovine smugglers. He gave a clarion call, appealing to all sections of society to complement the ongoing efforts to curb the use of psychotropic drugs, rampant cattle smuggling and illegal mining.

The Minister was addressing "Empowering Youth for Viksit Bharat programme" organised at Government Degree College at Hiranagar in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir. He said that all-out efforts are being made by the local administration and the police to deal with these challenges. "No one will be spared, irrespective of or whatever their clout or political affiliation when it comes to confronting smugglers, illegal miners and facilitators of terrorists, he warned.

"Those who are pushing children of others into drugs must realise

that their own wards are not safe at all as they are prone to taking to the menace because they are living in the same society", said Dr Jitendra Singh.

The Union Minister urged the college administration to organise special classes to highlight the ill-effects of drug use among students and the youth, saying their future must be protected as will be architects of Viksit Bharat in the times to come. "Their energy and talent cannot be sacrificed at the altar of these crimes", Dr Singh emphasised.

Dr Jitendra Singh appealed to all sections of the society to play their part in the crusade against these illegal activities. He also made a fervent appeal, asking the people to take a pledge against such illegal activities and strengthen the government's measures aimed at ushering in greater transparency and more honest governance.

The Union Minister called for breaking the nexus between terrorists and drug dealers. On the measures taken to deal with rising incidents of terror in the area, Dr Singh

informed that VDGs have been strengthened and they have been provided with sophisticated weapons. "Defence forces and other law enforcing agencies have recalibrated their strategy to take on the challenges posed by terrorists in a more effective manner", Dr Singh said.

Dr Jitendra Singh highlighted that Kathua district has seen rapid development in the last 10 years of Modi government. "The district has earned a unique recognition for having first-ever national projects like North India's first bio-tech park", he mentioned. He said it offers avenues of self-employment for the local youth.

Later, the Union Minister held a more than two-hour public durbar during which Dr Singh alongside Deputy Commissioner Rakesh Minhas heard people's grievances and demands. A large number of grievances were redressed on the spot. The Minister directed the district administration to fulfil citizens' demands in a time-bound manner within the spirit of Jan Bhagidari.

## All India Jat Mahasabha organizes awareness camp in Village Chann Khatriyan

### Top News Report

HIRANAGAR, Aug 3: The All India Jat Mahasabha, Jammu and Kashmir chapter, organised an awareness camp at Village Chann Khatriyan in Tehsil Hiranagar, district Samba today. The primary focus of the camp was to educate women and youth about the procedures and importance of obtaining OBC (Other Backward Classes) certificates.

The camp was organised by Ch Manmohan Singh, State President of the Jat Mahasabha and former Mayor Jammu.

In his address, Ch Manmohan Singh highlighted the benefits of acquiring OBC certificates, emphasizing how they can provide better educational and employment opportunities for the community. He explained that obtaining these certificates can open doors to various government schemes, scholarships, and reservations in educational institutions and jobs, thereby helping to uplift the socio-economic status of the community.

He urged participants to prioritize their children's education, stating, "Only education can assure a



prosperous future for our youth. It is imperative that we make every possible effort to ensure our wards are highly educated."

Highlighting the importance of land preservation, Ch Manmohan Singh called on the community members to safeguard their lands at all costs.

"Our land is our heritage and identity. Protecting it is our duty," he stated.

Ch Manmohan also warned the youth to be vigilant against the growing drug menace. He asked them to shun the path of drugs and to actively contribute to nation-building.

Ch Manmohan Singh also recognized the significant contributions of women in today's society, asserting, "Today's women are not less than anyone. You have to play a vital role in the progress of our community." He reassured the attendees that the Jat Mahasabha

stands firmly with them in their endeavors.

The former Mayor asserted that the Jat Mahasabha remains committed to supporting and uplifting the Jat community in Jammu and Kashmir.

The camp saw active participation from several prominent leaders of the AIJMS, including Retd. DSP Diwan Singh (Sr. Vice President), Ch Avtar Krishan (District President), Ch Rashpal (Senior Leader), Master Subash (Tehsil President), Ch Sham Pal (Senior Leader), Capt Om Singh (Senior Leader), Ch Rattan Lal (Tehsil President), Ch Darshan Lal (Tehsil President), Ch Satish (Youth President), Ch Sham Lal (Ex-Sarpanch), and Ch Darshan Kher (Tehsil Vice President).

