

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SUNDAY, AUGUST 04, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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**Akshay Kumar says people are sending him 'fikar mat kar' messages these days**



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**JD Vance told son to "shut up" amid phone call with Donald Trump, criticised**



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## BRIEFLY

**JKNC leaders Farooq, Omar Abdullah express anguish over devastating cloudburst in Ganderbal**

SRINAGAR, Aug 4 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir National Conference President Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Vice President Omar Abdullah are anguished over the cloudburst in Cherwan, Kangan, Ganderbal.

In their message, the duo said the damage to crops and homes is heart-wrenching. They stressed that it is imperative for the local administration to act swiftly to restore roads and provide necessary relief and compensation to those affected.

**Teenage girl drowns to death in Kupwara village**

SRINAGAR, Aug 4 (Agencies): A teenage girl drowned to death in Kawiari Jaggerpora on Sunday afternoon.

Reports reaching GNS said that one Sadiya Maqbool, daughter of Mohammad Maqbool Shah, slipped into Pohru nallah while she was washing clothes.

As the news spread, the locals alongside police started a rescue operation and after strenuous efforts brought the girl out from the water source, in an unconscious condition.

The girl was taken to a nearby health facility, where she was declared dead on arrival.

Confirming it, a police official told GNS that the girl has been handed over to the bereaved family for last rites.

**Nine people injured after two vehicles collide near Air Strip in Anantnag**

SRINAGAR, Aug 4 (Agencies): At least nine passengers were injured after two vehicles collided along National Highway-44 near Bijbehara in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, reports said Sunday.

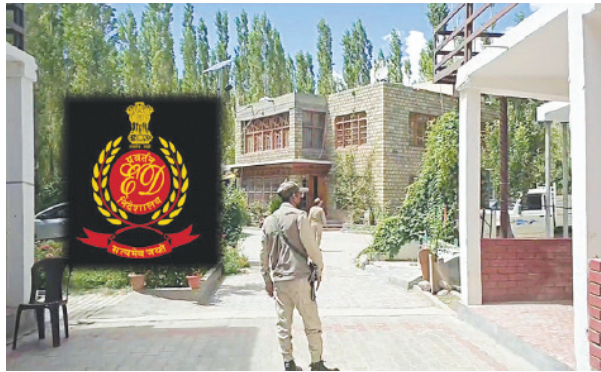
Quoting an official news agency GNS reported that two vehicles bearing registration number JK21C 8406 and JK16 0948 collided at Air Strip along

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## ED seizes Rs One Crore cash in fake Crypto Scam raids in Leh, Other places

NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): An amount of Rs 1 crore and "incriminating" documents were seized following raids against operators of a "fake" cryptocurrency investment company that cheated people in Ladakh and some other places, the Enforcement Directorate said Sunday.

The searches were undertaken on August 2 in Leh, Jammu and Sonipat in Haryana under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). Officials had said this was the first time that the



federal anti-money laundering agency carried out searches in Ladakh. The probe pertains to cheating of innocent people, including people of Leh, by assuring them of doubling their invest-

ment in a short period of 10 months through investment in fake cryptocurrency named Emollient Coin, the agency said in a statement.

This "fake" cryptocurrency, as per the ED,

was represented and promoted by Naresh Gulia of Sonipat through a company named Emollient Coin Limited that was incorporated in September, 2017 in the United Kingdom.

The business was promoted at Leh by Ajay Kumar Chaudhary and Charanjeet Singh alias Chhuni of Jammu and Attiul Rehman Mir of Leh and investors were assured that their investment will be doubled in 10 months and they will get a fixed percentage commission through

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## Chhari Mubarak taken to Shankaracharya Temple in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Aug 4 (Agencies): The Chhari Mubarak, the holy mace of Swami Amarnathji, was taken to historic Shankaracharya temple here for prayers on the occasion of 'Haryali Amavasya' on Sunday.

"In connection with Swami Amarnath Ji Yatra-2024, Chhari Mubarak Swami Amarnath Ji led by Mahant Deependra Giri ji was taken to historic Shankaracharya temple, Srinagar, located at the Gopadri Hills today for prayers on the occasion of 'Haryali-Amavasya'



(Shravan Amavasya) as per the age-old customs," a statement issued by the Dashnami Akhara, the permanent abode of the Chhari Mubarak, said.

Amidst the sound of

conch shell and recitation of Vedic hymns, sadhus accompanied the holy mace and participated in the prayers that lasted for more than two hours.

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## Two Arunachal Pradesh men missing for two years; last sighted along china border



NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): Two men from Arunachal Pradesh have been missing for nearly two years from a remote location in the State along the India-China border and are believed to be in the custody of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), which so far has not acknowledged the duo's presence in their territory.

Batelum Tikro (35) and his cousin Bainsi Manyu (37) went missing from

the Chaglagam area in the Anjaw district of Arunachal Pradesh on August 19, 2022, while looking for medicinal herbs at a high altitude area along the border with China and since then they have not been found.

"I have come to know that they were detained by the Chinese Army," said Mr. Tikro's brother Dishanso Chikro.

Mr. Chikro said he has approached the local

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## Srinagar-Leh highway closed as cloudburst triggers mudslides in Ganderbal

GANDERBAL, Aug 4 (Agencies): Srinagar-Leh highway was closed on Sunday after mudslides, triggered by cloudburst, near Cherwan Padabal area in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district, officials said.

An official told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that a cloudburst occurred near Cherwan Padabal area, triggering mudslides.

He said that due to mudslides, Srinagar-Leh highway was blocked following which traffic has been suspended on

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## Himachal cloudburst: Rescue ops underway; hunt for 36 missing continues in Rampur's Samej



RAMPUR (Himachal Pradesh), Aug 4 (Agencies): The Indian Army continues its efforts in rescue and restoration in the areas affected by the cloudburst that occurred on Thursday in Rampur's Samej.

The Army has established temporary bridges to establish connectivity between areas cut off to facilitate rescue operations.

Teams of NDRF, SDRF, Home Guard, and CISF have been coordinating to carry out the rescue and search operation.

The Home Guard Commandant, RP Nepta, informed ANI about the rescue operation that recommenced at 7 am in Rampur's Samej. He stated that five JCBs have been deployed today and various teams have been trying

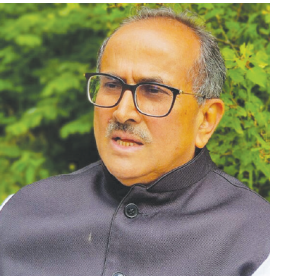
to coordinate to recover the maximum number of bodies.

"It is the fourth day today. Yesterday there was a review meeting. Today, we will work on war footing. Five JCBs have been deployed here. Task forces have been assigned different roles here. The search operation commenced at 7 am today. I am hoping that we will recover bodies today. Local people have told us where we can possibly find bodies. We will conduct search operations over there as well. We are also building a bridge," said the Home Guard Commandant.

"NDRF, CISF, Army, and Home Guard teams

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## Dr. Nirmal Singh appointed as Chairman of J&K BJP's manifesto committee



JAMMU, Aug 4 (Agencies): Former Deputy Chief Minister, who has got important responsibility, has chaired the first meeting on Sunday afternoon at BJP headquarters in Jammu.

Union Minister G Kishan Reddy, Dr Jitender Singh, Tarun Chug, BJP J&K President Ravinder Raina, Sunil Sharma and Ashok Koul were part of the meeting.

## Two days after returning from Srinagar, cop found dead near home in Jammu

JAMMU, Aug 4 (Agencies): A cop was found dead under mysterious circumstances on Sunday in Jammu, reports said.

The police constable, identified as Vivek Dogra, resident of Ward-08 of Jammu, was posted in Srinagar and had returned home some two days back, officials told news agency KNC.

His brother, Sahil Dogra said that after Vivek returned from Srinagar, he went out unusually late at night with a local resident.

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# MBA MOTORS

MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI



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

NAGROTA, JAMMU (J&K)

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OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the untimely demise of our Brother/Father **Sh. Tej Krishan Kalla** originally from Purshyar, Habba Kadal, Srinagar at present Shanti Nagar, Jammu on 02.08.2024.



Sh. Tej Krishan Kalla

**MOURNING** will be held at our residence H.No 43, Shanti Nagar near Shardha Public School, Subhash Nagar, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

- Smt. Duari Kalla (Wife)
- Smt. Raj Kumari Kalla & Sh. Vijay Kumar Kalla (Bhabhi & Brother)
- Smt. Sneha Kalla & Sh. Manish Handoo (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
- Neeta & Rohit Kalla (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
- Grand Children's : Dania, Trisha, Aditya

CONTACT NO'S :- 9419141549, 7006899302, 9419198886

MOURNING FROM IN LAWS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Shri Sham Lal Koul** Son in Law of Late Shri Chunilal Saraf of Goja Mohalla Anantnag Kashmir.



Shri Sham Lal Koul

The **Mourning** will be held at H.No 2040, Block C Sainik Colony Sector - 49 Faridabad Haryana.

Grief Stricken

- Smt. Rajni Saraf W/o Late Shri Subash Saraf
- Smt. Vineeta Saraf W/o Sanjay Saraf - 7889560331
- Smt. Sunita Saraf W/o Satish Saraf - 8130771960
- Smt. Girja Dhar W/o Late P N Dhar - 9419185591
- Smt. Basanti Saraf W/o I. K. Kandoo - 9419205083

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

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SMT. KAMLA SHARMA (RETD. TEACHER)** W/O LATE SHRI BEKRAM JI SHARMA R/O H.NO F-278 KRISHNA NAGAR, CANAL ROAD, JAMMU ON 26TH JULY 2024.



SMT. KAMLA SHARMA (RETD. TEACHER)

**TENTH DAY** WILL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE ON 4TH AUGUST 2024 AT 11 A.M. **KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE ON 5TH AUGUST 2024 AT 12:30 PM. **UTHALA** WILL BE PERFORMED AT SHRI RAM DASS TEMPLE KRISHNA NAGAR JAMMU ON 5TH AUGUST 2024 FROM 5 PM. TO 6 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

- SON AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAWS: RAJENDERS HARMA (AGRICULTURE DEPTT) AND SANJANA HARMA (NANINDER SASAN (J.E.FLOOD CONTROL) AND JYOTI SHARMA (EDUCATION DEPTT))
- DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW: JYOTISABAY (EDUCATION DEPTT) AND RAJESH HARMA (PRINCIPAL EDUCATION DEPTT)
- REKHA SHARMA AND PARSHOTAM SHARMA
- GRANDCHILDREN: AKHIL SHARMA, NIKHIL SHARMA, RAHIL SHARMA, RIJUSHI HARMA, RUMANAYA SHARMA, RUPANJAL SHARMA

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.

Grief Stricken

- Sh. Vijay Kumar Kaul & Smt. Renu Kaul (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
- Sh. Krishan Kumar Sharma & Smt. Parni 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. Ratri Peer (Wife)
- Daughter and Son-in-law: Veronika and Kaustubh Patki
- Sakshi and Urvin Thusu
- Grand Daughter: Renua 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.O.N KOUL (SISTER & BROTHER IN LAW)
- SMT AMRITA & ASHOK BHAT (DAUGHTER IN LAW & SON)
- SMT DAZY & NANDU BHAT (DAUGHTER IN LAW & SON)
- SMT PINKI & SH. P.K. HANGLOO (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)
- SMT SHIJI & SH. VEERJI RAINA (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)
- SMT SAKSHI & SH. KULDEEP PANDITA (GRAND DAUGHTER & GRAND SON IN LAW)
- BHAT'S, KOUL'S, SARAF'S, MATTOO'S, HANGLOO'S, RAINA'S & ALL GRAND AND GREAT GRAND CHILDREN

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Dr. Jodh Singh** (Retd Dy. Director, Health services Jammu) S/o Late Sandani & Sardar Manohar Singh, Rio 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 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
- Kirtan and Antim Ardas 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM followed by Guru Ka Langar

GRIEF STRICKEN:

- Wife- Late Bahinder Kaur
- Son and Daughter-in-law: S. Hardeep Singh & Manjeet Kaur - 9419110287/980173435
- S. Sumit Pal Singh & Tarleen Kaur - 8801303354
- Grand Children: Manraj Kaur Khosra, Avraj Singh Khosra
- Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law: S. Rajinder Singh Sahney & Nalinder Kaur Sahney
- Brother & Sister-in-law: Late Dr. Gurdial Singh Khosra (Retd Dy. Director Animal Husbandry) & Late Harjeet Kaur
- S. Balbir Singh & Suseet Kaur
- S. Mohinder Pal Singh & Kamaljeet Kaur
- Sister & Brother-in-law: Late Gurcharan Kaur & Late S. Gurkirat Singh
- Bhupinder Kaur & Late S. Mohinder Pal Singh
- Gurdeep Kaur & S. Harshajan Singh

Contact : 9419110287, 9880173435, 8801303354, 9023230399, 9096025919, Navdeep Trading Co. Digiana 9096874045

ADH- BARKHI

**LATE SMT NEELAM VERMA W/O SH JAI RAM VERMA** Six months has passed but still we feel your painful absence everyday. Your unforgettable sweet memories & noble qualities will always remain with us.



LATE SMT NEELAM VERMA

**ADH-BARKHI** of our beloved **Late Smt. Neelam Verma** will be performed on Monday 5th of August, 2024 at our residence H.No. 77 Ward No 3 C/o Verma Welding Works near Zanana Park Reasi at 11:00 AM onwards.

GRIEF STRICKEN

- Son & Daughter in law: Amrook Verma & Naina Verma
- Ramrook Verma & Smily Verma
- ALL VERMA FAMILY MEMBERS

MOB NO: 9419271413, 9906015122, 8716822222

10TH DAY, KRIYA & UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Kuldeep Singh (CAO Retd)** S/o Col. Davi 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 Tal Sahib Talab Tilo, Jammu from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN

- Smt. Madhu Jammwal (Wife)
- Shivani & Varun - Daughter & Son-in-law
- Shweta & Raj - Daughter & Son-in-law
- Dr. Shagun & Aditya - 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. Nirmal
- Sisters & Brother-in-laws: Smt. Maya & Sh. Sham Ji
- Smt. Aarti & Sh. Krishan Ji
- Lt. Smt. Karita & Sh. Jagdev Singh
- Nephew & Niece: Sh. Vikram Singh
- Dr. Manisha & Mr. Varun
- Dr. Nandini

- Brother-in-laws: Sh. Arun Singh Jammwal & Smt. Lalita
- Sh. Diggal Singh Jammwal & Smt. Chandrakala
- Sh. Narendra Singh & Smt. Rama Jammwal
- Grand Childrens : Aakashit, Arya, Sidhart, Aadya, Amiya, Akshat

Mob.: 9419115425, 9419103766, 8899483091

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Raj Kumari** W/o Late Sh. Sobha Ram R/o Akhnoor, Jammu.



Smt. Raj Kumari

**UTHALA** will be performed on Monday, 5th August 2024 at 3:00 to 4:00 pm at Kameshwar Mandir Akhnoor, Jammu.

Grief Stricken

- Sons & Daughters-in-law: Sh. Tarsem Sharma & Smt. Meenakshi
- Sh. Pushap Sharma & Smt. Meenu
- Son-in-law & Daughter: Sh. Ashok Kemi & Smt. Asha
- Sh. Sushil Salwan & Smt Anuradha Salwan
- Tanu Thapa & Isha - Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law
- Abhimanyu Thapa & Shivani - Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law
- Sonu Sharma (Grand Son)

Mob: 9419100120, 9419180129

TENTH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Vijay Sharma** W/o Sh. Chandor 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, Arnd Vihar, Pata Bohi, 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 Geeta Mandir Smriti Bhawan, Bakshi Nagar, Jammu.

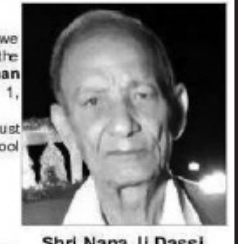
GRIEF STRICKEN

- Chander Mohan Sharma - Husband
- Ashvini Khajuria - Son
- Daughter & Son-in-law: Dr. Latika 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 (PNB) & Smt. Meena Sharma - Brother & Bhabhi
- Late Sh. Vinod Sharma (JKB) & Smt. Anju Sharma - Brother & Bhabhi

Contact No: 9419145243, 7006429166, 9419795268

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound sadness and deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved father, the esteemed **Karam Yogi Shri Nana Ji Dassi (Chaman Ji)**, son of Late Badri Nath Dassi, Rio H No 1, Doordarshan Lane, Tall Moh, New Plots, Jammu.



Shri Nana Ji Dassi (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. Jai Kishori Koul (Wife)
- Son and Daughter-in-law: Vinay Dassi & Shweta Parvita (9910333912/981058912)
- Daughter and Son-in-law: Shanti Raina & Satish Raina (7889359401)
- Brothers and Sisters-in-law: Smt. Sheela Dassi W/o Late S. J. Dassi
- Sh. M. N. Dassi & Smt. Kamini Dassi
- Grand Children: Balraj, Siddhi, Krishna, Bhavik
- In Laws (Brother & Sister in law): Smt. Roopa Koul W/o Late P. N. Koul
- Sh. M. L. Kaul & Smt. Krishna Pyari Kaul
- Sh. H. K. Kaul & Smt. Krishna Kaul
- Sh. M. K. Kaul & Smt. Kundan Kaul (8178420051)

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Manjit Singh Rishi** S/o Late S. Kartar Singh Rishi R/o H.No. 108, Ward No. 8, Parli Ward Kathua.



S. Manjit Singh Rishi

**Arambh Sri Akhand Path Sahib** on 3/8/2024 at our residence at 9:30 am.

**Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib** on 5/8/2024 at our residence at 9:30 am.

**Kirtan and Antim Ardas** from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm, followed by **Guru Ka Langar** at Gurudwara Singh Sabha Main Bazar Kathua.

INGRIEF

- Son, Rajinder Kour (Wife)
- (Daughters & Son-in-laws): Smt. Jasvinder Kour & S. Gurmeet Singh
- Son, Navpreet Kour & S. Rupinder Singh
- Son, Jasvinder Kour & S. Balbir Singh Rishi (Brother & Bhabhi)
- Late S. Surjeet Singh & Smt. Mohinder Kour (Sister & Brother-in-law)
- Late S. Gurcharan Singh & Smt. Baljeet Kour (Sister & Brother-in-law)
- Son, Harjeet Kour & S. Jaswant Singh (Sister & Brother-in-law)
- Late S. D. P. Singh and Smt. Harbinder Kour (Sister & Brother-in-law)

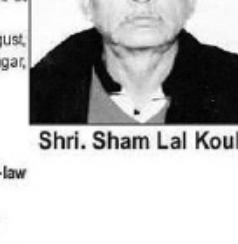
Nephews & Niece

All Grand Children

Ph. No.: 9697525531, 7889796077, 9906287463, 8493945284

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our dear **Shri. Sham Lal Koul** originally from Havanad Chowagam (Kulgam) Kashmir at present at Faridabad (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

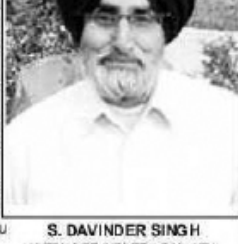
- Shakuntla Koul - Wife (852756705)
- Bansi Lal & Ratanji Koul - Brother & Sister-in-law
- Moharaj Krishan & Ashaji Koul - Brother & Sister-in-law
- Shivani & Sh. Jagdish Ji (Daughter & Son-in-law)
- Sunita & Sh. Mohit Raina (Daughter & Son-in-law)
- Ariki & Sh. Rishi Ji (Daughter & Son-in-law)
- Shana & Sh. Raj Nath Dhar (Sister & Brother-in-law)
- Santosh & Sh. Bhanu Lal Dhar (Sister & Brother-in-law)
- Sarbi & Sh. Surinder Koul (Sister & Brother-in-law)
- Samast Gash Koul Parivar / Saraf Parivar (Anantnag)

H.No. 2040, Block-C, Sainik Colony, Sector - 49, Faridabad

Contact Nos.: 9918162922, 9654088191

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform you the sad demise of our beloved Father **S. Davinder Singh (Retd PET, Deptt of Youth Services and Sports)** S/o Lt. Bhai Saraj Singh Ji R/o W. No. 8 Khorian (Tala) Poonch who left us for heavenly abode on 29/7/24.



S. DAVINDER SINGH (RETD PET, DEPTT OF YOUTH SERVICES AND SPORTS)

**ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB** on 8/24 (Monday) 8 am at our residence.

**BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB** on 7/24 (Wednesday) 8 am at our Residence. W. No. 8 Khorian (Tala) Poonch.

**SHABAD KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDAS** will be performed from 10 am to 12:30 PM at Gurudwara Pipal Sahib KHORIAN Poonch followed by **Guru Ka Langar**.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

- Jaebi Kour (Wife)
- Son Gurucharan Kour (Mother in Law)
- Sons and Daughter in laws: Dr. Parvinder Pal Singh (Scientist I IIM Jammu) and Dr. Harjeet Kour
- S. Jasvinder Pal Singh (JP) and Son. Parandeep Kour
- Son in law and Daughter: S. Harpreet Singh and Smt. Ravneet Kour

Grand Sons: Tarvir Singh, Rohit Singh, Ruzoovir Singh, Prabhvir Singh, Bhavjit Singh

MNO: 9419157270, 9419151569

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 Jagir 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

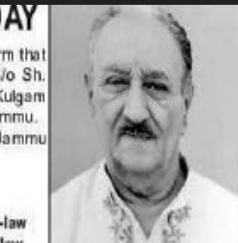
**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Education Department on 8.8.2024 at 9 AM.

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

MOURNING AND TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform that the sad demise of **Sh. Jagan Nath Handoo** S/o Sh. Shamboo Nath Handoo of Hanand Chawagam, Kulgam at present Lane No. 2, Adarsh Nagar, Paloura, Jammu.



Sh. Jagan Nath Handoo

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat Jammu on 8th of August 2024 at 8.30 am.

Grief Stricken

- Smt. Kanta Ji - Wife
- Sh. P. K. Handoo & Smt. Sunita Ji - Brother & Sister-in-law
- Sh. D. K. Handoo & Smt. Sarla Ji - Brother & Sister-in-law
- Sh. Viender Kalla & Smt. Bimla Ji - Sister & Brother-in-law
- Sh. T. K. Sharma & Smt. Sudesh Ji - Sister & Brother-in-law
- Sh. Ramesh Dhar & Smt. Babita Ji - Son-in-law & Daughter
- Sh. Roop Krishen Handoo & Smt. Sunita Ji - Son & Daughter-in-law
- Sh. Pawan Handoo & Smt. Archana Ji - Son & Daughter-in-law
- & All Nears & Dears with Kids



# Necessity and Importance of one-place settlement for Displaced Kashmiri Pandits

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: Our victim community of Kashmiri Pandits in exile has learned a lot from painful exodus, troubled events, tragic and deeply troubling issues faced over centuries, particularly in the last seventy-five years of miserable life. It now necessitates creating a one-place consolidated settlement for displaced Kashmiri Pandits within the valley, which needs preference and priority. This need arises from a multitude of factors, including historical context, psychological well-being, and the imperative of preserving our cultural identity, safety, security, and our existence.

The fact of the matter is that the displacement of Kashmiri Pandits from the valley was not merely a forced migration; it was also a rupture of our centuries-old cultural and social fabric. The valley, once our ancestral home, became hostile territory, rendering us minorities in our own land. This loss has resulted in a profound sense of alienation and dislocation among the Kashmiri Pandit community. Establishing a consolidated settlement at one place within the valley would serve as a



symbolic reclaiming of our rightful place, allowing us to reconnect with our roots, rebuild our shattered identity, and ensure our existence together as a community.

The scattered existence of Kashmiri Pandits in various villages and towns across the valley has exacerbated our feelings of isolation and vulnerability. Living as minorities in predominantly Muslim-populated areas, we often face social exclusion, discrimination, and a lack of representation in local governance. This marginalization not only undermines our sense of belonging but also poses significant challenges to our physical safety and well-being. By consolidating them into one settlement, the community can leverage our collective strength and support system to address common issues and advocate for our rights effectively.

Psychologically, being a minority in a vastly dif-

ferent cultural and religious environment can have profound effects on individuals' mental health and overall well-being. The constant sense of being othered and the fear of persecution can lead to heightened levels of stress, anxiety, and depression among the displaced Kashmiri Pandits. Creating a single settlement where we can live amongst our own community members would provide a sense of solidarity and belonging, fostering a supportive environment where we can heal from the trauma of displacement and rebuild our lives with dignity and resilience.

Moreover, a consolidated settlement at one place would facilitate the preservation and promotion of Kashmiri Pandit culture, language, and traditions, which are at risk of being eroded in the absence of a conducive environment for our transmission and continuity. By fostering a vibrant cultural hub within the valley, the community can actively engage in cultural exchange initiatives, educational programs, and community events, ensuring the intergenerational transmission of our heritage and fostering mutual understanding and respect for each

other.

Significant Points for One-Place Settlement of Displaced Kashmiri Pandits:

"Preservation of Culture:"

Helps preserve the unique culture, language, and traditions of the Kashmiri Pandit community by enabling them to live together and maintain their identity.

Security and Safety: Concentrating the community in one area enhances their security and safety, reducing vulnerability to targeted attacks or harassment.

Community Support: Living together fosters a strong sense of community support, where individuals can rely on each other for various needs, including social, emotional, and economic support.

Ease of Access to Resources: Consolidated settlements facilitate easier access to essential resources such as healthcare, education, employment opportunities, and government services.

Infrastructure Development: Concentrating the population in one area can attract investment and development initiatives, leading to improved infrastructure and amenities in the settlement.

Political Representa-

tion: A consolidated settlement can amplify the community's political voice and representation, enabling them to advocate for their rights and interests more effectively. Cultural Revival: By living together, Kashmiri Pandits can revive and celebrate their cultural practices, festivals, and religious ceremonies, which might have been suppressed or forgotten during displacement.

In conclusion, the establishment of a consolidated settlement for displaced Kashmiri Pandits within the Kashmir Valley is imperative for addressing our immediate socio-economic needs and the deep-seated psychological wounds caused by displacement and marginalization. Providing a sense of belonging, security, and cultural continuity would empower the community and contribute to the broader goals of peace and prosperity.

Hence, ponder coolly and understand the advantages of one-place settlement of displaced Kashmiri Pandits at the "land of Kashyap" in the valley. Support fully this genuine and only viable demand of the Kashmiri Pandit Conference (KPC) for all Kashmiri Pandits residing outside the Kashmir Valley in exile.

# JKTJAC holds monthly meeting, demands resolution of issues of Teaching Fraternity



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: A monthly meeting of Jammu Kashmir Teachers' Joint Action Committee (JKTJAC) held at Udhampur under the leadership of UT President Vinod Sharma and District President Udhampur Lekh Raj Parihar today on 04.08.2024. The meeting was attended by the JKTJAC representatives of JKTJAC from all the eleven zones of the district. While speaking on the occasion Mr. Vinod Sharma raised the resolution of various genuine and burning issues of the teaching fraternity and appealed the LG administration to resolve them for the welfare of thousands of teachers of the UT. Raising the issue of comprehensive transfer policy in favour of teachers appointed under ReT scheme he said that these teachers have been working in the same schools for last more than two decades and suffering badly including females due to non availability of transfer policy.

He appealed worthy Principal Secretary School Education for consideration of the genuine demand of transfer policy for the welfare of thousands of these teachers and include them in ATD. He also demanded conversion of headteachers

posts into non plan posts of masters so that many headless middle schools get justice.

While speaking he also appealed the Director School Education Jammu to issue regularisation orders of ReTs who have completed 5 years ReT period as they are waiting for their regularisation for a long time and conversion of left out RRETs to Teachers Grade III/III who weren't included in the recent list. Regarding rationalisation of teaching staff Mr Sharma appealed Director School Education Jammu, Chief Education Officers, Cluster heads and ZEOs to strengthen the primary and Middle schools by providing adequate staff so that basic education of the students isn't compromised.

He said that every Primary teacher be provided two teachers and every Middle school be provided at least five teachers and each pay centre Middle school be provided at least six teachers.

Other demands highlighted on the occasion included:- Raising Grade of teachers at par with their counter parts in other UTs; Filling up of vacant posts ZEOs/ Principals/ Headmasters as many zones/schools are headless, Issuance of 2nd DPC list of teachers to master.

Speaking on the occasion Mr Lekh Raj Parihar demanded the earned leave in favour of teachers/masters who were engaged for summer/ winter camps and for other duties during summer/ winter vacation. He also demanded release of more than two years arrears (time barred) of teachers and masters as they are suffering badly and updating of service records of teachers in the zones of District Udhampur as teachers are facing lots of problems for getting them completed.

He appealed CEO Udhampur to intervene in this matter. Others who also spoke on the occasion were:- Sham Sharma, Sukesh Khajuria, Pritam Goswami, Ravinder Singh Rathore, Shamsher Singh, Bhushan Khajuria, Sandeep Sharma, Suresh Sharma, Ajay Thakur, Sudesh Azad, Rakesh Singh, Swaran Singh, Anil Sharma, Vipin Raina, Manoj Sharma, Parshant Sharma, Som Raj, Puma Chand, Amit Sharma, Gopal Sharma, Vidhi Lal, Uttam Singh, Raj Kumar, Jai Parkash, Mohd Mustafa, Arjun Singh, Kuldeep Singh, Abdul Gani, Ravinder Atri, Raj Paul, Kuldeep Beerbajan Singh, Narayan Dutt, Rajesh Singh, Ashok Singh, Yash Paul, and others

# MP Khatana commends Armed Forces' efforts in flood ravaged Wayanad

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: In a heartfelt acknowledgment of the relentless efforts of the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force, Senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Er. Gulam Ali Khatana, commended the extraordinary rescue operations being carried out in the flood-affected Wayanad district of Kerala.

His words of praise came amidst widespread devastation caused by severe flooding, which has wreaked havoc on the region, displacing thousands of residents and causing extensive damage to property and infrastructure.

In a press statement, Er. Khatana expressed his profound gratitude to the brave personnel of the Indian Army and Air Force who have been tirelessly working to rescue and provide aid to those affected by the floods. "The dedication and bravery exhibited by our armed forces in these challenging times are commendable. Their swift and effective response has saved countless lives and provided much-needed relief to the people of Wayanad," Khatana



remarked.

The senior BJP leader also highlighted the continuous monitoring of the situation by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. "Our Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji, and Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah Ji, are closely monitoring the rescue operations. They have assured full support from the central government to aid the people of Wayanad in these difficult times," he said. Khatana emphasized that the entire nation stands in solidarity with the people of Wayanad, and every effort is being made to ensure their safety and well-being.

"The floods, triggered by incessant monsoon rains, have led to a critical situation in Wayanad, a picturesque district known for its lush greenery and serene landscapes. The torrential downpours have resulted in overflowing rivers, landslides,

and submerged villages, making rescue operations exceedingly challenging," he said and added, "But, the Indian Army and Air Force, equipped with specialized units for disaster response, have been at the forefront of the rescue mission, deploying helicopters, boats, and ground forces to evacuate stranded residents and deliver essential supplies."

Er. Khatana lauded the coordination between the central and state governments, as well as the various agencies involved in the relief efforts. "The synergy between the central and state authorities has been exemplary. Together, they are ensuring that relief reaches those in need promptly and efficiently," he stated.

"The ongoing rescue operations have seen numerous heroic acts by the armed forces, including airlifting stranded individuals from remote and inaccessible areas, setting up temporary shelters, and providing medical assistance to the injured and sick," the BJP leader said, and added, "The Indian Air Force has conducted multiple sorties to drop food, water, and medical supplies to cut-off regions, while the Indian Army has been instru-

mental in building temporary bridges and clearing debris to facilitate movement and aid delivery."

In addition to the government and armed forces, Er. Khatana acknowledged the efforts of local volunteers and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) who have been working tirelessly alongside official agencies. "The spirit of unity and selflessness displayed by local volunteers and NGOs is inspiring. Their contribution is invaluable in these testing times," he said.

As the rescue operations continue, the focus is also shifting towards rehabilitation and rebuilding. Er. Khatana assured that the government is committed to providing all necessary support for the reconstruction of homes and infrastructure, as well as the rehabilitation of the affected families. "We will ensure that Wayanad emerges stronger from this calamity. The resilience and courage of its people, combined with the unwavering support of the nation, will pave the way for a swift recovery," he concluded.

"The situation in Wayanad remains precarious, but with the concerted efforts of the armed

forces, government agencies, and the community, there is hope for a brighter and safer future for the people of this beautiful district," he added.

# Burglars steal copper core coils from 250 kv transformer in Rafiabab

BARAMULLA, Aug 4 (Agencies): In a shocking incident, burglars in Jehama village of Rafiabab in north Kashmir's Baramulla district have stolen the copper core coils from a 250kv transformer, affecting the electricity supply in the area.

The news agency has learnt from the residents, who discovered the theft early in the morning, prompting them to report the incident to the authorities.

The bizarre incident has disrupted the electricity supply.

The incident occurred during night hours. The body of the transformer was left, while the copper core coils were meticulously extracted after cutting both power supply lines, they said.

The authorities have taken cognizance of the incident and initiated an investigation to arrest the culprits besides efforts are being made to restore the power supply in the area.

"This is an unprecedented and bizarre incident, it has never happened before. We are left in darkness, causing distress in the village", Sofi Ghulam Mohammed, a local resident said.

"I haven't witnessed such an incident in my 40 years of service, said PDD inspector, Abdul Qayoom. He said that they have lodged a complaint at the nearby police post.

Efforts are underway to restore the power supplies in the area, he added

# Three people injured after their car falls into nallah along Sopore-Rafiabad road

## Top News Report

SOPORE, Aug 4 (Agencies): Three people were critically injured Sunday after the car they were travelling in fell into a nallah along the Sopore-Rafiabad road today morning.

Reports said that a car bearing registration no. JK05A-5398 skidded off the road and fell down into the nallah around 06 am, resulting in serious injuries to the people travelling in it.

The injured were taken to GMC Baramulla for treatment from where one of the injured identified as Sameer Ahmad

Dar, 45, son of Mohammad Ramzan Dar, resident of Khwaja Gilgit Sopore was referred to SKIMS Srinagar for enhanced treatment.

The rest of the injured have been identified as Waseem Bashir Dar, 35, son of Bashir Ahmad Dar of Mahrajpora Sopore and Imtiyaz Ahmad Mir, 60, Son of Ghulam Nabi Mir of Checkroday Khan Sopore.

Meanwhile, police official also confirmed the road accident and said that they have registered case in this regard, further investigation set into motion, they said.



**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD(R&B) PROJECTS**  
**DIVISION III JAMMU**  
E-mail: [xenpwdprojectdiv3jmu@gmail.com](mailto:xenpwdprojectdiv3jmu@gmail.com)

**SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

**E-NIT NO: - 300F 2024-25 DATED: - 30-07-2024**

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

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (In lacs)	Cost of doc. (In Rs.)	Earnest money (2% of Adv. Cost)	Time of Completion	Class of Contractor
1.	Electric Repair / Renovation of Govt Qtr No. 59 C at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. CNO173-NP	1.50	600/-	2%	30 Days	Electrical Card
2.	Electric Repair / Renovation of Govt Qtr No. 15 A at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. CNO174-NP	2.50	600/-	2%	30 Days	Electrical Card
3.	Electric Repair / Renovation of Govt Qtr No. 21 B at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. CNO175-NP	2.50	600/-	2%	30 Days	Electrical Card
4.	Electric Repair / Renovation of Govt Qtr No. 21 Flat Last Morh at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. CNO176-NP	1.50	600/-	2%	30 Days	Electrical Card
5.	Electric Repair / Renovation of Govt Qtr No. 18 A at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. CNO177-NP	3.00	600/-	2%	30 Days	Electrical Card
6.	Electric Repair / Renovation of Govt Qtr No. 27 B at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. CNO178-NP	0.70	600/-	2%	20 Days	Electrical Card
7.	Electric Repair / Renovation of Govt Qtr No. 24 A at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. CNO179-NP	1.00	600/-	2%	30 Days	Electrical Card
8.	Electric Repair / Renovation of Govt Qtr No. 143 at Talab Tillo, Jammu. CNO180-NP	2.00	600/-	2%	30 Days	Electrical Card

1. Bidding documents consisting of pre-qualification criteria, specifications of the work, Bill of Quantities, set of terms and conditions of contract and other relevant details can be seen/downloaded from the website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in).