## Indian batters sans Rohit Sharma flounder as Sri Lanka earn a tie

**Rohit didn't look one bit rusty during his destructive half-century but the Indian middle-order stuttered badly, showing their ineptitude against slow bowlers**

COLOMBO, Aug 3 (Agencies): Skipper Rohit Sharma played on a different 'track' from his other colleagues, who were thoroughly exposed against quality spin bowling as Sri Lanka managed to eke out a tie against India in a low-scoring but thrilling opening ODI here.

In a chase of 231, skipper Rohit smashed 58 off 47 balls on a rank turner with variable bounce, taking his team to 71 in 10 overs but all the other batters never looked comfortable against an army of Lankan spinners as skipper Charith Asalanka got wickets off back-to-back deliveries to play his part in the 44th tie in the history of ODI cricket.

When Shivam Dube (25) hit those two sixes and a boundary through the extra cover to tie the scores, it seemed like Sri Lanka's woes would continue, but Asalanka took it upon himself to at least earn a psychological win for the home team.

Rohit didn't look one bit rusty during his destructive half-century but the Indian middle-order stuttered badly, showing their ineptitude against slow bowlers.

After the Indian bowling unit collectively put up a good show on a turner, restricting Sri Lanka



to 230 for 8, Rohit's 58 gave India a destructive start. Things went into a downward spiral after that as Sri Lanka's battery of spinners, led by Wanindu Hasaranga (3/58 in 10 overs), Akila Dananjaya (1/40 in 10 overs), Dunith Wellalage (2/39 in 8 overs) and skipper Charith Asalanka (3/30 in 8.5 overs), not only choked the run flow but also got breakthroughs when necessary.

On a pitch where Rohit made batting look ridiculously easy, KL Rahul (31 off 43 balls) seemed to once again play his natural waiting game that has always proved to be detrimental for his team's cause. And, by the time he threw away his wicket,

he couldn't ensure a decisive turnaround.

Virat Kohli (23), Shreyas Iyer (24) and Axar Patel (33) all got starts but couldn't capitalise.

However, it was Rohit, who looked like playing on a different track compared to all other batters across both teams. He started with an 88-metre six over cow corner off the very third ball of India's innings bowled by Asitha Fernando and then welcomed debutant pacer Mohamed Shiraz with a couple of boundaries and a slap over deep mid-wicket for a six.

While Shubman Gill (16) struggled at the other end, Rohit treated the Lankan bowlers with disdain.

Once he was adjudged leg-before trying a slog sweep off Dananjaya, suddenly the pitch, which looked easy to bat on, started showing its vagaries.

The ball started turning a wee bit more and the variable bounce also created confusion. Kohli got a skidder and was plumb in front while Washington Sundar (5) got one that Dananjaya fired in with an angle. Iyer didn't look bad in his short innings before an in-cutter from Fernando breached his defence.

Earlier, intelligent fifties from Pathum Nissanka and Dunith Wellalage carried the hosts to a fighting score.

Sri Lanka last won a bilateral ODI series against India 27 years ago and will be full of confidence when the teams meet at the same venue on Sunday before the last game on Wednesday.

The hosts were thrashed 3-0 in the preceding T20I series last month.

Brief scores: Sri Lanka: 230/8 in 50 overs (Wellalage 67\*, Nissanka 56; Axar 2/33, Arshdeep 2/47, Kuldeep 1/33); India: 230 all out in 47.5 overs (Rohit 58, Axar 33; Asalanka 3/30, Hasaranga 3/58).

## Mohammed Shami takes the domestic route for his comeback in Indian jersey



NEW DELHI, Aug 3 (Agencies): India's ace pacer Mohammed Shami remains uncertain over his comeback in the Indian team. However, Shami will be taking the domestic route to make his return to the Indian jersey. Shami has been out of action ever since India's heartbreaking loss in the final of the ODI World Cup 2023 against Australia on November 19 in Ahmedabad. Shami underwent ankle surgery in February 2024 and has been on the road of recovery ever since. Shami started bowling in the nets at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru.

colors before I don the India jersey again. I will come to play two-three matches for Bengal and will come fully prepared for it," Shami said during his felicitation ceremony by the East Bengal Club in Kolkata.