**Schedule of tender:**

A	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	30-07-2024
B	Period of downloading of bidding documents	31-07-2024 from 1200 Hrs to 05-08-2024 upto 1630 Hrs
C	Bid submission Start Date	31-07-2024 from 1200 Hrs
D	Bid submission End Date	05-08-2024 upto 1630 Hrs
E	Date of opening of Technical Bids (online)	06-08-2024, 1200 Hrs in the office of the Executive Engineer, PWD(R&B) Projects

**Division III, Jammu**

**NO: R&B/Project Div. III/DB/2104-16**  
**Dated: 30-07-2024**

**DIP/J-3755/24**

**Sd/-**  
**Executive Engineer**  
**PWD (R&B) Projects Division III**  
**Jammu.**



## EDITORIAL

Surviving  
Humid Summer

As the monsoon season rolls in, transitioning from the scorching heat of summer to the dampness of humidity can present its own set of challenges. Coping effectively with the humid summer in monsoon requires a combination of practical adjustments, lifestyle changes, and mindful habits to stay comfortable and healthy. Humidity refers to the amount of moisture present in the air. During the monsoon season, humidity levels tend to rise significantly due to increased rainfall and moisture in the atmosphere. This can lead to feelings of stickiness, discomfort, and can exacerbate existing health conditions such as respiratory issues and skin problems. Hydration is crucial in humid weather. Drink plenty of water throughout the day to replenish fluids lost through sweating. Opt for electrolyte-rich drinks or coconut water to restore minerals lost due to sweating. Wear lightweight, breathable fabrics such as cotton and linen that allow your skin to breathe. Loose-fitting clothing helps in better air circulation, keeping you cooler and more comfortable. Utilize air conditioning or fans to maintain a cool indoor environment. Ensure that your home or workspace is well-ventilated to reduce humidity levels indoors. A refreshing cool shower can provide immediate relief from humidity. Use mild, hydrating shower gels or soaps to avoid drying out your skin. Consider using dehumidifiers in particularly humid areas of your home, such as basements or bathrooms. Dehumidifiers help in reducing moisture levels, creating a more comfortable indoor environment. Open windows and doors during cooler parts of the day to allow fresh air to circulate through your home. Cross-ventilation helps in reducing indoor humidity levels naturally. Limit outdoor activities during the hottest and most humid parts of the day, typically midday. Schedule outdoor tasks such as exercise or errands during cooler mornings or evenings. Opt for light, refreshing meals that are easy to digest. Include seasonal fruits and vegetables in your diet to stay hydrated and nourished. Use a hygrometer to monitor indoor humidity levels. Ideally, indoor humidity should be maintained between 40% to 60% for optimal comfort and health. Maintain a skincare routine that focuses on hydration and protection. Use a lightweight, non-comedogenic moisturizer to prevent skin dryness and irritation caused by humidity. Coping with humid summer weather during the monsoon requires a proactive approach towards maintaining comfort and health. By staying hydrated, dressing appropriately, using cooling methods effectively, and practicing mindful habits, you can navigate through the challenges of humidity with ease. Implementing these strategies will not only help you stay comfortable but also support your overall well-being during the monsoon season. Remember, adapting to the changes in humidity is key to enjoying the refreshing aspects of the monsoon while minimizing its potential drawbacks. By incorporating these coping strategies into your daily routine, you can make the most of this transitional season and stay cool, comfortable, and healthy.

## BJP vs AAP tug-of-war killed students in Delhi

By: Pavan K. Varma

The death of three young IAS aspirants on July 27 due to drowning in the flooded basement of a coaching institute in Delhi is heart rendering. The basement was being used for purposes other than for what it was sanctioned for. It had, contrary to existing building laws, no provision to drain out water. The road outside lacked adequate drainage infrastructure. This was known to all the authorities concerned. Yet nothing was done, to prevent the tragedy waiting to happen. In a macabre first reaction, the police arrested a person who was driving his car on the road outside! Also Read - Anita Katyal | Chouhan leads BJP chief race? Yogi, Shivpal exchange jibes Advertisement Ever since, politicians have been indulging in the usual blame-game: the BJP blames the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), and vice versa. This tragedy has become a football being kicked around all over the media and political landscape. Finger pointing comes easily to our political class, but no one wants to seriously — and collectively — resolve the systemic reasons underlying such tragedies. The fundamental problem is that nobody knows anymore who is running Delhi, and no one, therefore, can be held accountable for this disaster. Also Read - Shashi Warriar | How to make the most of rainy days The principle of federalism, as outlined in our Constitution, is to demarcate clear-cut lines on the responsibilities between the central government and the states. Within this framework, Centre-state relations are supposed to function on the basis of constructive cooperation, irrespective of where which political party is. However,

this is hardly the case today in our cut-throat and myopic politics. States where Opposition governments are in power complain about owed funds not being transferred by the Central government, and about governors who act like agents of the Central ruling party, sitting on legitimately passed bills by the state legislature for months and years. So much for the much-touted phrase “cooperative federalism”. Also Read - Patralekha Chatterjee | Lessons from rain tragedy: Can we make cities safer? The case of Delhi, a Union Territory, is however sui generis, an example of the worst form of federal immaturity. The elected government, which is AAP, has no powers over the bureaucrats under it, because an unelected lieutenant governor (L-G), a nominee of the Central government, controls them. Administratively, this is obviously an unworkable situation. The people of Delhi elected the AAP, but neither chief minister (CM) Arvind Kejriwal, nor his cabinet ministers, have any control on the postings and performance of the bureaucrats working under them. True, as the national capital, Delhi is not a full state. But, even under this arrangement, the L-G had control of only three specific powers: Land, public order, and police. But in May 2015, a brazen usurpation was made, when by an executive order of the Union home ministry, control over officers was also taken away from the elected government and given to the L-G. Also Read - Farrukh Dhondy | Britain's NHS, the nation's pride, may be broken, but it's kind and caring... Understandably, the AAP government challenged this order in court. Eight years later, on May 11, 2023, a five-judge Constitutional bench of

the Supreme Court (SC), in a landmark judgement, restored the department of services to the elected Delhi government. The SC based its verdict on the principles of federalism, whereby elected state governments must be able to exercise legitimate powers through a bureaucracy that is answerable to them. However, the BJP-led Central government decided to overrule the reasoned judgement of the SC's Constitutional Bench, and gave the control of Delhi government bureaucrats back to the L-G. I have been a bureaucrat myself, and know their psyche. If the chief secretary and senior officers of the Delhi government are not accountable to the elected government, and nor does their performance appraisal lie with it, why would they obey the elected government's orders? There is a video in circulation that shows a AAP minister literally pleading with a senior bureaucrat to come with him for a joint inspection, and the officer curtly saying that he will do so only if he has the time! The three youngsters, gasping for breath, would not have perhaps known that this complete and deliberate confusion on clear-cut executive accountability was the reason for their death. The L-G reports to the Union home minister, who is from the ruling BJP; the bureaucrats who run Delhi are controlled by the L-G; the people elected the Opposition AAP government in Delhi; but the government has highly truncated powers to fulfil their expectations. In the midst of all this, there are other multiple authorities like the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), first trifurcated in 2012, then reunited in 2022. In the MCD elections last year, AAP won, but for the 15 years before it

was led by the BJP. There is also the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), which reports to the Union government, and is chaired by the L-G. It is this administrative nightmare, riddled with rampant and verifiable corruption, that ultimately killed the three youngsters. To most objective observers, it appears that in the backdrop of the bitter political rivalry and animosity between the AAP and the BJP, the L-G is hardly playing a neutral and supportive role. In the past, this was not the case, at least not so overtly. Sheila Dikshit was the Congress CM of Delhi for 15 years starting 1998, serving under L-Gs appointed by the rival BJP-led Central government, but there was never such a situation of complete acrimony and lack of trust between the two. Perhaps, Arvind Kejriwal, and the AAP as a whole, lack her political finesse and ability to get along with the L-G, but the AAP does face an entirely different and far more difficult obstacle — which she did not — of not having control over the bureaucracy. I hold no brief for any party, but I do wonder if political differences can become so vicious as to imperil the lives of citizens? Do our politicians really no longer care about the consequences of their partisan actions? The AAP government may be guilty of administrative lapses, but is the BJP entirely innocent in its approach to AAP as the elected government? Was using an ordinance to overturn the verdict of a Constitutional Bench of the SC the correct decision? If so, to what purpose? Can a “double-engine” sarkar work when the track lines are all entangled? Must the L-G and the CM have an adversarial relationship? Do lives not matter at the altar of who wins the next election?

## Learning is a complex phenomenon with multiple layers

By: Vijay GarG

It needs judgement, sensitivity, foresight and a strong will to absorb new ideas. The real world can be tricky to negotiate. This is because a lot of early childhood learning needs substantive modification when it comes to real life. Illustratively, a child is taught many principles which are simply impracticable as he grows up. Typically, a child will be told never to do something without informing their parents, whereas in real life this is neither feasible nor practicable. The truth is, that childhood learning is about basics; one learns to modify or calibrate it as one goes along. It has to do with a child's mind and establishing certain principles that life experiences may define or modify. Consider the case of teaching a child about parallel lines. The child is taught that parallel lines are lines that never meet. That's good enough for his purposes. As one matures and gains a few years, the child transitioning into adulthood learns that parallel lines do meet, but they meet at ‘infinity’. Similar examples can be cited elsewhere. However, more to the point is a simple proposition, namely that learning has to do with the capacity and capability of the learner. The same principle can undergo several modifications or even alterations. As one emerges into adulthood, one learns many

other intricacies about life, and several of them can only be re-learned only through experience. Here is the need to sharpen a person's capacity for continuous learning and absorption. Typically, the adult, as he goes through life, meets different types of people, and there is a clear need to coexist with several others. One's judgment becomes a crucible for deciding what the truth is and where one has to steer clear or walk through it.

This is what adult learning is about, and it is a lifelong necessity that is felt at each stage. Sometimes strange situations can occur, especially if one learns through aphorisms/proverbs/ folk sayings, and even the wisdom of elders.

An illustration of this could make the point clear. In Sanskrit, there is a saying “Satyam brooyat, priyam brooyat, na brooyat satyama priyam”. “Broadly translated, it means, speak the truth, but speak it pleasantly. If a truth is bitter, it need not be spoken”. Whether this is desirable or not is a moot point. What is more, is that other sayings can be found to be very different than the one quoted above. For example, there is another Sanskrit statement “Satyameva jayate” “A free translation into English would be that “truth alone triumphs”. The two statements are clearly in two different contexts and mean two different things.

There is an element of contradiction between the two. It is here that adult learning acquires a special veneer of its own. What that special something is a matter of experience and exposure. Some people who repeatedly emphasised in their childhood that they must always tell the truth get so much in the habit of only telling the truth that they become offensive in conversations.

This is not because of their ill intention, but their style itself became ‘offensive’. Such offensive behaviour can have a heavy price. After all, tact is something that is not an optional extra, it is essential to life. Being tactful does not end up lying or being untruthful. It only trains a person to be sensitive to another person's feelings and sentiments.

It also raises the importance of recognizing that all inputs contribute to better and improved behaviour. Creating a situation in which everyone gains and a better environment is established is essential. If bluntness causes hurt rather than improvement, it could lead to deterioration of quality of life, which cannot be the objective of any action.

The obvious conclusion is that learning is a complex phenomenon with multiple layers. It needs judgement sensitivity, and foresight. In the absence of any of the above relationships, they can become compromised.

After all, if the relationship itself is lost, one might ask: what is the input about?

This issue is fundamental to the act of living. This is so because man is a gregarious animal, and the act of living requires a collective experience. Learning therefore is a lifelong exercise requiring continuous involvement and the capability to evolve. External inputs to learning are of course critical, but internalization of the same is the core. Unfortunately, whereas much attention has been paid to teaching, an equal amount of attention is due to the ways of the learning process. There are indeed definite limits to the capacity to learn and methods of learning.

This is something that needs to be more widely recognized than before, especially since it does not seem to be integrated into the larger theories of learning. Indeed, one needs to pay attention to also when and how a revision of the learning process becomes seminal.

To sum up, it is important to recognize the continuous nature of learning and one's central role in keeping that learning alive. A teacher can only help the process but cannot substitute a learner's learning.

(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational  
columnist Malout)



# Waive off interest on KCC loans in J&K in support of farmers: JD(U)

## Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 4: Suggesting Government to constitute district and divisional level committee to redress issues of farmers in Jammu and Kashmir, Party President G M Shaheen and State General Secretary Vivek Bali has appealed Government not to charge interest on Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) loans, and electricity pumps in Jammu and Kashmir.

He also demanded release of pending compensation of farmers who lost their crops last year.

In a statement to the press, the J&K Party President G m Shaheen expressed concern over the plight of the farmers in



Jammu and Kashmir who have pinned their hopes with the J&K Government and Lt Governor Manoj Sinha.

They appealed that the Government should release the pending compensations in favour of the farmers who have lost their crops and were assured adequate compensation by the Govern-

ment. The Shaheen said that the government should frame policy for the welfare of the farmers involving their representatives at the district and divisional level so that their issues can be addressed as early as possible.

"The interest of Kissan Credit Card loan should also not be charged from these poor people who are dependent upon their fields and at present times, they are passing through the hardships. KCC loan interest should be waived off," he said, adding that the electricity charges and pump set should also not be charged from them.

When they have not used these things, he said, how they can be able

to pay charges for these things.

When Government has given relaxation to the business houses, why the poor farmers cannot be considered in the Government's scheme, he questioned.

Vivek Bali, State General Secretary said that the Government should seriously think on the issues of farmer's community who are the backbone of economy of not only Jammu and Kashmir, but of the entire country.

"We grow world class basmati in our fields. Our farmers have made us proud. At the moment of crises, we must stand with them and give them all relaxations possible under the law," he said.

Explaining the mental stress the farmers are passing through, Vivek Bali said the poor farmers are worried due to poor financial condition, and hardships in growing next crops in absence of labourers.

He said that farmers may come on roads if their demands are not accepted. He suggested that their issues should not be lingered any longer and demands should be accepted as early as possible on humanitarian ground.

On set of harvest season, Bali said, the farmers should be allowed to bring in tractors, thrashers and combine machines to be used to collect a ripe crop from the fields.

# Batwal community remembered Late Numberdar Des Raj Kaith



## Top News Report

R.S.PURA, Aug 4: A Shradhanjali Samaroh was organised at Village Gegian here today to pay tributes to Late Numberdar Des Raj Kaith on his death anniversary.

While paying tribute, R.L.Kaith said Late Numberdar Des Raj Kaith was a man who devoted his entire life to serving the Batwal community. He truly believed in humanity and considered it his

true religion.

His elder son Jagdish Raj Kaith said, my father maintained strict discipline among the family members and was looked upon with respect by everyone. He showed the right path to us and motivated us to achieve the goals of our lives through proper education. He stood rock solid beside us and protected us from the evils of society.

Among others who paid tributes to Late Number-

dar and spoke on him were Joint Director Rattan Lal Targotra (Retd), Lecturer Harbans Lal Kaith (Retd), Hans Raj Loria, Retired Sub Inspector Darshan Kumar Bassa, Subedar Baldev Chand Sandhu (Retd), Havildar Des Raj Kaith (Retd), Tilak Raj Bassa, Naresh Kumar Kaith, Sewa Ram Lakhotra, Puran Chand Kaith, Hakikat Anmol, Pt. sham Lal Lakhotra, Harkrishan Lal Kaith and Dev Raj Kaith.

# Creativity is Boundless, Spacious, Limitless through Meditation



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: Yoga class has been conducted by Vichar Kranti Manch International and Sarvuthan trust for the last 8 years. S. Gurmohan Singh ji, Preceptor from Heartfulness, was invited to conduct a session on meditation.

Session started with Yogasans, were practiced by Dr Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner, State Chairman Indian Yoga Association and President VKMI, in standing position, sitting position and Lying postures, Yogasans namely, Tadasan,

Ashwathanasan, kati chakrasan, Utkatasan, Vajrasan, Shalbhashan, Konasan, Ushtrasan, Bhujang, Shalbh and Pawanmuktasan, followed by Pranayama, Deep and long breath-

ing, Chandranulom and Anulom Vilom. Mr Ashok Gupta Global Vice President VKMI, State Vice President Bharat Vikas Parishad and Managing Chairman Trusty, Sarv Uthan Trust, Practiced Hasya Yoga with some of its applications. Dr Jain gave introduction of Meditation as Creativity is as Bondless spacious and Limitless as the Sky through Meditation. We are born with it. It can neither be lost nor destroyed, it can only be forgotten. Distractions are everywhere. So much time and effort on wanting to change, trying to change, to be somebody different, better or new. Why not use this time to get comfortable with yourself, as you are instead. By practicing Meditation, we can't always change, what happens around us.

Gurmohan Singh was

introduced and felicitated by the active Member namely S/Sh Yeshpaul Sharma, Suresh Chand Gupta, Lavan Gulati, Narendra vadhara, Ashok Gupta, Dr Shreyansh and Mrs Anju Bansal, Swar Kokila.

Sh Singh parted introduction of Heartfulness, as it is an Indian origin, Non Profitable organisation, spread across more than 160 countries, having headquarter at Kanha Shanti Vanam, Hyderabad, having a world's largest Meditation Hall, where one lakh individuals can meditate together. The sole purpose of HFN Institute is to spreading the message of love and brotherhood. Practice of HFN meditation was got done, with a single suggestion that divine light is present in your heart. This technique is beneficial in disturbed sleep, Stress, Anxiety, it regulates & minimizes thoughts, and gives you wisdom and balance of life. Mr Yesh Paul Sharma, Director Skill Development & Life Member VKMI, presented a vote of thanks in a simple and impressive manner.

# NSS SMVDU organized Expert Talk for Girl Students of Panthal School



## Top News Report

KATRA, Aug 4: NSS unit of SMVDU Katra organized an expert talk at Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Panthal. The speaker of the event was the renowned International Wellness Coach, Dr. Samita Gupta. She enlightened over 150 eager girl students with her expertise on the topic "Lifestyle problems in Adolescence Stage". Dr. Gupta, a certified nutrition and fitness expert, delivered profound insights into the holistic health and well-being of adolescent girls, covering physical, mental, and emotional aspects in contemporary society. Dr. Gupta's comprehensive discussion delved into the nutritional requirements, reproductive stages, and reproductive health of women, offering invaluable knowledge to the attendees. Dr. Samita Gupta's

expertise, coupled with her passion for women's health and wellness, left an indelible mark on the audience, ensuring that the session was not only educative but also transformative. As the event concluded, students departed enriched and inspired to contribute towards a healthier and more equitable society. The event was part of 7 day special camp of NSS volunteers. The event was coordinated by NSS student coordinator, Ms. Sadhvi Sharma. NSS Programme coordinator, Dr. Rajiv Kumar thanked school authorities for their support. Principal Smt. Renuka Sharma also appreciated NSS SMVDU volunteers' efforts and thanked Dr. Samita Gupta for the informative talk. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar congratulated NSS team for successfully organizing the event.

# Valmiki Samaj's daughter Kareena's gang rape, brutal murder, Chandel demands justice

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: National Chairman of Rashtriya Valmiki Sena, Hindu leader Gurujit Raju Chandel and National President Anil Chuniyana, National Acting President Anil Chuniyana, National General Secretary Rahul Tank, while talking to journalists in a press conference said that our brother Subhash of our Valmiki society, resident of village Kirawad Police Station Kheda Halka Tosan Bhiwani Haryana, living with his family, his daughter Kareena, 19 years old, was kidnapped and gang-raped by some youths of the village on 16/7/2024 July and brutally murdered, whose body was recovered by Hisar Police on 18/7/2024 July and the police cremated the body in a hurry.

The police also arrested the killers, in which the first killer is said to be Natwar Jatav and the second Ravindra Kumhar, but his names and companions are



absconding, who have received the blessings of political people and are absconding due to the influence of some leaders.

The murderers are getting support from the other side and the police is not able to arrest them, due to which crores of Valmiki community across the country are angry against the Haryana government and police officers.

There is nationwide anger in the Valmiki community over this huge gang rape brutal murder case.

Regarding this, the National Chairman of

Rashtriya Valmiki Sena Gurujit Raju Chandel has written a letter to the Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah demanding that the assembly elections in Haryana are on the head and in this rape murder case, the poor labourer Subhash Valmiki of the victim family should be given a government job and Rs 50 lakh assistance and the absconding accused should be arrested immediately and the murder case should be tried in a fast track court so that the culprits of this gang rape murder case can be given death penalty.

# BJP Kashmir Displaced District's Tridev Sammelan Focuses on Grassroots Mobilization and Development

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Kashmir Displaced District organized a Tridev Sammelan at Roop Nagar, Jammu. The event was graced by the presence of several prominent leaders, including BJP Vice-President Assem Gupta, Ex MLC Ajey Bharti, District President Chand Jee Bhat, and Vice President Chetan Wanchoo. The stage secretary for the event was General Secretary H K Razdan, while the event commenced with the recitation of "Sharda Vandana" by General Secretary Moti Lal Bhat.

In his address, Assem Gupta emphasized the importance of the 'Tridev'—a trio consisting of the Booth President, a woman activist, and a youth activist at the booth level. He highlighted that this trio is pivotal in ensuring the dissemination of party policies and public welfare schemes to every household within their respective booths. Gupta stated, "The Tridev will form the basic team of BJP at the grassroots level and will coordinate with senior party functionaries to implement the party's policies, programs, and public welfare schemes."



Chand Jee Bhat said that the Tridev are crucial for the party's successful functioning. He praised the Modi government's social welfare initiatives, such as the Ayushman Card, which has empowered the needy population of Jammu & Kashmir. He added, "Tridev has the duty to communicate to the people that only the BJP government is committed to developing Jammu & Kashmir and improving the socio-economic status of every section of the population." Bhat said that by expressing confidence in the trio's ability to bridge the gap between the party and the people, thereby strengthening the bond of trust and cooperation.

During the program Chand Jee Bhat held a productive interaction session with Mandal, Booth, Yuva Morcha and Mahila Morcha Presidents. During the meeting, the Presidents shared insights into the

workings of their respective units, highlighting key achievements and challenges.

Bhat praised their efforts and encouraged continued dedication to strengthening grassroots organization.

Ajey Bharti emphasized the importance of reaching every household and ensuring that every voter converts their intention into an actual vote. He underscored the necessity of engaging with every voter at the grassroots level to strengthen the democratic process. In his speech, Bharti also criticized the previous governments, including the National Conference (NC), Congress, and the People's Democratic Party (PDP). He accused them of showing a step-motherly treatment towards Jammu and Kashmir, suggesting that these parties neglected the region's needs and failed to provide equitable development and opportunities. He empha-

sized that with the spirit of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas," Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh are now reaching new heights of progress. He added, "Today, these areas are providing more powerful and new dimensions to the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat.'"

Speaking on the occasion, Chetan Wanchoo elaborated on the concept of Tridev, highlighting the trio's vital role in the party's organizational structure. Wanchoo noted that this tridev crucial for maintaining a strong grassroots presence and plays a pivotal role in mobilizing support and translating it into votes. He stressed that the Tridev are not just representatives but also the voice and face of the party at the local level, ensuring that the BJP's message and initiatives resonate with every individual in the community.

Vice President Anil Dhar and Chief Spokesperson and District Secretary Rahul Koul also spoke on the given topics. They reinforced the importance of effective communication and outreach by the Tridev, highlighting their crucial role in the party's mission to connect with the people and serve the community.

# Vascular Society of India organizes walkathon in Jammu to raise awareness for an amputation-free India

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: On the occasion of National Vascular Day, a walkathon was organized in Jammu by the Vascular Society of India (VSI) to focus on the critical issues of amputation prevention and vascular health awareness. The walkathon saw enthusiastic participation from over 200 participants residents, who gathered at fountain square University of Jammu to join the cause. The event was a part of the national walkathon which brought together over 15,000 participants across 25 cities including Jammu.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), over 1 million limb amputations occur globally each year, with a significant portion being preventable through early intervention and proper management of risk factors. In India, around 40-50% of all amputations are due to complications from vascular diseases, particularly diabetes. This highlights the critical need for increased awareness and preventive measures to manage risk factors like high blood sugar, hypertension, and high cholesterol.

Flagging off the walkathon, Mr Jugal Kishore Member parliament from Jammu appreciated Jammu vascular society for organizing the program for raising awareness in public and society for preventing vascular disease and avoiding complications like amputations. The Convener of Jammu vascular society Dr. Arvind Kohli, said, "With vascular diseases posing severe health risks globally, the urgency for action is clear. Patients with diabetes mellitus have an astounding 30 times greater lifetime risk of undergoing an amputation than non-diabetics. The walkathon in our city not only promoted physical fitness but also raised crucial awareness about vascular diseases and the path to an amputation-free future. Thanks to the Vascular Society of India's leadership, participants were empowered with knowledge of preventive measures and early intervention.

Present on occasion were Principal GMC Jammu Dr Ashutosh, Dr Gurjit Singh Dr Parminder from institute of human genetics Dr TR Raina Senior doctors and eminent members from all walks of society

# NMOPS hold General Council meets through virtual mode

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: A strategically important meeting of the general council of National Movement For Old Pension Scheme (NMOPS) Jammu and Kashmir Unit was conducted through virtual mode. The meeting was presided over by "President Mr Mohammad Ashraf" Besides the central and provincial body members the district presidents & District Gen secretaries participated in the meeting. threadbare discussion was carried out on the proposed roadmap for Welfare of NPS Employees. The leaders vehemently advocated for an early resolution of all these issues of Employees under NPS Schemes. Almost all the leaders present in the meeting stressed on the need to strengthen the organization and lend every sort of support to it. On this occasion the speakers highlighted the need to stand unified and empower the organization which has become the voice of Employees in all divisions of the union territory. The leaders unanimously pledged their support to the organization. The presidential address was given by "President Sh Mohammad Ashraf" In his address, the President said that NMOPS-J&K has raised the issue of Employees and has come to the rescue of all the employees at different times. While addressing in meeting "Mr Ashraf" said that we should work selflessly to strengthen the organization at grass root level so that upcoming Programmes of NMOPS will be successful and requested to all the State executive and District Presidents to organize meeting at District & Tehsil level so that maximum number of NPS Employees can join the NMOPS. In his address the "Syed Muneer Husain Vice president said that our organisation has emerged out of the most difficult and turbulent times owing to the unflinching support of the employees from across the union territory. He said that our organisation will continuously demand for restoration of old Pension Scheme and will press for the resolution of the issue. \* Dr Karamjeet Singh Chief Coordinator & Muntazir Khalid also Spoke on the occasion and requested to all the leaderships to unite together under the umbrella of NMOPS and said that All the Units of Employees will fully support and cooperate till old Pension Scheme is restored. All the leaderships assured the President that we will fully support & Cooperate for Upcoming Programmes the others leaders who participated and spoke in the meeting included:- UT Vice president Syed Muneer Husain, Dheeraj Choudhary, UT Chief Coordinator Dr Karamjeet Singh, Secretary Muntazir Khalid, Joint Secretary Ashaq Hussain, Coordinator Rail Singh, Yasir Naumani, Secretary Amarjeet Singh, District President Ramban Vijay Singh, District President Reasi Sushil Sharma, District President Baramulla Sartaj Ahmed, District President Kupwara Iqbal Maliq, District President Shopian Zahoor Ahmed Maliq and others.



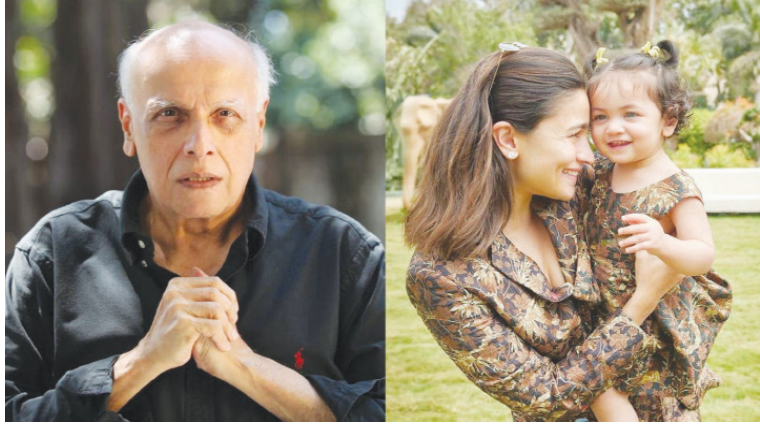
## Alia Bhatt not just an 'astounding actor' but also 'great mother', says dad Mahesh; wants Raha to watch THIS film when she's 'sweet 16'

Mahesh Bhatt is embracing the joy of being a grandfather after the birth of Raha Kapoor. While till now the filmmaker had all his eyes on his kids, Bhatt has now shifted his gaze towards the baby, something which he thinks is purely natural and heartwarming.

While recently speaking to agency, the Sadak director hailed Alia Bhatt as a mother and revealed which movie Raha should watch first.

Raha was born on November 6, 2022, to celebrity couple Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt. "I do look at human narrative with a different gaze, especially after I became a grandfather," Mahesh Bhatt said acknowledging that he is yet to recover from the wonder of his own child and their achievements.

Talking about the new dimen-



sion of motherhood around him, Bhatt added, "Alia is not just an astounding actor but also a great mother." The filmmaker further called Raha a 'gift from the skies' who came out of nowhere and left everyone awestruck.

"If I can be brutally honest, my gaze has shifted towards the

grandchild. You start doting on her a little more than your own daughter," Bhatt added on an emotional note.

The veteran filmmaker was also asked about which film he would like Raha to see first, to which Mahesh Bhatt said, "If you asked me, the movie that I want Raha to watch when she

grows up to be a young girl, and is maybe sweet 16, is Dil Hai Ke Manta Nahin."

The movie was a 1991 release starring Aamir Khan and Mahesh's eldest daughter, Pooja Bhatt in the lead.

According to the filmmaker that movie was one of the most heartwarming films where Pooja was 'out of this world', and Aamir was 'really good'.

Bhatt feels Dil Hai Ke Manta Nahin is a movie that has the resonance of a human heart and it would be the right pick for Raha's introduction to cinema.

On the work front, Mahesh Bhatt is currently in the middle of receiving feedback about his recent release Bloody Ishq. Written by him and directed by Vikram Bhatt, it is currently streaming on Disney+ Hotstar.

## 'Bigg Boss' journey is a rollercoaster ride, not for faint-hearted, says Ranvir Shorey



Actor Ranvir Shorey, who finished as the second runner-up on 'Bigg Boss OTT 3', described his experience on the show as a demanding and intense journey, full of mental, physical, and emotional challenges that would test even the strongest individuals.

Ranvir, who is known for his roles in films such as 'Khosla Ka Ghosla' and 'Singh is Kingg', was candid about his

views throughout the show.

The actor didn't hesitate to speak his mind, even if it led to confrontations with fellow contestants like Sana Makbul, Vishal Pandey and Lovekesh Kataria.

Post-eviction, Ranvir reflected on his journey, and said, "I would describe my journey as a rollercoaster ride, mentally, physically, and emotionally. I have done other reality shows before this, but nothing like 'Bigg Boss'. It is a very intense experience and takes a heavy toll on you. It is not an easy task and is not for the faint-hearted. I have survived and come out stronger."

When asked about participating in 'Khatron Ke Khiladi' like many post-Bigg Boss contestants, the actor said, "I already did 'Khatron Ke Khiladi' 11 years back. It was Rohit Shetty's first season. Being part of reality shows is not my core ambition. Whenever I don't have any work, I say yes to reality shows to gain experience."

Ranvir added, "My career is in acting, films, and series. I would like to go back to that now."

## Ravi Kishan: Bhojpuri language isn't just about Kamariya or Lollipop Lagelu

Ravi Kishan is done with how Bhojpuri is perceived among the masses. He recently introduced a private member Bill in Lok Sabha to include Bhojpuri in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Talking to us, he says the identity of the language isn't limited to the songs we have heard all these years. "My mother tongue is spoken or understood by 25 crore people in India. It's the second most spoken language in Mauritius. People have this notion that only songs like Kamariya and Lollipop Lagelu, is Bhojpuri. It has its own literature. Our late President of India, Rajendra Prasad ji had a connection with the first Bhojpuri film made, Ganga Maiyaa Tohri Piyari Chadhaibo (1963)."

The 55-year-old, who has been a big star in the Bhojpuri film industry, adds, "Because of few money minded people making those kind of films or the songs, we can't say that's all Bhojpuri is all about. Voh nahi hai jo dikhai de raha hai, it's not just that. Bhaasha mein ek mithaas hai, and to bring that



forward was my intention as a Lok Sabha member. The lingo is loved by so many. I have been known because of Bhojpuri cinema. I am now working in many languages but people still remember 'achha Ravi Kishan Bhojpuri wala' Laapata Ladies, Maamla Legal Hai- they have all happened now, par shuruat Bhojpuri se hui thi."

Kishan got a positive response from his fraternity and films ever since the news broke, "Everybody has just been congratulating me. People now know I went for the right reasons to the Parliament. I am a man with a mission."

## Maan Meri Jaan singer King calls for better live performance venues to support emerging artistes

Singer and rapper King who recently kickstarted his country-wide Listening Tour says there is a need for better live performance venues for singers. "I want more and better venues for artists. It will help the government generate revenue," he says.

"I know ki duniya bohot digital hoti ja rahi hai, har koi virtual hai. Bohot achchi baat hai ki Covid nahi hai, to ab zyada se zyada artist agar live feel de paaye and fans waha aaye to wo bohot acha rahega (I know people are tech-savvy these days. But since the pandemic is over, it will be great if more and more artistes can perform live in front of audiences)," adds the 29-year-old.

The Maan Meri Jaan singer elaborates on how venues result in growth of artistes. "Kam jagah



hai to uske peeche ka business dekha jata hai. I know there are people who are ready to call new talent but since there are only a few venues, everyone wants to get artistes who get them maximum business."

The singer reiterates, "I want better venues, better facilities

and since it's art and culture, it's a great thing. Bohot saare talent ko mauka milega. Bohot saare talent ko mauka diya hi nahi jata (a lot of new and fresh talent will be give opportunities, the ones who usually don't get)."

King is one of the first few singers to bring the concept of

a Listening Tour in India with his album Monopoly Moves. A Listening Tour is one in which an artiste releases their album and performs in front of his audience and the music industry on the same day for the first time.

He says, "The concept of such tours only has started in India the last 3-4 years, otherwise shows hi hote the. The day my album released, I performed it with my fans and industry friends in Delhi."

"So basically Listening session hota hai jab aap apne fans to allow karte ho to listen to your music and reduce the exclusivity bar, which is just for the industry people. Artistes perform in front of you in real time when the album is releasing. Woh jo real time energy create hoti hai, that is something different," he wraps up.

## Anurag Kashyap says Bollywood focuses on 'star power rather than telling a real story', lauds Kill, Laapataa Ladies

Anurag Kashyap, who was recently seen in Tamil film Maharaja, recently opened up about how Hindi film industry focuses on star power and said that this is one of the reasons as to why southern film industries are doing better than Bollywood. The filmmaker-actor praised the recently released film Kill and said that Bollywood generally focuses on "star power" than "telling a real story."

Anurag Kashyap, as quoted by The Hindu, praised Fahadh Faasil starrer Aavesham and pointed out how the makers of the film didn't hesitate in casting three

influencers in key roles. He said, "In Bollywood, they would fill these roles with big stars, focusing on star power rather than telling a real story."

He added that Bollywood often falls into the trap of repeating formulas. But added that when they go out of the box, they make some wonderful films. He praised last year's 12th Fail and this year's Laapataa Ladies. Talking about these films, the filmmaker said, "It only works when something original comes out." Talking about original content, Kashyap was also all praises for the recently released action drama

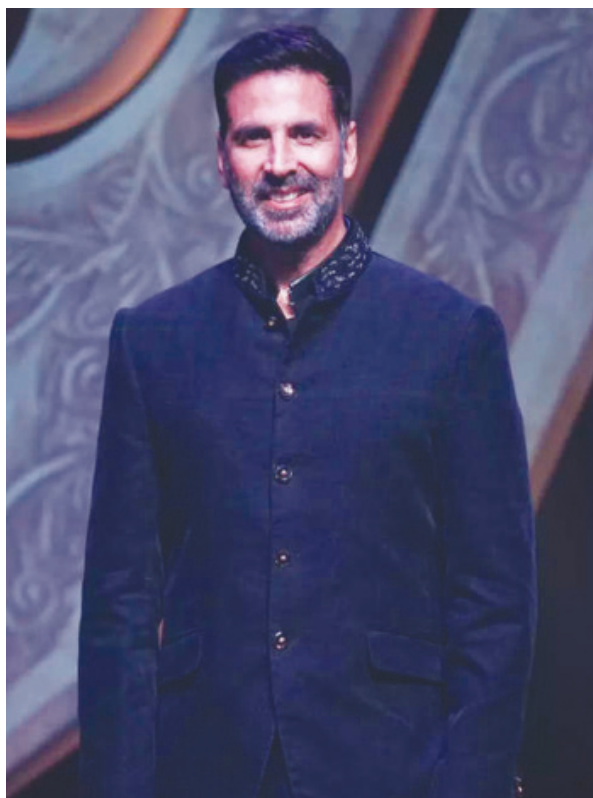


Kill. He said, "Kill is an action movie but still very unique in itself." He also spoke about his film Maharaja getting a lot of criticism for its violence, which was also the case with Kill.

In another interview with Humans of Cinema, the filmmaker-actor slammed Bollywood for wasting money. He said, "A lot of money that is spent doesn't go into making the film. It goes into the paraphernalia, it goes into the entourage."

Anurag Kashyap was recently seen trying his skills as an actor in Vijay Sethupathi starrer Maharaja and Bad Cop with Gulshan Devaiah.

## Akshay Kumar says people are sending him 'fikir mat kar' messages these days



Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar is going through a bad spell in his career, with his recent films such as Bade Miyan Chote Miyan, and Sarfira failing at the box office. Now, the actor has reacted to it, saying he is bogged down by it, even people are sending mournful messages to him.

The actor spoke about the business of his recent films at the trailer launch of his next release, Khel Khel Mein, in Mumbai.

Akshay reacts Talking about the failures, Akshay said, "I don't think too much. I'm telling you, four-five

films of mine have not worked. I get so many messages -- 'sorry yaar, fikir mat kar'. Abbey mara nahi hoon main (I am not dead)!"

"It feels like people are sending obituary messages, how people send condolences through messages. One journalist even wrote, 'don't worry, you'll be back', I called him up and asked why he was writing this? What does 'back' mean? Where have I gone? I am here and I'll keep working," he added.

Here, Akshay asserted that he is focusing on working on new projects, and bouncing back.

"Main hamesha kaam karte rahunga, chahe log kuch bhi bole (I will continue working, no matter what people say). In the morning, I wake up, exercise, leave for work and return home. Jo bhi kamata hoon apne dum pe kamata hoon (I work hard to earn money). Kisi ka kuch khaunga nahi main kabhi (I will never ask anyone for help). I'll keep on working till they shoot me down," he added.