BCCI's mandate for cricketers to play domestic

BCCI cleared its stance on mandating the Indian players to play domestic in order to make a comeback in the Indian side. The BCCI have directed all cricketers to play domestic cricket whenever they are free from national duties, barring Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Jasprit Bumrah.

The move highlighted BCCI's focus on the importance of playing domestic cricket, which could be crucial in main-

taining players' form and fitness. The directive insisted the Test specialists to prepare for the upcoming Test series against Bangladesh and New Zealand. Shami's road to recovery

Shami suggested that he did not imagine that the injury would get so worse ahead of key tournaments like IPL 2024 and T20 World Cup 2024.

"We never thought the injury would be this serious. The plan was to address it after the T20 World Cup since we had the IPL and the ICC T20 mega event coming almost back-to-back after last year's World Cup," Shami said. "But it turned worse during the ODI World Cup itself and I also did not find it right to risk playing on with it. Even the doctors could not fathom that the injury will take such a serious turn and will take so much time to heal," he added.

Shami had missed the IPL 2024 for GT and could not take part in India's T20 World Cup winning campaign as well.

## Paris Olympics: India to lock horns with Great Britain in hockey quarterfinals

PARIS, Aug 3 (Agencies): The Indian Men's Hockey Team will lock horns with Great Britain in the quarterfinals of the ongoing Paris Olympics 2024 on Sunday. The Indian men's hockey team bounced back in the men's competition with a 3-2 win over Australia in their last Pool B match on Friday. It is their first victory against Australia in the Olympics since 1972 Munich games. India bounced back from a 1-2 loss to the defending champions, Belgium, in their previous game. With this victory, India finished second and will now face Great Britain in the quarterfinals of the ongoing marquee event.

The other three quarterfinals of the ongoing mega event will be between Belgium and Spain, Netherlands and



Australia; and Germany and Australia.

All the matches will be played on Sunday. By a very strange coincidence, all 4 QF lineups are exactly the same at the Tokyo Olympics.

Talking about India's performance in the event so far, they began their Paris 2024 campaign with a stunning 3-2 win against New Zealand in a nervy contest on last Saturday in Paris. In the second game, with the help of skipper, Harmanpreet Singh's late goal, the Indian team held Argentina 1-1 at

the Yves-du-Manoir Stadium on Monday. The Indian team outclassed Ireland in their third group stage clash with a scoreline of 2-0 on Tuesday.

In their fourth match, reigning Olympic champions Belgium beat the Indian Men's Hockey Team 2-1 in a high-octane match at the Yves-du-Manoir Stadium on Thursday. While Abhishek (18') scored the lone goal for India, Thibaut Stockbroeck (33') and John-John Dohmen (44') scored for Belgium.

## Lakshya aims to dial-up 'Sen-mode' against Super Dane Viktor Axelsen in Olympic semis

PARIS, Aug 3 (Agencies): India's Lakshya Sen will need to play out of his skin to keep his maiden gold medal hopes alive when he takes on the reigning Olympic champion Viktor Axelsen in the men's singles semifinals at the Paris Games on Sunday. Making his Olympics debut, Sen created history on Friday after becoming the first Indian individual male shuttler to reach the last four of the showpiece with a 19-21 21-15 21-12 win over Chinese Taipei's Chou Tien Chen in an intense quarterfinal match.

The Indian will have yet another uphill task at hand when he takes on Axelsen, the baby-faced badminton giant, who has terrorised his opponents in the last few years.

The 30-year-old from Odense, Denmark, has



won the Tokyo gold and Rio bronze, two world championship titles in 2017 and 2022, a Thomas Cup triumph in 2016 and multiple BWF world tour and Superseries titles to experience a dominating run as world No. 1 from December 2021 to June 2024.

Sen, a 2021 World championships bronze medalist, has lost seven times to the super Dane, who faced defeat just once against the Indian at the 2022 German Open.

The 22-year-old, how-

ever, has shown little to no respect for the past records against his higher-ranked opponents so far as he plotted the downfall of world number 4 Jonatan Christie in the group stage and Chou, ranked 11, in the quarters.