The dry spell When it comes to Akshay's recent projects, his last few theatrical releases turned out to be big duds at the box office. The projects which failed to create a mark include Samrat Prithviraj, Raksha Bandhan, Ram Setu, Selfiee, and Mission Raniganj. His mega ambitious Bade Miyan Chote Miyan, which was made on a high budget, was also a big flop.

Looking forward Now, he is looking forward to the release of Khel Khel Mein, which also features Vaani Kapoor, Taapsee Pannu, Fardeen Khan, Ammy Virk, Pragya Jaiswal, and Aditya Seal.

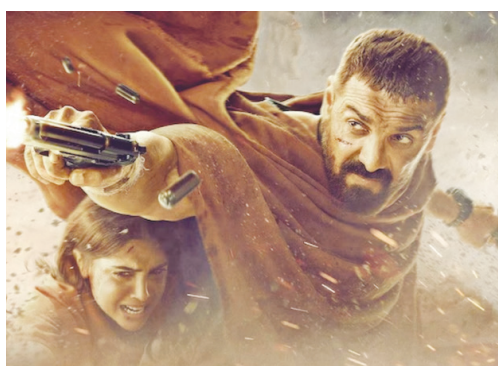
It is directed by Mudasar Aziz and is produced by Bhushan Kumar, Krishan Kumar, Ashwin Varde, Vipul D. Shah, Rajesh Bahl, Shashikant Sinha, and Ajay Rai. The film is slated to release on August 15.

## 'Vedaa' trailer: John Abraham is Krishna to Sharvari's Arjun

The trailer of the film 'Vedaa', starring John Abraham and Sharvari, was unveiled. The film promises high-octane action. Produced by Zee Studios, Emmay Entertainment, and JA Entertainment, the film is directed by Nikkhil Advani. It set to hit cinemas on Independence Day.

'Vedaa' revolves around a young woman named Vedaa, played by Sharvari, who challenges the status quo. Supported by a former soldier, portrayed by John Abraham, who becomes her protector and ally, her quest for justice is bolstered by his support.

The Vedaa trailer begins with 'Yada Yada Hi Dharmasya' shloka followed by John saying, "Jab jab adharm badhega, tab tab main dharm ki raksha karunga (Every time evil increases, each time I will be the protector)." Hinting himself to be the Krishna to Vedaa's



(Sharvari) Arjun.

The trailer hints at thrilling action scenes and intense emotional moments, providing a preview of Vedaa's world and the obstacles she encounters on her dangerous path to justice.

John Abraham, who is set to deliver another action-packed performance, shared, "I am excited to be part of a film like 'Vedaa'. It's a story that will resonate with audiences and inspire them to stand up for what is right."

Vedaa is Nikkhil Advani's 10th directorial feature film. "I feel very strongly about presenting a film that entertains but also delivers a message, provokes a thought that stays with its audience for a long time after the film ends. I hope Vedaa is that film."

The film also features Abhishek Banerjee in a pivotal role, along with Tamannaah Bhatia in a special appearance. Directed by Nikkhil Advani and written by Aseem Arrora, 'Vedaa' is bankrolled by Zee Studios, Umesh Kr Bansal, Monisha Advani, Madhu Bhojwani, John Abraham, and co-produced by Minnakshi Das.



## 206 people still missing in Wayanad; rescuers to be deployed in spots where chances of recovery of bodies high, says minister

WAYANAD, Aug 4 (Agencies): Rescue operations will continue in the landslides-hit areas in this north Kerala district on the sixth day with more force and equipment being deployed in spots where chances of recovering bodies were high, state Tourism Minister PA Mohamed Riyas said on Sunday.

Riyas said search operations will continue in the 40-kilometre stretch of the Chaliyar river, which flows through Wayanad, Malappuram and Kozhikode districts, as many bodies and remains were recovered from it near Nilambur in Malappuram.

In Mundakkai and Chooralmala areas, devastated by the landslides, that were segregated into six search zones, the operations will continue in the same way as in the last few days with more force and equipment being allocated to spots where chances of finding remains under the debris were high, the minister told a TV channel.

Regarding the rehabilitation of



the survivors, Riyas said discussions need to be held with everyone, especially to the views of those living in the relief

camps and those admitted to the hospitals. "Priority will be given to the views of those in the camps and

hospitals," he said.

But the discussion will not be held now, it will take place once the survivors are in a state of mind to talk about it, he added.

The minister said immediate interventions will be carried out to help those who have lost identification and other important records.

Steps will also be taken to ensure that the education of children in the landslides-hit areas is not hampered in any manner, Riyas said.

According to the district administration, till Saturday night, 219 bodies and over 143 body parts were recovered with 206 persons missing.

Advanced radars, drones and heavy machinery were used by rescue teams on Saturday, the fifth day of the tragic landslides that killed hundreds in Wayanad district, to locate survivors or deceased.

The state government had also announced plans to establish a new township to rehabilitate displaced victims.

## 7 killed, 25 injured as bus collides with car on Lucknow-Agra Expressway in UP

According to the SP, the driver of the car, who had been coming from Lucknow and going to Agra, must have fallen asleep and entered the wrong lane



ETAWAH, Aug 4 (Agencies): Seven people were killed and 25 injured early on Sunday when the bus they were travelling in fell into a ditch after a collision on the Lucknow-Agra Expressway in the Usrahara area here, police said.

Superintendent of Police Sanjay Kumar told reporters that a bus with a Nagaland number plate was on its way to Delhi from Rae Bareilly,

when at around 12.45 am it collided with a car coming in the wrong lane.

The collision sent the bus careening into about a 20-foot roadside ditch.

Police have identified at least three dead.

Om Prakash Tiwari, 50, a native of Lakhimpur, was one of the victims from the bus.

Monu, 25, his mother Chanda Devi, and Pradyumn, 24, who all

were in the car, died on the spot. Three others are yet to be identified.

According to the SP, the driver of the car, who had been coming from Lucknow and going to Agra, must have fallen asleep and entered the wrong lane.

The injured, one of them critical, have been admitted to a hospital, police said.

The SP said there were about 60 people on the bus.

The family in the car was returning to Talgram in Kannauj after paying a visit to Mehndipur Balaji in Rajasthan.

Ranjana, a bus passenger, said the driver was using his mobile phone on the wheel and kept doing that even when asked not to.

## Retired IRS officer wounded in knife attack in south Delhi home by burglar

NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): A 61-year-old retired IRS officer was injured in a knife attack by an alleged burglar at his Vasant Kunj house in south Delhi early on Sunday, police said.

Abhay Kumar Singh and his wife Anupama, who also suffered minor wounds, were rushed to the AIIMS where they took treatment and were discharged.

Police have arrested Jitendra, 38, in connection with the incident, an officer said.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Southwest) Rohit Meena said that an incident of attempted burglary was reported at Vasant Kunj South Police Station around 1.15 am.

The incident happened when Singh and his wife were sleeping in their



bedroom and his son and their servant were in another part of the house.

"Around 1 am, Singh was woken up by a loud noise from the balcony adjacent to their bedroom.

He saw a man entering their bedroom through the sliding door. Upon seeing the intruder, Singh started shouting, waking his wife. The intruder then injured Abhay and his wife with

a knife," the DCP said. The ruckus woke up other people in the house who bolted the thief inside the bedroom. He, however, managed to escape from the balcony, Meena said.

In the wake of the incident, police formed six teams and launched a manhunt.

At length, Jitendra, who originally hails from Meerut, was nabbed with the knife in his possession, the officer said.

## Akhilesh urges court to provide security to Ayodhya rape victim

LUCKNOW, Aug 4 (Agencies): Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday urged the court to order protection for the Ayodhya rape victim considering the "sensitivity" of the case.

He also said people trying to "politicise" the case must not be allowed to succeed.

"The government should make the best possible medical arrangements for the rape survivor. It is the government's responsibility to protect the girl's life," Yadav said in a post on X.

"It is a humble request to the honourable court to take suo motu cognisance of the situation and ensure all possible security to the girl under its supervision, considering the sensitivity and seriousness of the situation. The motive of



ill-intentioned people to politicise such incidents should never succeed," he added.

Yadav had on Saturday sparked a controversy with his demand for a DNA test of the two men accused of raping a 12-year-old girl who became pregnant.

While BSP chief Mayawati asked how many accused were subjected to DNA tests under the SP rule in such

cases, the BJP alleged that Yadav had given a "clean chit" to accused Moid Khan, who is linked to the Samajwadi Party.

"Without a DNA test in the Bhadarsa case of Ayodhya, BJP's allegation will be considered biased," Yadav had earlier said. Other SP leaders have also demanded a NARCO test in the case.

In the wake of his remark, the BJP accused

the SP of defending a "paedophile" and showing its "boys will be boys" mentality.

Earlier in his statement, Yadav had alleged that the BJP was rattled after its defeat in Lok Sabha elections, especially in Ayodhya.

The SP chief also demanded that the Uttar Pradesh government should immediately provide assistance of Rs 20 lakh to the victim's family.

Police on July 30 arrested Moid Khan, who runs a bakery in Bhadarsa Nagar of Ayodhya district, and his employee Raju Khan, in connection with the minor's rape.

According to police, Moid Khan and Raju Khan had raped the girl two months ago and also recorded the act. The incident came to light after the girl was

found to be pregnant in a medical checkup.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has alleged that Khan is a member of the Samajwadi Party and is part of the team of Faizabad MP Awadhesh Prasad.

"This is a case of Ayodhya. Moid Khan is from SP and is a member of the Ayodhya MP's team. He has been found involved in the rape of a 12-year-old girl.

The Samajwadi Party has not taken any action against him," Adityanath had said in the UP Assembly on Thursday.

The CM had met the girl's family last week.

The Ayodhya district administration demolished Khan's bakery on Saturday. Ayodhya's District Magistrate Chandra Vijay Singh had then told agency that the bakery was illegally built over a pond.

## Temple wall collapses in Madhya Pradesh's Sagar, 9 children feared dead

BHOPAL, Aug 4 (Agencies): Nine children were feared dead and several were injured after a temple wall collapsed amid heavy rainfall in Shahpur in Madhya Pradesh's Sagar district on Sunday.

The wall of the Hardayal temple was 50 years old. At the time of the incident, earthen shivlings were being made in the Hardayal temple as part of the Sawan festivities.

The rituals were underway when the wall of the temple premises collapsed.

Visuals from the site showed a



bulldozer involved in the operation to find survivors. Further details were awaited.

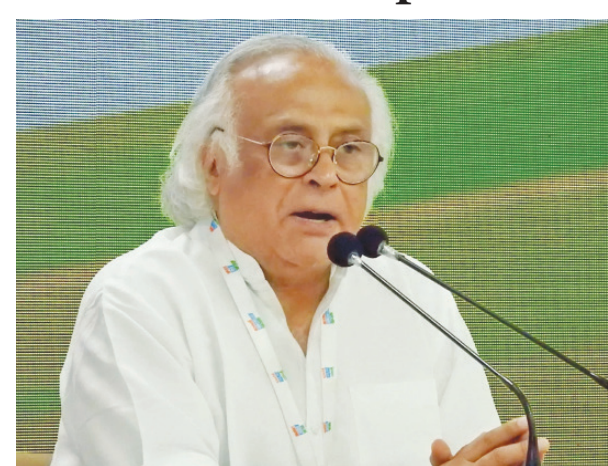
The incident came a day after four children were killed after a wall of an abandoned build-

ing collapsed on them while they were returning home from school in Madhya Pradesh's Rewa district, officials said.

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav expressed grief over the incident and announced financial assistance of Rs 2 lakh each to families of the victims.

Police on Saturday arrested two owners of a building in Rewa following the wall collapse incident and registered a case against them under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

## Congress slams Centre on PM-KUSUM scheme, says Modi govt cannot persist with 'cavalier implementation'



NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): The Congress on Sunday attacked the Centre over the implementation of the PM-KUSUM initiative, launched in 2019 to increase the agricultural use of solar energy across the country, and said the Modi government cannot persist with such "cavalier" implementation of schemes.

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has revealed some "startling facts" about PM-KUSUM, launched with

"great fanfare" in 2019 to increase the agricultural use of solar energy across the country.

"Here's the update from 2024, two years before completion target of 2026: Promise: Installation of 10,000 MW decentralized solar power plants on agriculture land. Reality: 256 MW has been installed (2.56% of target)," Ramesh said in a post on X.

"Promise: Installation of 14 lakh solar pumps. Reality: 3.97 lakh solar pumps installed (about 28% of target). Promise: Solarisation of 35 lakh additional pumps. Real-

ity: 13,562 pumps have been solarized (0.38% of target)," he said on the post.

Ramesh said the only metric that the scheme fares even respectably is the installation of solar pumps.

Further analysis reveals that many of the pumps have been installed only in the three states of Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra, Ramesh said.

Note that all of these states were 'single-engine sarkars', run by the Congress and coalition partners, for much or most of this duration (2019-2024), the Congress leader said.

"The energy transition to renewable sources is a key economic priority for India, given our climate sensitivity, and the substantial economic incentives for clean energy.

"The non-biological PM and his government cannot persist with this cavalier implementation of schemes," Ramesh said.

## National Archives of India to utilise AI for enhanced user experience

NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): In a bid to enhance user experience and optimize search tools, the National Archives of India (NAI)—the repository of non-current Government records—may employ Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other cutting-edge technologies to upgrade its portal. Currently, approximately 5.92 crore digitized archival materials are available on the centralized server, accessible free of cost to scholars and history enthusiasts at www.abhilekh-patal.in.

The Archives have also embarked on a fresh round of restoration and conservation efforts to preserve 30 crore pages of rare historical records, including photographs, handwritten documents, maps, and treaties. Many of these documents are fragile, exhib-

iting stains, worm marks, and translucency due to aging. The conservation and digitization processes are expected to be completed by 2026.

Simultaneously with the ongoing phase of digitization, the NAI will explore the use of AI and other tools to enhance the search and viewing experience for future versions of its website. The current portal has had over 1.87 million unique visitors and approximately 28,000 registered users. In the first phase, the NAI completed the digitization of 4.5 crore pages of its records over a span of three years. The second phase, focusing on restoration and conservation, will cover records at the NAI's head office and Lahore Shed in Jaisalmer House, Delhi, as well as

regional offices in Bhopal and record centers in Jaipur, Bhubaneswar, and Puducherry.

Established as the Imperial Record Department in 1891 in Kolkata, the then capital of British India, the NAI holds a vast collection of historical records. These include court orders and treaties signed by Mughal emperors and the British Empire, as well as private papers of eminent individuals who have significantly contributed to public life in India, such as Mahatma Gandhi, India's first president Rajendra Prasad, Dadabhai Naoroji, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, and Sardar Patel.

As one of the largest and most prestigious archival centers in the world, the NAI boasts records comprising 800 million pages, 5.7 million files, and 1.2 lakh maps.



## Fears of a wider regional conflict and of a direct confrontation between Israel and Iran

Iran says short-range projectile killed Hamas' Haniyeh, reiterates vows of retaliation

TEHRAN, Aug 4 (Agencies): Iran's Revolutionary Guard said a short-range projectile was behind the killing of Hamas political chief Ismail Haniyeh and accused the United States of supporting the attack which it blamed on Israel, state TV reported.

The televised statement, which reiterated a call for retaliation, said a rocket with a seven-kg warhead was used to target the residence of Hamas' political leader in the capital Tehran on Wednesday, adding it caused heavy devastation. It didn't share details of the residence's location.

Haniyeh was in Iran to attend the inauguration of newly elected Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian.

"The action was designed and carried out by the Zionist



regime and supported by the US," said the Guard's statement. It added that "the war-mongering and terrorist Zionist regime will receive harsh punishment in the suitable time, place, and capacity."

Israel has not confirmed or denied its role in the killing of Haniyeh, but Israel earlier pledged to kill him and other Hamas leaders over the group's October 7 attack on southern Israel that sparked the war in

Gaza.

The assassination has sparked fears of a wider regional conflict and of a direct confrontation between Israel and Iran if Tehran retaliates.

In April, Iran launched hundreds of missiles and drones at Israel, which said it intercepted 99 per cent.

The barrage came less than two weeks after a suspected Israeli strike in Syria killed two Iranian generals, and it marked the first time Iran had launched a direct military assault on Israel despite decades of enmity dating back to the country's 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Iran does not recognise Israel and supports anti-Israeli militant groups including Hamas and Lebanon's Hezbollah.

## Suspected missile attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels hits container ship

DUBAI, Aug 4 (Agencies): A suspected missile attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels struck a container ship traveling through the Gulf of Aden, authorities said Sunday, likely the first assault by the group since Israeli airstrikes targeted them.

The Houthis did not immediately claim the attack Saturday. However, it can take the rebels hours or even days before they acknowledge an assault.

The rebels have targeted more than 70 vessels by firing missiles and drones in their campaign that have killed four sailors. They have seized one vessel and sunk two in the time since. Other missiles and drones have been either intercepted by a U.S.-led coalition in the Red Sea or splashed down before reaching their targets.

The Houthis maintain that their attacks target ships linked to Israel, the United States or Britain as part of the rebels' campaign they say seeks to force an end to the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. However, many of the ships attacked have little or no connection to the war — including some bound for Iran.

The Houthis also have launched drones and missiles toward Israel, including an attack July 19 that killed one person and wounded 10 others in Tel Aviv. Israel responded the next day with airstrikes on the Houthi-held port city of Hodeida that hit fuel depots and electrical stations, killing and wounding a number of

people, the rebels say. In the time since, there has not been a reported attack on shipping through the Red Sea corridor, which links Asia and the Middle East onto Europe through the Suez Canal. Since November, Houthi attacks have disrupted the \$1 trillion flow of goods passing through the region annually while also sparking the most-intense combat since the U.S. Navy has seen since World War II.

The killing of Haniyeh in Tehran has sparked concerns of a new escalation in the Israel-Hamas war. Already, the U.S. military says it will move a fighter jet squadron to the Middle East and keep an aircraft carrier in the region.

The USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier strike group will enter the Middle East to replace the USS Theodore Roosevelt carrier strike group, which is in the Gulf of Oman. Other ships are in the Mediterranean Sea with a Marine detachment if regional evacuations become necessary.

Meanwhile Saturday, the U.S. military's Central Command said its forces destroyed a Houthi missile and launcher in Yemen. Hamas' Oct. 7 attack on Israel, which killed 1,200 people and saw 250 others taken hostage, sparked the war. In the time since, Israel has killed at least 39,550 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and 590 in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, Palestinian health officials say.

## Kamala Harris' husband admits to having extramarital affair during first marriage

WASHINGTON, Aug 4 (Agencies): US Vice President Kamala Harris' husband, Doug Emhoff, admitted having an extramarital affair during his first marriage, agency reported.

He had a relationship with a teacher at his children's school several years before he met and married US Vice President Kamala Harris.

Emhoff's acknowledgment comes after a report emerged that the teacher became pregnant in 2009. She, however, did not have a baby, the report said.