Axelsen has looked a tad subdued this season with just one title at the Malaysia Masters. The Dane also suffered an ankle injury in early June during the Singapore Open and was forced to withdraw from the Indonesia Open.

Sen, on the other hand, hasn't looked fitter in his career. He has been rock solid in his defence as he covered the court well and played at a high pace. His ability to produce winners at will has held him in good stead.

The 1.94m-tall Dane has an all-rounded game and is known to rain down brutal smashes from a great height. Axelsen, who received a bye in the pre-quarterfinals, had just one real challenge in the quarterfinals but he got past former world champion Loh Kean Yew of Singapore without much ado.

In their eight meetings, only two matches have gone to three games, including the contest in Muelheim an der Ruhr.

After seeing off the speedy and consistent Chou in a gruelling three-gamer on Friday, Sen will be now back-

ing himself to prevail if it goes the distance against the Dane.

Axelsen had robbed him of All England glory two years back when he beat him in the final. Then there were those twin losses in the 2021 BWF World Tour Finals and Sen will be itching to return the favour at the world's biggest stage.

A semifinalist gets two chances to return with a medal.

A win will keep Sen on course for Indian badminton's maiden Olympic gold, while a loss will give him a shot at the bronze medal in the play-offs.

"There's lot more work to do. Now, the real test starts," Sen had said after his quarterfinals.

For Sen, who wears "Sky is the limit" tattoo on his neck, only the gold can quench his hunger.

## "Not like we meet very often but...": MS Dhoni opens up on his bond with Virat Kohli

**Former Indian World Cup-winning skipper MS Dhoni shared many memorable moments and partnerships with Virat Kohli over the course of his illustrious career.**

NEW DELHI, Aug 3 (Agencies): Former Indian World Cup-winning skipper MS Dhoni opened up on his relationship with star India batter Virat Kohli, with whom he shared many memorable moments and partnerships over the course of his illustrious career. Dhoni was speaking recently at an event in Hyderabad. Speaking about his relationship with Virat, Dhoni said that whenever they meet, they make sure to have a chat with each other. "We have been colleagues who played for India for a very long time. He (Kohli) has been amongst the best when it comes to world cricket. And the fact that I could bat a lot with him during the middle overs was a lot of fun because we used to take a lot of twos and threes in the game, so it has always been fun. It is not like we meet very often, but whenever we get a chance, we



make sure that we go on the side and chat for sometime, we will talk about what is going on, so that is our relationship," said Dhoni.

Recently, Virat was part of the

ICC T20 World Cup winning team, beating South Africa in the final by seven runs at Barbados, with the 35-year-old scoring a match-winning 76 in what turned out to be his final T20I for India.

Virat is currently participating in ODI series during the tour to Sri Lanka. The three-match series started on Friday.

Dhoni played in the 2024 season of the league after a successful knee surgery. But despite all that, he was sometimes seen struggling and limping on the field. But these occasional struggles did not dampen his spirit to entertain fans. Coming down the order with very few balls left, Dhoni scored 161 runs in 11 innings at an average of 53.66 and a strike rate of 220.54, with best score of 37\* and a total of 14 fours and 13 sixes in the season.

However, CSK could not qualify for playoffs as they fell just short of qualification due to a loss to

Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), finishing fifth with 14 points and a total of seven wins and losses each.

## Bhaker narrowly misses out on third bronze, ends Olympics campaign with two medals



CHATEAUX, Aug 3 (Agencies): India's Manu Bhaker finished fourth in the women's 25m pistol shooting event and capped a magnificent campaign in the ongoing Olympic Games with an unprecedented two medals here on Saturday.

The 22-year-old Bhaker shot 28 in the eight-women final to miss out on completing a hat-trick of medals in a single edition of the Games.

She lost to Hungarian bronze medallist Veronika Major in the shoot-off.

Before Bhaker, no Indian athlete has claimed more than one medal at the same Olympics.

In the qualification on Friday, Bhaker shot a total of 590 (294 in precision, 296 in rapid) out of a possible 600 to reach her third final of this Olympics at second place.

Earlier in the sporting spectacle, Bhaker had won bronze in the individual 10m air pistol competition and then combined with Sarabjot Singh to claim another third-place finish in the 10m air pistol mixed team event.

Bhaker's second bronze had made her the first Indian after Independence to win two medals at the same Olympic Games.

## J&K Govt dismisses employees for anti-national activities

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 3: The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Saturday dismissed six employees, belonging to various departments: 05 from Police Department (Constables) and 01 from Education Department (Teacher) in terms of Article 311 of the Constitution of India for their deep involvement in anti-national activities.

The activities of these below mentioned employees had come to the adverse notice of law enforcement and intelligence agencies, as they found them thickly involved in activities prejudicial to the interests of the State evidencing their involvement in terror related activities.

Saif Din, Selection Grade Constable in Police Department S/o Quasim Din R/o Shigani Bhallesa District Doda A/P Javid Nagar, Bali Charana Naki Tawi, Jammu, is a notorious drug peddler, a habitual offender and a mastermind for generation and distribution of narco terror funding. He is a deeply motivated and committed drug peddler as well as an Over Ground Worker for the terrorists of a proscribed

terrorist organization like Hijabul Mujahidin. He had established drug channels which are being used by anti national agencies/ elements to smuggle weapons, narcotics and to facilitate infiltration of terrorists in J&K. Farooq Ahmad Sheikh, Head Constable in Police Department S/o Ab Aziz Sheikh R/o Ibkoota Tangdar, District Kupwara, alongwith two other employees namely Khalid Hussain Shah and Rahmat Shah (both working as Constables in J&K Police) received huge consignment of narcotics from drug smugglers across the LoC from Pakistan occupied J&K. He had contacts with the Pakistan based terrorists, who have been involved in smuggling of narcotics, weapons and money across the LoC.

Khalid Hussain Shah, Selection Grade Constable in J&K Police S/o Mehboob Shah R/o Chanipora Payeen Tangdar, District Kupwara, alongwith two other employees namely Farooq Ahmad Sheikh and Rahmat Shah (both working as Constables in J&K Police) received huge consignment of narcotics across the LoC from Pakistan occupied J&K. Being a resident of Tang-

dar Karnah, Kupwara, he used his expertise of local terrain and topography to establish contacts with narcotic drug smugglers across the border in PoJK and was at the forefront of running a drug cartel in Kupwara-Karnah region. Rahmat Shah, Constable in J&K Police S/o Manzoor Hussain Shah R/o Panjowa Pingla Haridal, Karnah, District Kupwara had received huge consignment of narcotics from across the LoC for peddling it to other parts of the country, including local market for profit motive and for a larger game plan of adversary agency to destabilize J&K. Being a resident of Haridal village in Karnah, Kupwara, leveraged his knowledge of the local terrain and topography to establish connections with the narcotic smugglers across the border in PoJK.

The above persons, namely; Farooq Ahmad Sheikh, Khalid Hussain Shah and Rahmat Shah, had established contacts with the Pakistan based terrorists involved in smuggling of narcotics, weapons and money across the LoC to India. They used to smuggle drugs from Pakistan and money generated through

the illegal trade of these drugs was being used for fuelling unrest as well as financing the terrorism activities in the Kashmir Valley and other parts of the Country. They were in contact with large number of drug peddlers and Over Ground Workers of proscribed terrorist organization and was a part of modus operandi for arranging funding for terrorism in Kashmir valley and other parts of the Country.

Irshad Ahmad Chalkoo, Selection grade Constable in J&K Police S/o Saif-u-Din Chalkoo R/o Silikote Uri, District Baramulla had developed close relationship with the terrorist associates of the area and started working as an Over Ground Worker with the proscribed terrorist organization, Lashkar-e-Taiba. He was in close contact with various Kashmiri origin terrorists based in PoJK, through encrypted messaging applications and had received Arms/ammunitions for further delivery to the terrorists. Being the resident of Uri, District Baramulla, he utilized his knowledge of the local terrain to establish contacts with terrorist based in PoJK. He used to assist terrorist groups,

during infiltration, by providing logistics and transportation of their illegal arms and ammunitions in the interior areas of Kashmir Valley.