According to two sources, both of whom were close to the woman at the time of her relationship with Emhoff, the woman's pregnancy ended in a miscarriage,

agency reported.

According to two sources, along with a third source familiar with the relationship, all of whom spoke on condition of anonymity, Emhoff at the time was married to his first wife, Kerstin Emhoff. However, the couple separated when the affair happened.

Sources said the woman taught at Emhoff's children's school. However, she was not teaching Emhoff's children at the time of her relationship with him, according to sources.

In a statement provided to CBS News, Emhoff said, "During my first marriage, Kerstin and I went through some tough times on account of my actions." He said,

"I took responsibility, and in the years since, we worked through things as a family and have come out stronger on the other side." Before becoming the US' second gentleman, Emhoff worked as an entertainment lawyer. He shares two adult children, Ella and Cole, with his first wife.

In her statement on Saturday, Kerstin said, "Doug and I decided to end our marriage for a variety of reasons, many years ago. He is a great father to our kids, continues to be a great friend to me and I am really proud of the warm and supportive blended family Doug, Kamala and I have built together."

According to court records, Kerstin Emhoff



filed for divorce in 2009 and it seems to have been finalised in late 2010, agency reported.

According to a source familiar with the situation, Harris was aware of the affair before her marriage to Emhoff. Those in the Biden campaign who conducted the Vice President's vetting process in 2020 also knew about it, agency reported.

Kamala Harris and Doug Emhoff met in 2013 and got married in 2014; the couple does not have children together.

Emhoff's adult children call Harris "Mamala," and their close relationship has been widely reported.

Kamala Harris even presided over Cole Emhoff's marriage in 2023.

## JD Vance told son to "shut up" amid phone call with Donald Trump, criticised

WASHINGTON, Aug 4 (Agencies): JD Vance, Donald Trump's Vice President pick, recently revealed that he asked his son to "shut the hell up" about Pokemon Pikachu amid a phone call with the former President and moments before the Republican National Convention. The Ohio senator explained the circumstances on the Full Send podcast.

The politician was speaking to YouTube comedians the NELK Boys and said the incident occurred when Mr Trump called and asked him to be his running mate. Notably, the former president officially named the senator as his running mate during the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee last month.

Mr Vance was flying with his family to Milwaukee for the RNC when he realised that the airplane had no Wi-Fi. He landed after an hour and had over a hundred messages. He said that he got one message from the Trump campaign which said, "Hey, you just missed a really important call." He then called Mr Trump and said, "Hey Sir, what's going on?" The 45th US Presi-



dent told him, "J.D., you missed a really important phone call, and now I'm going to have to go with someone else."

Mr Vance continued, "My son, who is seven, is in the hotel room with me. And he is really into Pokemon cards right now. He's going through a Pokemon phase...he's really into it. So he's trying to talk to me about Pikachu and I'm on the phone with Donald Trump and I'm like, 'Son, shut the hell up for 30 seconds about Pikachu.'"

He added, "This is the most important phone call of my life. Please just let me take this phone call." Mr Vance said that because his son "doesn't get what the President of the United States means," he didn't care that Mr Trump was on the phone.

Since being shared on social media, Mr Vance's remarks have

been widely criticised.

The Democratic National Convention wrote in a statement on its website, "If there's one thing JD Vance is going to do, it's full send being the weirdest, creepiest, and most unpopular running mate Donald Trump could have ever hoped for."

Representative Wiley Nickel, a North Carolina Democrat, wrote on X, "What a truly horrible human being...J.D. Vance tells his 7 year-old son to 'shut the hell up' because he's talking to Trump. I've got a simple rule in Congress. There's no call that's ever more important than my kids."

"He was on the phone with President Trump. Chill son," said a person.

Another added, "It's even more embarrassing that he thinks this is a flex."

"Better to have no kids than speak to them that way," added a user.

## A woman was killed and 3 others were wounded in a stabbing attack in Israel

JERUSALEM, Aug 4 (Agencies): Israeli police and medics say a woman in her 70s was killed and three other people were wounded in a stabbing attack in a suburb of Tel Aviv.

The police said the

attacker was a resident of the West Bank, suggesting that Sunday's attack was carried out by a Palestinian militant. They said the attacker was "neutralized" and that a search was underway for other suspects

in Holon, where the stabbings occurred.

Tensions have soared across the region since Hamas' Oct. 7 attack ignited the war in Gaza last year.

Israel is bracing for retaliation after the kill-

ing of a senior Hezbollah commander in a strike in Lebanon and Hamas' top political leader in an attack in Iran's capital last week.

The police initially said four people were wounded. Israel's Magen David

Adom rescue service later confirmed that the woman had died. It said a 70-year-old man was in critical condition, a 68-year-old man was in severe condition and a 26-year-old man was in moderate condition.

## Lebanon marks four years since Beirut port blast as war fears loom

BEIRUT, Aug 4 (Agencies): Lebanon on Sunday marks four years since a catastrophic explosion at Beirut's port killed more than 220 people, with fears of all-out war between Israel and Hezbollah hanging heavy over the grim commemoration.

Several marches are set to converge on the port in the afternoon to remember the victims and demand justice.

Nobody has been held responsible for the August 4, 2020 disaster -- one of history's biggest non-nuclear explosions -- which also injured at least 6,500 people and devastated swathes of the capital.

Authorities said the explosion was triggered by a fire in a warehouse where a stockpile of ammonium nitrate fertiliser had been haphazardly stored for years.

An investigation has stalled, mired in legal and political wrangling.

"The complete lack of accountability for such a manmade disaster is staggering," United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Jeanine Hennis-



Plasschaert said in a statement.

"One would expect the concerned authorities to work tirelessly to lift all barriers... but the opposite is happening," she said, calling for "an impartial, thorough, and transparent investigation to deliver truth, justice, and accountability".

In December 2021, Bitar suspended his probe after a barrage of lawsuits, while the powerful Hezbollah group has accused him of bias and demanded his dismissal.

But in January last year, he resumed investigations, charging eight new suspects including high-level security officials and Lebanon's top prosecutor, who in turn charged Bitar with "usurping power" and ordered the release of detainees in the case.

ers to lift parliamentary immunity for MPs who were formerly cabinet ministers.

In December 2021, Bitar suspended his probe after a barrage of lawsuits, while the powerful Hezbollah group has accused him of bias and demanded his dismissal.

But in January last year, he resumed investigations, charging eight new suspects including high-level security officials and Lebanon's top prosecutor, who in turn charged Bitar with "usurping power" and ordered the release of detainees in the case.

The process has since stalled again.

A judicial official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told agency that Bitar would "resume his proceedings, starting next week" and intends to finish "the investigation and issue his indictment decision... by the end of the year".

Bitar will set dates for questioning defendants who have not yet appeared before him, according to the official.

If the public prosecutor's office or other relevant judicial officials fail to cooperate, Bitar "will issue arrest warrants in absentia" for the defendants, the official added.

Activists have called for a UN fact-finding mission into the blast, but Lebanese officials have repeatedly rejected the demand.

Prospects of further disaster loom over this year's anniversary, with Hamas ally Hezbollah and the Israeli army trading cross-border fire since the Palestinian group's October 7 attack that triggered the Gaza war and fears that an all-out conflict could engulf Lebanon.



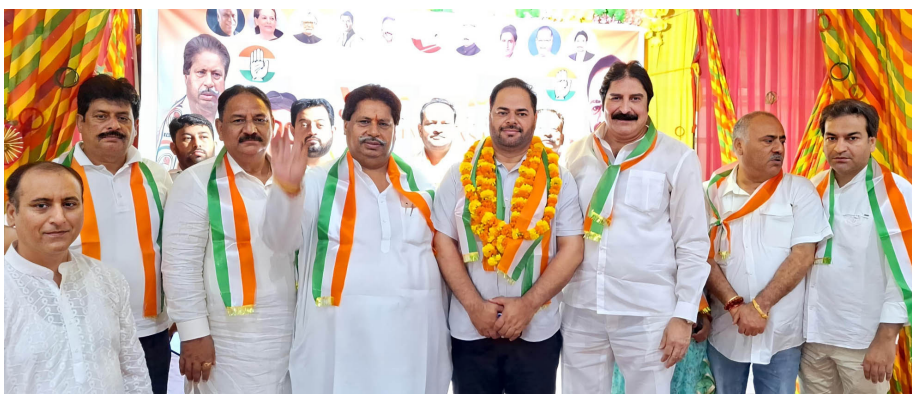
# JKPCC Chief urges leaders & workers to gear up for J&K Assembly polls

*It seems like Govt exists only on papers: Bhalla*

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: JKPCC Chief Vikar Rasool Wani on Sunday instructed the party leaders and workers to gear up for the upcoming assembly elections. He gave them the target to increase the number of seats in Assembly polls, saying they should repeat their performance of recently concluded Lok Sabha elections where Congress secured leads in various assembly segments. He was addressing Block meeting organised by Block 1 and 7 Presidents Nageshwar Narayan and Chander Shekhar Sharma accompanied by JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla, Vice President Yogesh Sawhney, Vice President and Treasurer JKPCC Rajnish Sharma Mian, Kanta Baan, Th Manmohan Singh, Narinder Gupta, Uday Bhanu Chib, Vijay Sharma Babbi. Prominent among those present on the occasion include Sanjeev Padha, Sandeep Dogra Sonu, Kapil Singh, Anirudh Sawhney, Pawan Dev Singh, Satpal Spolia, Ajay Kumar, Rakesh Kumar, Anil Kumar, Ram Mangotra, Gurmeet Singh, Pardeep Bhagat, Yash Sangral, Madam Madhu, Jaipal, Ricky Dalotra, Sikhander Khan, Vijay Sharma, Seemna Koushar, Rahul Tandon, Raj Kumar Meena, Ajay Kai, Raj Kunar, Monika Kumari, Harjinder, Vanku Sohal and others.

Speaking on the occasion, Wani upbeat after Congress performance in the recent Lok Sabha polls asked party leaders and workers to step up their efforts to take on the ruling BJP government in forthcoming Assembly elections. He kicked off Party's campaign to reach out to people to keep the



momentum going in the run-up to the Assembly polls. The party has set the ball rolling by up swinging the tempo of its political activities across J&K. He stressed State-wide workers conference across all the districts to connect with the people, conveying them about the party's poll guarantees, besides raking the issues such as unemployment, inflation, corruption, and deteriorating law and order against the ruling BJP government.

Wani said Congress was completely prepared for the Assembly poll battle. We should not stop, nor bow down, we should just keep moving forward till the goal is achieved," he said. He asked the workers to implement a two-point action plan for the coming elections. "First — highlight the failures of the BJP government in 10 years. Second, the work of the previous Congress governments has to be taken to every house and the party's future guarantees have to be conveyed across J&K." "Till 2014, J&K was doing well in per capita income, per capita investment, law and order, in sports and supporting the players, giving jobs. "We should not rest for three months. After the elections, a Congress government with full majority will be formed in the State," he said.

Bhalla in his address directed the District Presidents to ensure they gear up booth-level agents properly and effectively so that the party could work with full force for the assembly elections. He lashed the BJP Govt on the inflation and unprecedentedly price rise of essential commodities in the country. The installation of smart electrical meters and property tax and various types of other taxes has added more to the miseries of common masses. He said that the people of Jammu should ask the local leaders of BJP, what they have done for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Why they hesitate to raise the genuine problems of Jammu people to the Central High Command of BJP. He stressed the need of further strengthening the party at the grass root level. He highlighted the local issues and failures of the BJP Government in J&K. He drew attention towards the alleged insensitive approach of the Government towards the general issues like water scarcity, bad condition of roads, erratic power supply, non release of widow /Handicapped pension, unemployment, high inflation, daily wagers issues and various other issues.

JKPCC Working President expressed serious

concern over the difficulties on account of rising unemployment, lack of development at grass roots level and many other local issues confronting people, which are not being addressed and termed it as failure of the Govt. He also slammed the Govt for failing to curb rising unemployment, which is a dangerous proposition and has to dealt firmly. Congress Party is doing principle-based politics and won't compromise on people aspirations, Bhalla said and urged the Govt to fulfill its promise of development and employment, as people of J&K have suffered tremendous hardships due to the ugliest situation. We promise that congress will stop this growing inflation and will adopt public friendly policies where everyone can get equal benefit and not a few crony capitalists will eat up the wealth of taxpayers," Bhalla said. He condemned the apathy shown by the Government in addressing, pressing and crucial grievances of the people. "It seems like Government exists only on papers.

JKPCC Vice President Yogesh Sawhney in his address said that basic responsibilities of the administration have become luxuries as the Government remains clueless and utterly

insensitive to the hardships being faced by the people. The common man has been cornered in a ruthless and sadistic manner by a Government that remains deaf and blind", he said. He claimed that BJP will have to pay heavy price for the conspiracy which it has allegedly knitted against people of J&K. "Today the situation on ground is that all the communities are up in arms against BJP as all are feeling cheated at the hands of BJP's wrong policies," he said, adding, if BJP Government claims to be honest and judicious, they should come before the public and justify how several decisions in J&K taken against the wishes of the people, who are the real stakeholders.

District Jammu President Th Manmohan Singh said J&K lost their identity under BJP and appealed to the people to support Congress in the fight for the restoration of statehood. He said in the absence of an elected government, the LG administration has failed badly to pursue all those connected with development for giving push to the schemes and projects aimed at overall development and welfare of various areas and different segments of society. He hit out at the Centre and LG Administration for deteriorating situation in J&K" and blamed them both for failing to create an atmosphere of peace as a result of which the country and J&K are passing through very crucial phase leading to the deep alienation among people. People are subjected to mental torture by J&K government in order to hide its failures. Government has miserably failed to deliver.

## Management Development Programme on LEAD ART concluded at School of Business Studies, CUJ



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: Leadership and Management Development Programme on Leadership in Panchayats for Effective and Accelerated Rural Transformation (Lead-ART) concluded at SBS, CUJ. This pioneering initiative aimed to equip elected representatives and senior officers with essential leadership and managerial skills to enhance rural policymaking and governance organised by the School of Business Studies, Central University of Jammu, in collaboration with the Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Government of J&K under the patronage of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Central University Jammu.

With a view to enhance the leadership capacity at the grassroots and to give an impetus to the strengthening and capacity building of Panchayati Raj Institutions across the UT of J&K Department of RD & PR has conceptualized a programme for leadership development among the Panchayat Leaders who are leading the change at the grassroots level under the supervision of Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, IAS, Secretary, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, UT of J&K for infusing professional leadership skills. Under this initiative the Department of RD & PR in collaboration with SBS, CUJ organised the Programme for beneficiaries for developing leadership skills among the Panchayati Raj representatives for better and informed decision making and governance. The first batch of 30 participants included

DDC Chairpersons/Members and BDOs of RD & PR and were trained in various modules on Leadership and Teamwork, Financial Management and Panchayat Finances, Effective Communication, Project Management and Monitoring, Digital Transformation, ICT, Creativity and Innovation for Village Development and more were covered by galaxy of eminent experts to instil confidence among participants and equip them with requisite skills to usher in a new era of grassroots governance. The event witnessed participation of distinguished dignitaries and Resource Persons from academia, corporate and bureaucratic set-up including Prof Anil Gupta, IIM-Ahmedabad, Sh. B. R Sharma, IAS, Former Chief Secretary of J&K, Sh. Pramod Kumar Jain, IAS, Former J&K State Water Resources Regulatory Authority, Prof. Ashok Aima, Former Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu, Sh. Sridhar Bhallamudi, CGM-NABARD, Sh. Abhishek Sharma, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Samba, Mr. Shakeel Ganie, IRS, Dy. Commissioner of Income Tax, Srinagar Sh. Waseem Raja, JKAS Additional Secretary to the Government, Department of RD & PR, Sh. Ratan Ranjan, SDGCC Public Policy Analyst-cum-State Head SDG Coordination Centre Planning Development & Monitoring Department, Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Dean, SBS, Dr. Neelika Arora, Associate Pro-

fessor, SBS, Dr. Shahid Mushtaq, Assistant Professor, SBS, Dr. Asif Ali, Assistant Professor, SBS.

The event was inaugurated in presence of Sh. Shaam Lal, JKAS, Director, Panchayati Raj, Government of J&K, Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar, Central University of Jammu, Ms. Sheetal Pandita, JKAS, Deputy Secretary, Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Government of J&K, Ms. Kiran Jyoti, Consultant, MoPR, Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Dean, School of Business Studies, Central University of Jammu.

During the valedictory session feedback was sought wherein participants expressed their enthusiasm and appreciation for the insightful sessions and the opportunity to enhance their leadership capabilities. Sh. Abhishek Sharma, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Samba addressed the gathering in virtual mode. The MDP organising team comprised of Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Dr. Neelika Arora, Dr. Shahid Mushtaq, Dr. Asif Ali faculty members from School of Business Studies. Earlier Prof. Jaya Bhasin welcomed the gathering for valedictory session and briefed about the activities conducted during these three days and Dr. Neelika Arora proposed formal vote of thanks. Ms. Rashmi Srivastava conducted the proceedings of the programme and Ms. Riya Gandotra coordinated certificate distribution.

## Couples enter wedlock under VDG protection in terror-hit Doda

DODA/JAMMU, Aug 4 (Agencies): As Zail Singh and Ravita Devi entered a wedlock in a remote village in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda,

Village Defence Guards (VDGs) stood guard to ward off any threat from terrorists who have infiltrated from across the border and are believed

to be hiding in the higher reaches of the hilly district.

Hailing from Gadan village of Bhagwah Panchayat, Singh in his mid-

20's performed the marriage rituals with Devi as per already decided dates last week despite his area witnessing a fierce gunfight between terrorists

and security forces for several hours on July 9.

Doda in Jammu region was rocked by several terror incidents since June 12, which was seen

as an attempt by Pakistan-based terror handlers to revive terrorism in the district after remaining peaceful for over 18 years.

### NOTICE OF LOST MARK SHEETS

I, Saaransh Mahajan, S/O Ajay Gupta, residing at Rajinder Nagar Canal Road, Jammu, hereby inform that I have lost my 10th class mark sheet bearing Roll No: 160118040 for the passing year 2020-2021, as well as my 12th class mark sheet bearing Roll No: 360036014 for the passing year 2022-2023.

I am in the process of applying for duplicate copies of these mark sheets. If anyone has any objections or concerns regarding this matter, please contact the concerned authority within Seven Days from the date of this notice.

### FROM PAGE 1

## ED seizes Rs One Crore cash in fake Crypto Scam raids in Leh, Other places

the marketing of the fake crypto currency, it alleged.

The money laundering investigation stems from a March 2020 FIR filed by the Jammu and Kashmir Police.

The money collected from this alleged fraud business was laundered and utilised for personal use and for the purchase of various immovable properties and assets by the accused, the ED said.

An amount of Rs 1 crore in cash was seized apart from several incriminating documents, property documents and digital devices during the searches, it said.

It did not specify from which location or premise the cash and documents were seized.

## Chhari Mubarak taken to Shankaracharya Temple in Srinagar

"Collective prayers were also offered for peace and prosperity of Jammu & Kashmir," it said.