Nazam Din, Teacher in the Education Department S/o Qayam Din R/o Kirni Haveli, District Poonch is a highly motivated and committed drug peddler and an Over Ground Worker of terrorists of Hizbul Mujahidin outfit. He had received consignments of narcotics from across the LoC for onward delivery to the drug peddlers even in Punjab. He was in constant touch with hard core terrorists in Pakistan, who ex-filtrated for terrorist training and are currently active in terrorist activities from PoJK. He smuggled drugs from Pakistan and money generated through illegal trade of these drugs, it was used for fuelling unrest as well as financing the terrorism activities in the Kashmir valley, as well as other parts of the Country, being an important source in the narco terror system. Government has adopted a Zero tolerance policy towards the anti-national elements who have been taking advantage of being in the Government service.

## CCI appreciates LG administration for smooth Amarnath Yatra, starting AIIMS OPD services



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: The Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCI) extended its appreciation to the Lieutenant Governor (LG) administration for ensuring the smooth conduct of the ongoing Baba Amarnath Yatra, which has seen participation from over 5,00,000 pilgrims. This achievement has been made possible through the active involvement and support of the people of Jammu.

Arun Gupta, President of the Chamber of Commerce & Industry, expressed his gratitude to LG Manoj Sinha, Union Health and Family Welfare Minister J.P. Nadda, MOS in the Prime Minister's Office Dr. Jitendra Singh, and Member of Parliament Jugal Sharma. "Their combined efforts have fulfilled a long-pending demand of the people of Jammu," Arun Gupta said in a press conference here on Saturday.

He also acknowledged Dr. Shakti Gupta for his significant role in initiating the OPD services in AIIMS Jammu.

Arun Gupta noted that this development will allow thousands of patients to receive specialized treatment locally, saving them time and money.

While commending the Administrative Council led by LG Manoj Sinha for resolving the Khad Land issue, the Chamber requested that the execution of lease deeds for JDA and other state properties be addressed similarly without further delay.

The Chamber expressed gratitude to LG Manoj Sinha for resolving the issue concerning 39 shopkeepers of Nai Basti, who were previously asked to vacate their shops by July 29. The Chamber had appealed to the LG to address this matter sympathetically. Additionally, the Cham-

ber requests that 20% of land developed for industries be reserved for MSME units. During the allotment process, local residents should be given preference.

Arun Gupta congratulated LG Manoj Sinha for launching the new film policy 2024 at the J&K Film Festival held at SKICC Srinagar.

He believed this initiative will transform Jammu and Kashmir into a global film production hub.

Gupta emphasized that Jammu, with its scenic beauty comparable to the Kashmir Valley, should be promoted through various media to attract Bollywood filmmakers. This will boost local trade, tourism, and generate employment for the youth.

The Chamber also called for the announcement of a power amnesty scheme for commercial users, similar to the one previously granted to domestic consumers.

## "Transforming Pilgrimage"

### Raman Suri praises proposed ropeway from Baltal to Shri Amarnath Cave

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri on Saturday hailed the proposed ropeway from Baltal to Shri Amarnath Cave and said that it will significantly enhance the access to the sacred shrine of Shri Amarnathji.



The Union government has approved 18 ropeway projects, including the Baltal to Shri Amarnath Cave, Makhdoom Sahib Hari Parvat, Shankaracharya Temple, and Sonamarg - Thajiwas, among others.

Once completed, this project will not only facilitate easier obeisance at the shrine but also boost the number of pilgrims visiting this holy site. The construction of the ropeway, an initiative by the Union Government, will reduce the arduous 10-12 hours journey to merely 40 minutes, making it a landmark development for pilgrims across India.

Raman Suri highlighted that this project is a part of the Parvat Mala project, which includes the construction of 18 ropeways across the country.

The distance from Baltal to Shri Amarnath Cave shrine is 14 kilometres, and this 9-kilometre ropeway will drastically reduce the travel time, allowing more pilgrims to visit the cave shrine.

In addition to these, the government plans to construct ropeway from Nashri Tunnel to Sanasar as well, which will increase tourism potential of the area. Consultations are going on, and the National Highways Authority of India, in collaboration with the National Highways Logistics Management Limited, is working diligently on pre-feasibility reports. These projects aim to improve connectivity to numerous tourist and religious sites, enhancing tourism and accessibility in the region, Suri noted.