The Shankaracharya temple is located atop the Zabarwan hill range near the Dalgate area and overlooks the city. Some historians are of the opinion that the temple at the top was originally built by King Sandiman (2629-2564 BC).

This temple was earlier known as Jyeshtheshwara or Jyoteshwara temple. It came to be known as Shankaracharya temple after Adi Shankracharya visited it.

The Chhari Mubarak shall be taken to the 'Sharika-Bhawani' temple, Hari Parvat, in the Old Srinagar to pay obeisance to the

## Two Arunachal Pradesh men missing for two years; last sighted along china border

goddess on Monday.

Army authorities several times seeking information about his brothers. "I am told that the issue was raised by the Indian Army with their Chinese counterparts. But no response has come so far," he said.

Anjaw MLA and State's Women and Child Development Minister Dasanglu Pul confirmed that the duo went missing along the border with China while looking for medicinal herbs.

"The Chinese side has not yet acknowledged that the youths are in their custody. But I am told that they are still alive," she said.

After the two went missing, Mr. Chikro lodged two complaints of missing persons at Hayuliang police station on October 9, 2022.

It was mentioned in the complaints that "some fellow villagers might have last seen them at border areas on August 24, 2022" but since then there has been no sign of the whereabouts of the duo.

According to their Aadhaar cards, Mr. Tikro belongs to Doiliang and Mr. Manyu hails from Manyu Chiprogram of Anjaw district of Arunachal Pradesh. Mr. Tikro is unmarried while Mr. Manyu and his wife have two very young children.

Anjaw district Zila Parishad Chairman Soblem Pul said he has come to know that the local Army authorities raised the issue of the two men with the Chinese Army at the flag meetings held along the border.

"I have no idea what was the response of the Chinese side at the flag meetings. The parents of the men keep telling us to

do something. But we are helpless so far. We hope that they will return home safe and soon," he said.

This is not the first time that residents of Arunachal Pradesh have gone missing along the border or been detained by China's PLA. However, in most cases, such people return home after a few days or weeks.

This is for the first time that no whereabouts have been found of two missing persons for almost two years. In September 2020, the PLA allegedly abducted five youths from Arunachal Pradesh's Upper Subansiri district. The youths were released about a week later by the PLA.

On January 18, 2022, a teenage boy, Miram Taron, was allegedly taken away by the Chinese forces from the Upper Siang district. Taron was handed over to the Indian side by the Chinese Army nine days later.

The latest incident of the two missing cousins comes amid a continuing stand-off between the Indian Army and the PLA in eastern Ladakh since April 2020.

India shares a 3,400 km-long Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh. India has repeatedly rejected China's territorial claims over Arunachal Pradesh, asserting that the State is an integral part of the country.

China, which terms Arunachal Pradesh as South Tibet, routinely objects to Indian leaders' visits to the State to highlight its claims. Beijing has also named the area as Zangnan.

New Delhi has also dismissed Beijing's move to assign "invented" names to the area, saying it does not alter the reality.

## Srinagar-Leh highway closed as cloudburst triggers

## mudslides in Ganderbal

the road.

The official said that rescue teams have reached to the spot and efforts are on to restore the highway.

## Himachal cloudburst: Rescue ops underway; hunt for 36 missing continues in Rampur's Samej

have reached. We are hoping that the maximum number of bodies will be recovered today. The three bodies that have been recovered have not been identified yet. That is why we are showing those bodies to people. We are also providing relief to people. 36 people are missing here," he added further.

Himachal Pradesh minister Vikramaditya Singh said on Saturday that around 50 people are feared dead in the affected areas and the official number can only be declared after official confirmation and completion of rescue operations.

Singh also said that the topmost priority of the state government is to retrieve the bodies and restore connectivity in the affected areas of the state as soon as possible.

## Two days after returning from Srinagar, cop found dead near home in Jammu

When Sahil didn't see his brother the next morning, he contacted the resident with

whom his brother had went.

"He told me that he had dropped Vivek back home at 11:30pm, and that he might had left again," he said.

As he searched for his brother, he heard that his body was lying near an electric transformer in the neighbourhood, Sahil said.

He said that the police have also conducted post-mortem, but nothing has been revealed to the family as of now.

While requesting the security agencies to probe his brother's death adequately, Sahil said that his brother would never go out from the locality to roam around.

"We don't know what happened to him," he lamented.

## Nine people injured after two vehicles collide near Air Strip in Anantnag

Highway in Bijbehara this morning.

In the incident, nine persons suffered injuries, the official said and identified them as, Rumaisa, wife of Ishtiaq Ahmad Sheikh of Sonamarg, Abdul Quayoom Bairan son of Nazir Ahmed of Kangan, Azra daughter of Irshad Ahmad Sheikh of Kangan, Ishrat daughter of Reyaz Ahmad Sheikh of Kangan, Salreen wife of Nisar Ahmad Khan of Kangan, Ahkam son of Nisar Ahmad Khan of Kangan, Arhan son of Ishtiaq Ahmad Khan of Kangan, Imad son of Ishtiaq Ahmad Khan of Kangan and Usman son of Nisar Ahmad Khan of Kangan.

"All the injured were evacuated to SDH Bijbehara, from where they were taken to GMC Anantnag for further treatment," the official said.

A police official said that they have taken cognisance of the incident for further investigations.



## India may take 75 years to reach one-quarter of US income per capita: World Bank

*At the end of 2023, 108 countries were classified as middle-income, each with annual GDP per capita in the range of USD 1,136 to USD 13,845*

MUMBAI, Aug 4 (Agencies): More than 100 countries, including India, face serious obstacles in becoming high-income countries in the next few decades, and New Delhi may take nearly 75 years just to reach one-quarter of US income per capita, a World Bank report said.

It will take China more than 10 years to reach one-quarter of US income per capita and Indonesia nearly 70 years, according to the World Development Report 2024: The Middle Income Trap.

Drawing on lessons of the past 50 years, the report finds that as countries grow wealthier, they usually hit a "trap" at about 10 per cent of annual US GDP per person - the equivalent of USD 8,000.

That's in the middle of the range of what the World Bank classifies as middle-income countries.

At the end of 2023, 108 countries were classified as middle-income, each with annual GDP



per capita in the range of USD 1,136 to USD 13,845.

These countries are home to six billion people - 75 per cent of the global population - and two out of every three people living in extreme poverty.

The road ahead has even stiffer challenges than those seen in the past: rapidly ageing populations and burgeoning debt, fierce geopolitical and trade frictions, and the growing difficulty of speeding up economic progress without fouling the

environment, it said.

"Yet many middle-income countries still use a playbook from the last century, relying mainly on policies designed to expand investment. That is like driving a car just in first gear and trying to make it go faster," the report said.

If they stick with the old playbook, most developing countries will lose the race to create reasonably prosperous societies by the middle of this century, said Indermit Gill, Chief Economist

of the World Bank Group and Senior Vice President for Development Economics.

"At current trends, it will take China more than 10 years just to reach one-quarter of US income per capita, Indonesia nearly 70 years, and India 75 years," the report said.

Gill also said the battle for global economic prosperity will largely be won or lost in middle-income countries.

The report proposes a strategy for countries to reach high-income status. Depending on their stage of development, all countries need to adopt a sequenced and progressively more sophisticated mix of policies.

Since 1990, only 34 middle-income economies have managed to shift to high-income status - and more than a third of them were either beneficiaries of integration into the European Union, or of previously undiscovered oil, the World Bank said.

## Vedanta Aluminum acquires seventh Bureau of Indian Standards certification



RAIPUR, Aug 4 (Agencies): Vedanta Aluminium becomes the "first company in the country's aluminium industry to secure seven Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certifications" for its extensive range of aluminium products after the newly certified 12 mm wire rods, produced at its Chhattisgarh-based Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) facility in Korba district.

The certified 12 mm aluminium wire rods have diverse applications, primarily in electrical and power transmission, owing to their

superior conductivity, lightweight nature, and sterling durability.

Alongside the new BIS certification of 12 mm wire rods, BIS has re-certified six additional product categories: EC Ingots, Alloy Ingots, Primary Ingots, Rolled Sheets, Rolled Conductor Plates, and Rolled Plates for general engineering purposes - all of which are produced at Balco.

The company boasts of acquiring an edge in the market with seven BIS certifications covering a total of 17 aluminium products.

The Bureau of Indian

Standards applying rigorous assessment methodologies is the apex domestic body tasked with defining quality standards across industry sectors.

"At Vedanta Aluminium, our focus is to consistently deliver top-notch aluminium products that meet the highest standards. These BIS certifications reflect our rigorous quality control and advanced production techniques, enabling us to serve diverse industries and global customers with a diverse range of products that are designed to exceed industry standards", said John Slaven, CEO, Vedanta Aluminium.

Vedanta's aluminium quality products prepared using some of the world's best technologies in manufacturing are also registered with the London Metal Exchange (LME).

## New model boosts diagnosis accuracy for cardiac arrest treatment

NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): Japanese researchers have developed a new model that can help predict the outcomes of patients who suffer from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA).

In cardiac arrest cases, immediate action is crucial, as it can determine the patient's survival.

Timely intervention not only improves the chances of recovery but also minimises the risk of severe complications.

Researchers from Osaka Metropolitan University developed the R-EDByUS score, a scoring model that uses prehospital resuscitation data to predict outcomes in OHCA patients.

The R-EDByUS score comprises five variables: age, duration to return of spontaneous circulation or time to hospital arrival, absence of bystander CPR, whether the arrest was witnessed, and initial heart rhythm (shockable versus non-shockable).

Cardiac arrest, which can result in death within minutes, is a critical emergency with low survival rates. Accurate

early prediction models are crucial in OHCA cases, potentially saving lives and reducing unnecessary healthcare costs.

"Current prognosis prediction models require complex calculations and blood test data, making them impractical for rapid use immediately after patient transport," explained Takenobu Shimada, a medical lecturer at the University's Graduate School of Medicine.

The model demonstrated high predictive accuracy, with C-statistics values around 0.85, indicating excellent performance.

"The R-EDByUS score enables high-precision prognosis prediction immediately upon hospital arrival, and its application via smartphone or tablet makes it suitable for everyday clinical use," Shimada noted.

This new tool is expected to be invaluable for healthcare providers, aiding in the prompt assessment and management of patients undergoing resuscitation.

## Neurodivergent children more likely to develop chronic fatigue as teen, study finds

NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): Children more likely to be diagnosed with neurodivergence, such as autism or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), are at twice the odds of experiencing chronic disabling fatigue in late teenage, thereby "dramatically" affecting their quality of lives, a study has found.

In ADHD, one has shorter attention spans, along with displaying restlessness and impulsive behaviour.

Researchers explained that neurodivergent children often experience heightened stress levels. As a result, the increased inflammation could be contributing to chronic, or persistent, fatigue—one of the many often seen to co-occur with neurodivergence.



Other conditions can include the chronic pain condition, fibromyalgia, and digestive and gut issues. Fibromyalgia is marked by muscle pain throughout their body, often accompanied by fatigue and mood changes.

However, the researchers, including those at the Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS), UK, said inflammation is not the only contributor, as previous studies

have shown that neurodivergent children experience higher levels of loneliness and are more likely to be bullied.

These children are also more vulnerable to pain, owing to differences in their pain perception when compared with the general population, along with malfunctions in the dopamine system, known to be involved in cognition and motivation, the authors said in the study published in

the British Medical Journal (BMJ) Open.

Therefore, they called for future research that could disentangle the complex mechanisms driving chronic fatigue in neurodivergent children.

For the study, parents or caregivers of children aged seven or nine years filled out questionnaires, the responses to which were used for developing an autism or hyperactivity score, respectively.

While a higher autism score indicated more chances of diagnosis, a higher hyperactivity score was indicative of greater behavioural issues, including conduct and emotional ones.

Once the children turned 18, they were asked to complete a questionnaire for assessing their chronic

disabling fatigue, involving questions around their energy levels and motivation. The researchers received over 4,500 responses.

Children indicating autistic traits at age seven were about 78 per cent more likely to experience chronic disabling fatigue when they turned 18, while those showing ADHD-like behaviour at age nine were over twice as likely to experience the condition in late teenage, the authors found.

"These results show the importance of trans-diagnostic screening for processes common across multiple disorders in children and the need for better support for neurodivergent children," lead researcher Lisa Quadt, a research fellow in psychiatry at BSMS, said.

## Harvard study reveals which strains of tuberculosis are the most infectious

*A Harvard study finds that tuberculosis infection risk is higher when the bacteria and the person share the same hometown, suggesting a link between local bacteria and human hosts.*

NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): A recent study led by Harvard Medical School scientists has found that the risk of contracting certain forms of tuberculosis (TB) depends on whether the exposed person and the TB bacteria share a common hometown.

Published in Nature Microbiology, this study compared different TB strains in mixed populations across cosmopolitan cities.

The research provides evidence that the interaction between the pathogen, place, and human host plays a role in infection risk.

It supports the idea that certain bacteria and their human hosts have evolved together over hundreds or thousands of years.

The study could influence new prevention and treatment strategies for TB, a disease that affects over 10 million people and causes more than a million deaths annually, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Researchers built a unique study cohort by combining TB



case files from New York City, Amsterdam, and Hamburg. This allowed for the first controlled comparison of TB strains' infectivity in populations with mixed geographic origins.

Findings showed that close contacts of people with a geographically restricted TB strain had a 14% lower infection rate and a 45% lower rate of developing active TB compared to those exposed to a widespread strain.

Strains with narrow geographic ranges were more likely to infect people with roots in the

bacteria's native region.

The study revealed that the odds of infection dropped by 38% when a person was exposed to a geographically restricted strain from a different region compared to a strain from their own region.

This applied to individuals who had lived in the region or had parents from that region.

"This large effect size indicates a significant public health impact," said Maha Farhat, Associate Professor at Harvard Medical School.

The research highlights the

importance of understanding the variations between different TB lineages and their interactions with human populations. It emphasises the need to consider genetic differences in TB strains and human hosts when developing treatments and vaccines.

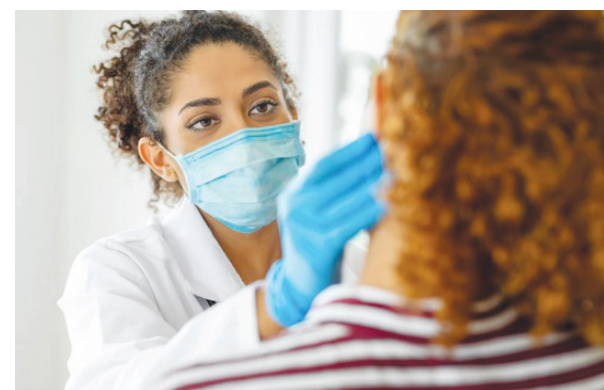
In laboratory tests, human immune cells from donors matching the TB strain's native region were more susceptible to infection. This mirrors the epidemiologic study results and highlights the need for more research on the genomic differences between bacterial and host cells.

Farhat emphasised the importance of considering human and TB genetic diversity in treatment strategies.

By merging data from public health departments and using advanced computational tools, the researchers were able to analyse 5,256 TB cases and 28,889 close contacts.

This study could lead to better-targeted treatments and improved outcomes for people with TB.

## Genetic, environmental factors in disease risk, new insights found



NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): Environmental factors may play a larger role in disease risk than previously thought, overshadowing genetic contributions, a study by researchers at Penn State College of Medicine reveals.

Published in the journal Nature Communications, the research shows that lifestyle and environmental factors, such as air pollution, can significantly influence disease risk, offering more opportunities for mitigation.

"We're trying to disentangle how much genetics and environment influences the develop-

ment of disease," said Bibo Jiang, assistant professor of public health sciences.

The team used a novel spatial mixed linear effect model, combining genetics and geolocation data, to analyse disease risks.

Co-senior author Dajiang Liu emphasised the importance of separating environmental influences from genetic factors. "If we can tease apart these shared environments, what's remaining could more accurately reflect genetic heritability of disease."

Using data from IBM MarketScan and envi-

ronmental data, the researchers re-evaluated the genetic contributions to various diseases.

For example, the genetic risk of type 2 diabetes was recalibrated from 37.7 per cent to 28.4 per cent, highlighting a greater role for environmental factors. Similarly, the genetic contribution to obesity risk decreased from 53.1 per cent to 46.3 per cent.

The study also distinguished the effects of specific pollutants, such as PM2.5 and NO2, on health conditions. NO2 was found to directly influence conditions like high cholesterol and diabetes, whereas PM2.5 impacted lung function and sleep disorders.

This research suggests that understanding the balance between genetic and environmental factors can enhance disease prevention strategies, particularly in precision medicine.



## Ravi Shastri hails Jasprit Bumrah, compares him to prime Wasim Akram

**Former India coach Shastri said that Bumrah can make the ball obey his command like Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis and Shane Warne could in their primes.**

NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): Former India head coach Ravi Shastri stopped just short of calling Jasprit Bumrah a magician with the ball and said the pacer's standout moments in the T20 World Cup in the Americas were India managing to thwart Pakistan's charge in the group stage and Rohit Sharma's side pulling the rabbit out of the hat in the final against South Africa. India managed to defend a paltry 119 in their Group A clash against the arch-rivals, winning the contest by six runs with Bumrah changing the momentum of the game by getting rid of the dangerous Mohammad Rizwan to send Pakistan into a free fall when they were chugging along nicely at 80/3.

Bumrah then bowled a game-changing spell against the Proteas in the final at Barbados, conceding just four runs in the 16th over before getting rid of the dangerous power-hitter Marco Jansen to take the fight out of the rivals in the chase of 176.

"He (Bumrah) just showed the world what it takes...and you know, it's not often in your career when you have a ball in your hand and you say, 'do this and the ball does that'," Shastri said in the ICC Review.

"I think the India-Pakistan (match) because India were



made to fight there and realise what the right combination should be going forward in the tournament. That and then of course the (T20 World Cup) final, those final five overs," said Shastri.

Rohit unleashed Bumrah in the death overs on the well-set Rizwan and the wicket shifted the momentum back to India.

"I'd say one was Jasprit (Bumrah) getting Mohammad Rizwan. Extremely crucial, because that could have tilted the balance of the game. And it happened on the first ball of a new spell," he added.

Shastri said his other favourite moment was Bumrah sending back Jansen.

"Brought back into the attack and then getting it to reverse and sneak through bat and pad (of Marco Jansen), I thought that was a very, very important

wicket at that time," Shastri recalled.

Jansen was the sixth Protea wicket to fall in the 18th over with the South Africans requiring 21 runs for victory off 15 balls.

Before that all-rounder Hardik Pandya removed Heinrich Klaasen in the 17th over, caught by wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant.

"Hardik (Pandya) had done the main damage by taking Klaasen (in the previous over) but I thought back-to-back, that over and that wicket was extremely important." Bumrah was adjudged 'Player of the Tournament' for his 15 wickets at an average of 8.26 and Shastri compared the 30-year-old to former greats like the late Shane Warne, Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis.