Raman Suri emphasized that the UT administration too is working on simplifying the processes of getting necessary permissions from the Forest Department to ensure smooth construction of these ropeways. Once completed, these ropeways will facilitate annual pilgrimages and enable tourists to visit various sites conveniently. This infrastructure will particularly benefit the elderly and infirm, allowing them to fulfill their dreams of visiting sacred sites, that are currently inaccessible to them due to age-related issues.

Raman Suri also lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for their commitment to link all districts and major cities through improved networks. These projects, once completed, will boost the socio-economic conditions of the areas, providing safe and better highways for travel. The anticipated increase in tourist influx will significantly contribute to the UT economy, Suri concluded.

## Congress Manifesto Committee to visit Rajouri-Poonch from tomorrow

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 3: Congress Manifesto Sub-Committee for Jammu headed by Ravinder Sharma, Sr. Vice President & Chief Spokesperson JKPC shall visit Rajouri-Poonch from tomorrow and meet different sections of people in twin border districts.

Committee shall leave Jammu tomorrow morning and meet people enroute and reach Rajouri at 11.30 AM and meet cross sections of people, there for whole day.

Committee members include T.S. Bajwa (Ex-MP), Indu Pawar (Ex-MLA), Yash Paul Kundal (Ex-Minister), Shashi Sharma, Adv. Suresh Dogra, Satish Sharma, Uday Bhanu Chib, Mohib Khan, Prof. H.R. Sharma, Iqbal Dar and Shadi Lal Pandita.

The Sub-Committee shall visit Poonch on Monday and meet people to incorporate their issues in the manifesto, a party handout said.

All those who are interested to represent their issues can contact the committee members or the district presidents of Congress in Rajouri & Poonch.

## Inter School District Level Trials commences in District Kathua

Top News Report

KATHUA, Aug 3: The Inter School District Level Trials for Judo, Gymnastics, Wushu, Taekwondo, Boxing, and Karate for all age groups of boys and girls have commenced in District Kathua at the Sports Stadium Kathua.

Today's events featured Gymnastics and Judo. In the Judo trials, 110 Judokas showcased their talent, while in Gymnastics, 23 gymnasts displayed their skills. Prior to the competitions, all participants took the Swachhata Pledge and participated in cleaning the stadium ground.

The events are being conducted under the overall supervision of District Youth Services and Sports Officer Sunil Singh Sambyal. Activity Incharges Daraminder Singh Shelly and Parveen Singh Lakhanpuria are actively overseeing the competitions.

## Capacity Building Programme for Krishi Udyami on HADP held at Ramban

Top News Report

RAMBAN, Aug 3: In a significant initiative aimed at empowering the agriculture sector, the District Administration Ramban, under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, organized a comprehensive capacity-building programme for Krishi Udyami and Agriculture Extension Officers in the district. The programme focused on sensitizing participants about the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) and importance of Kisan Khidmat Ghars.

Presiding over the training session, Chief Planning Officer Ramban, Shakeeb Ahmed Rather, urged the participants to set up and work diligently in their respective Krishi Khidmat Ghars (KKG).

He emphasized the importance of their role in serving the farmer community, particularly in assisting them with the various online schemes offered by the Agriculture and allied departments. Seven KKG are being established in the district in 1st Phase, he added.

Key officers attended the programme including District Nodal Officer DHAP, CAHO, Dr Suhail

Kousa; CHO, Anil Gorka; DSHO, Sabir Khan; DSO, Kuldeep Singh; DAO, Ravi Sharma; and various other concerned officers.

The concerned departments highlighted their respective schemes during the session, providing an in-depth understanding of their benefits and application processes. They called upon the officers to further sensitize farmers about these schemes and provide the necessary support to help them avail the online benefits effectively.

This initiative is part of the UT Government ongoing efforts to enhance the capabilities

of its agricultural workforce, ensuring that they are well-equipped to guide and support farmers in maximizing the benefits of government schemes. By fostering a deeper understanding of the HADP and other relevant programs, the administration aims to drive sustainable agricultural development and improve the livelihoods of the farming community in Ramban.

The participants were imparted both soft and hard skills of operating KKG through PowerPoint presentation and screening of relevant videos by the experts of Agriculture

Development Ramban besides providing IEC material, books to participants

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