"Very few have done it (change the flow of the game). I thought Wasim (Akram) and Waqar

(Younis) had it in their prime when they played white-ball cricket. Shane Warne had it where he could literally tell the ball, go there, pitch there, hit leg stump," Shastri said.

"People who are on top of the game have that ability. I think Bumrah had that in this World Cup," he added.

He was all praise for Suryakumar Yadav's stunning catch on the boundary to send back David Miller and reduced the Proteas to 161/7 with just five deliveries remaining in the final.

"I think that (catch) was a game changer because you know what David (Miller) can do," Shastri said.

"Another big shot (from Miller), and then, you know, the game's in the balance. So, I thought the timing couldn't have been better." Shastri said he was amazed by Pant's resoluteness to return to top-notch cricket after a near-fatal car crash, which left him out of the game for more than a year.

"He did his job with the bat, but it was his keeping that really surprised everyone. For someone to recover that quickly and then move the way he did.

"He hardly missed anything, albeit he must have felt the pressure as the tournament got on because it's not easy to come back and do all the stuff he did," Shastri added.

## Pakistan fan says Babar Azam ignored Irfan Pathan for interview, Harbhajan Singh gives angry response



NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): Former India spinner Harbhajan Singh has lashed out at a Pakistani fan on social media. The fan had posted a clip where Pakistan captain Babar Azam can be seen rejecting an interview. However, the fan incorrectly said that the interviewer was former India all-rounder Irfan Pathan. Enraged at the false appropriation, Harbhajan jumped to the defence of his former teammate and slammed the fan. In fact, Harbhajan went as far as to mock the English-speaking ability of the Pakistani cricketers.

"Where is Irfan Pathan in this video?" posted Harbhajan on X. "First you don't have the decency to speak. Now your eyes have stopped seeing as well?" responded Harbhajan.

While the original tweeter had said that it was Irfan Pathan who had been rejected by Babar, it was evident that Irfan was nowhere in the video. Harbhajan went on to attack Babar's English.

"In any case, if the question had been asked in English, there would've been a problem," retorted Harbhajan.

Soon after Harbhajan's tweet, the post also came into the attention of Irfan Pathan himself,

who asked his ex-teammate to ignore such posts, stating that their only purpose is to gain reach on social media.

"They want reach by lying. Ignore, my friend," replied Irfan to Harbhajan's angry response.

Unfortunately, the original tweet and Harbhajan's response led to several angry back-and-forths as well as hate-mongering from fans of both nations.

Harbhajan's stance on India not visiting Pakistan for 2025 Champions Trophy

Harbhajan has also recently been in the news for supporting the reported decision by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to not travel to Pakistan for the 2025 ICC Champions Trophy.

"I don't think it is safe to go there (Pakistan). Incidents occur there almost every day. The BCCI's stance is completely correct, because the players' security comes first," Harbhajan had told agency.

India have not toured Pakistan since 2006.

## Kavya Maran suggests massive changes in IPL auction, says "we can use..."

NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): Sunrisers Hyderabad owner Kavya Maran supported the call to increase the number of player retentions for each team ahead of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025. During the IPL owners' meeting at the BCCI Headquarters, Maran explained that each team should have at least six retentions or six RTM (Right To Match) options in order to preserve the core of their respective squads. "We can use it as four retentions and two RTMs, or all six retentions, or all six RTMs and so on. The choice on whether a retention or RTM is used should be with the franchise based on discussions with the player."

"There have been numerous instances in the past where a player has preferred to go to the auction when he has felt that the retention amount is on the lower side.

There have also been instances where mul-



multiple players have felt that they should be the first retention, and if not retained as first, they have asked to be put in the auction instead. To avoid this, we can give the players the chance to either be retained or RTM at the market discovered price, ensuring that the player is not disgruntled about the retention price."

"If only retentions are allowed, there is a good possibility that franchises will pay their retained players more than the retention value through side contracts. But with RTMs, a player gets the market price in the auction within the restrictions of the purse and this will ensure that

the purse decides and restricts the purchasing power of all franchises and not the bank balance of the franchise... It will also ensure transparency and maintain the integrity of a brand as prestigious as the IPL," she explained.

The SRH owner also said during the meeting that any cricketer who does not appear for the tournament despite getting selection in the auction should be banned if he does not have a serious injury.

"After being selected in the auction, if a player doesn't come to play the season for any reason apart from injury, he should be banned," she said.

## "It doesn't matter": Ex-Pakistan star's big message for BCCI on Champions Trophy 2025

KARACHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): Amidst uncertainty on whether India will travel to Pakistan to play 2025 Champions Trophy matches, former spinner Saqlain Mushtaq said it does not matter to him whether or not the visitors will come to the country for the eight-team tournament. Pakistan were hosts of Men's Asia Cup 2023, but with India refusing to travel, it meant Sri Lanka were roped in as the venue to stage the tournament in a hybrid model. India has not played in Pakistan since 2008 Men's Asia Cup due to security concerns.

"It's simple. If India wants to come, they can. If they don't want to come, it doesn't matter. There's no point in making a fuss about it. This won't make either party good or bad. This is ICC's event, and they will look into this matter, as they should," Mushtaq was quoted as saying by Cricket Pakistan.



Mushtaq, a former head coach of the Pakistan team, also spoke about how the current team management should look to appoint a new captain of the side post a disappointing group-stage exit in 2024 Men's T20 World Cup, while lamenting the lack of long-term vision in previous appointments.

"Many people are saying that he (Babar Azam) should quit captaincy and play as a regular player. But all these voices are coming from outside, from people who are watching and listening to things from the outside. These are

comments from outsiders. We shouldn't listen to the voices of those outside."

"The people inside, who are observing the situation from within, should see what's really going on and decide who is capable of leading the team effectively. If you have to appoint a captain, do you look at the short term, long term, or mid term? What are you considering when appointing a captain?"

"We don't seem to have a vision; we look at what's going to happen tomorrow and appoint a captain, then change the team the next day.

Because the people making these decisions don't even know if they'll be around tomorrow, there's no plan for the long term," he elaborated.

Mushtaq signed off by advising Pakistan to refrain from chopping and changing their captains constantly, adding that this won't help them in creating a world-class side. "If you want to create a leader, where does the philosophy of working together go? How will you work together?"

"If you don't have any plan, you'll make anyone the captain. The more you keep chopping and changing, the more time you'll have to give to experiments. And before experimenting, you have to create a complete strategy and look at the pros and cons of that experiment."

"Now imagine you remove Babar and Shaheen and bring in someone else. Who will evaluate them? Who will see that the captain,

whoever it is, should be made for the next 2-3 years and how they will produce results for Pakistan? Unfortunately, there is no system here. A system has never been created, and there has never been any ambition to create one."

"We don't have the ambition to say that we will groom 3-4 captains over the next 5 years from Under-19 to associations based on their performances. Their performances should be evaluated not just by watching matches or results, but by talking to them, listening to them, understanding their vision, and looking at their leadership qualities."

"By following this process, you will see which leader emerges. I don't see any of these things here. If we keep appointing a third, fourth, and fifth captain in this manner, we will never create a top-class team, nor will we be recognized globally," he concluded.

## Rishabh Pant, Ishant Sharma and Harshit Rana emerge as top picks in Delhi Premier League draft

NEW DELHI, Aug 4 (Agencies): Rishabh Pant, Ishant Sharma, Yash Dhull, Ayush Badoni, Anuj Rawat and Harshit Rana emerged as the key picks of the day at the player draft for the inaugural edition of the Delhi Premier League, held in New Delhi. Purani Dilli 6 secured the services of Pant and Ishant while the North Delhi Strikers drafted Harshit, and Dhull joined the Central Delhi Kings, as per a press release from DPL. The draft featured 270 cricketers from across

Delhi, including India, IPL, National and U19 players.

Purani Dilli 6 gathered a formidable squad built around the explosive gloveman, Pant and the experienced Ishant Sharma. The franchise also roped in the services of all-rounder Lalit Yadav, who returns fresh from a stint with the Delhi Capitals and batting all-rounder Shivam Sharma.

Purani Dilli 6 also bagged the 20-year-old opening batsman and off-spinner, Arpit Rana and the right-arm pacer,

Prince Yadav.

The West Delhi Lions' first draft pick was the crafty Mumbai Indians' tweaker Hritik Shokeen, while the fiery Navdeep Saini was drafted as their next pick. Middle-order batsman, Dev Lakra, bowling allrounder Deepak Punia and off spinner Shivank Vashisht also featured among the team's first five picks.

The North Delhi Strikers prioritised pace bowling, opting for the lethal fast bowler Harshit Rana as their draft pick. Notably, Rana set the

most recent edition of the IPL ablaze, scalping 19 wickets in just 13 matches with the Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) and is currently on his maiden tour with the Indian team.

The Strikers also sought the services of leg spinner Suyash Sharma, who featured in the Kolkata Knight Riders' recent triumph along with medium-pacer Pranshu Vijayran, former India U19 player, Vaibhav Kandpal, and Kshitiz Sharma.

The Central Delhi Kings began their draft

with the addition of the prodigious batsman, and former India U-19 skipper, Yash Dhull and the right-handed leg spinner, Prince Choudhary.

Among their other commitments were opening batsman, Hiten Dalal, all-rounder Jonty Sidhu and wicketkeeper-batsman Lakshay Thareja.

The East Delhi Riders secured the hard-hitting wicketkeeper batsman, Anuj Rawat who has regularly featured for the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), while pace bowler Simarjeet

Singh was their second Category A acquisition. Himmat Singh was also drafted by the Riders to strengthen their batting unit along with medium pacer Himanshu Chauhan and the slow left arm orthodox bowler in Harsh Tyagi.

For the South Delhi Superstars, their draft began with the acquisition of middle-order batsman Ayush Badoni who has been a regular fixture for the Lucknow Super Giants in recent years. Left-arm fast bowler, Kuldeep Yadav was the Superstars'

next choice before they bagged 23-year-old Priyansh Arya and batting all-rounder Sumit Mathur.

The top four bidders in the men's franchise auction also secured the women's teams, which will comprise the top female cricketers across the region.

The women's draft saw ace Indian batting all-rounder Shwetha Sehrawat emerge as the South Delhi Superstars' top pick while top order batter Priya Punia will play for the East Delhi Knight Riders. Wick-

etkeeper Laxmi Yadav was drafted by the Central Delhi Queens (Central Delhi Kings) and medium pacer Soni Yadav went to the North Delhi Strikers.

The first edition of the Delhi Premier League is set to unfold from August 17 to September 8 2024, with all matches taking place at Shri Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi. The inaugural season of the T20 league will consist of 40 matches, including 33 games in the men's category and 7 in the women's category.



# MP Khatana Listens to Grievances of Marginalized Sections at Kotli Tanda

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Aug 4: In a dedicated public outreach initiative, Senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament, Er. Gulam Ali Khatana, visited Kotli Tanda in Akhnoor on Sunday to address the grievances of marginalized sections of society. The event saw participation from various sections, including EWSs, SCs, STs, OBCs, women, and youth, who voiced their concerns directly to the MP.

Khatana emphasized the importance of efficient governance and directed the attending officers to resolve the issues faced by the people promptly, without necessitating repeated visits to public offices. He highlighted the Union Government's commitment to serving the people under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "The Prime Minister is leaving no stone unturned to serve the people of the country," he stated, underscoring the government's efforts to rectify the governance lapses left by previous administrations. "Focusing on



the vacuum emerged due to the mismanagement of Congress since independence, our Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji, is working tirelessly to undo the blunders committed by the Congress party," Khatana added. The MP held a comprehensive public outreach meeting with representatives from various marginalized groups. The discussions centered around the pressing issues affecting these communities, from basic amenities to social welfare schemes. Khatana's engagement with the public was a testament to his commitment to inclusive development and ensuring that the benefits of government schemes reach every section of

society. Khatana highlighted the significance of government departments that are directly connected to the public, such as the Rural Development Department, Public Works (R&B) Department, Jal Shakti Department, PMGSY, Health, and CAPD. He urged these departments to prominently display information about welfare schemes initiated by the Modi government in their offices and public places. "If the details of welfare schemes are displayed at public offices/places, it will make the masses aware and ensure the benefits reach the last person," he said. Khatana stressed the need for a proactive

approach from government officers. He directed the public servants to adopt a problem-solving mindset and engage with the masses directly. "Officers should come in redressal mode to solve the problems being faced by the masses, instead of sitting in air-conditioned offices. The culture of making people visit government offices again and again is not a good sign of public service. Officers should redress public issues in just one visit to save their own as well as public time," he asserted.

The MP's directives were clear, public service should be efficient, responsive, and compassionate. He criticized the bureaucratic delays that often frustrate the public and called for a shift in attitude among government employees towards more efficient service delivery. The event also saw Khatana interacting with the youth, encouraging them to participate actively in the nation's development and take advantage of the various government schemes designed for their empowerment.

The outreach program was met with appreciation from the attendees, who expressed hope that their issues would be addressed promptly. Khatana assured them of his continued support and follow-up on the matters discussed. He reiterated the BJP's commitment to the welfare of all sections of society and promised that their voices would be heard and acted upon. This public outreach initiative by Er. Gulam Ali Khatana reflects the BJP's dedication to grassroots engagement and addressing the concerns of marginalized communities. It also showcases the party's efforts to bring governance closer to the people and ensure that the benefits of development reach every corner of the country.

The visit to Kotli Tanda by MP Er. Gulam Ali Khatana was a significant step towards bridging the gap between the government and the people. It highlighted the importance of direct interaction with the public and the need for government officers to be more accessible and responsive to the needs of the masses.

# Natrang presents hindi play 'Inqlaab'



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: Balwant Thakur's hard hitting play 'Inqlaab' shakes masses here at Natrang Studio Theatre under its weekly series 'Sunday Theatre'. Directed by Neeraj Kant this rebellious thought provoking play mesmerised everyone at Natrang Studio. Aimed at lending eyes and ears to the majority masses who always keep them shut and never play their own mind, this play of Balwant Thakur proved to be a shining example of effective theatre which revolutionises mass movements.

Set in unconventional alternative theatre style, the play opens with a group of youth representing the larger human resource of the country shown extremely disillusioned and pessimistic about the system. Everyone has a horrifying story to share and disseminate aimed at shaking the masses about the current state of affairs. Dejected

and demoralised with the peak corruption of all kinds, nepotism, mal-administration, kleptocracy and anarchy, all are desperately looking for a way to set the system right. At this stage where they have totally lost faith in the system including in themselves, they are shown prone to separatist elements. Finding them in a surrendered state, the anti-nationals prompt them to start arms struggle, others push them to restore to vandalism to take revenge with the corrupt system. Aware of the end result of such misadventures, few still hope to find an amicable way. In this total state of uncertainty and to be or not to be situation, there emerges a saviour who is in possession of a non-violent invisible missile. Curious to know about this invisible supernatural weapon all succumb before this savior to seek hold over that missile. He surprises everyone by showing them a small

piece of paper where the power of a single 'Vote' is described elaborately. Terming that as the most powerful invisible non-violent weapon of the citizen of a democratic nation, he prompts them to use this in a rightful manner, ensuring a system of their dreams and aspirations in place. He illustrates further that a new revolution 'Inqlaab' aimed at changing the fate of this nation is possible, provided we all vote and that too without any fear, influence, fully valuing the power of your finger. He concludes with the poem of Guru Rabindranath Tagore "Where the mind is without and head is held high...let my country awake". The artists who enlivened this empowering theatre included Neeraj Kant, Palshin Dutta, Kananpreet Kaur, Amit Rana, Priya Kashyup, Mihir Gujral, Vishal Sharma and Kushal Bhat. The music and the lights of the play were operated by Mohd. Yaseen.

# Youths Must Register themselves as Voters: Keshav Chopra



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: Chairman Samvedna Society Keshav Chopra today Submitted Several Forms of new voter enrollment, Corrections in Voter list or Aadhaar and Mobile number Update forms to respective BLO's (Booth Level Officer) at a camp organized by Election Commission of India at Talab Tillo.

Speaking during the Camp Keshav Chopra expressed gratitude towards Election Commission, JKUT Administration and especially Booth level officers for working tirelessly and conducting the Voter awareness Camps at different Location, The motive of Samvedna Society is to reach out to maximum Voters especially to New Voters who

have reached the require age setup by Election Commission and going to cast their Vote for the first time. Keshav urged the Youths to register themselves as Voters. Keshav also asked the people to come forward and aware other people who still have not enrolled their name in voter list, he asked them to visit the respective BLO's of their ward so that their name should be entered in electoral list and they can also cast their vote in upcoming elections. Keshav also requested the ECI to continue organize these Voter Awareness Camps in future also so that maximum People can take advantage of it. Anju, Ritesh Peer, Abhishek Gupta, Manoj, Sushil Gupta, Sourav and others were also present.

# Dogri Victim of apathy of officialdom: Dogri Sanstha

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: Dogri Sanstha Jammu and Team Jammu, in a joint Press Conferene, put forth the demand of rescinding and modifying a Government notification allotting only one position of Dogri teacher out of 748 total positions advertised covering all subjects and urged that Dogri be given its due place in school education system. The Press Conference was addressed by Prof. Lalit Magotra, President of Dogri Sanstha and Zoravar Singh Jamwal, Chairperson of Team Jammu. They were accompanied by Inderjeet Kesar and Prof. Shashi Pathania, Vice Presidents of Dogri Sanstha Jammu respectively, and a large number of members of Team Jammu and Dogri writers.

Prof. Magotra informed that recently, in a Government Notification No. 03-DSEJ of 2024 dated 20.06.2024 of the Director, School Education, Jammu 748 positions of temporary teachers were advertised. Out of these 748 positions, only one position of Dogri teacher was included in this list. He further added that this is a burning proof of the apathy of the offi-



cial of the UT of J&K towards a language of J&K which is the mother tongue of a major chunk of the population of J&K, namely Dogras. This, in spite of the fact that Dogri has been declared as an official language of J&K, vide Lok Sabha bill dated September 22, 2020. Whereas it is the bounden duty of the officials of J&K to follow enthusiastically the mandate of this policy of the Government in letter and spirit, they are acting in exactly the opposite direction. The bill also envisages that the declared official languages will be used for official purposes of Union Territory and that the business in the J&K Legislative Assembly will be transacted in these official languages.

Instead of working for promotion, strengthening and empowering of Dogri to assume the responsibility of an official language, the officialdom of J&K appears to be hell bent on decimating this language. Dogras were expecting some plans and schemes of the Government for creating environment to boost Dogri and remove obstacles in the way of progress of Dogri, on the contrary, the activities of the officials in this regard have been dismal and disappointing. The best course to strengthen a language is through the education system. There are above 400 Higher Secondary Schools in the Jammu zone of J&K. It is a mockery that there are only six regular Dogri teachers in these schools, whereas 24 positions of Dogri teachers are lying vacant and there is no effort on the part of the officials to fill up these positions. And now, on top of that, only one temporary teacher's position out of 748 total positions of teachers

has been allocated to Dogri. He also added that although Hon'ble Lt. Governor is always sympathetic towards genuine demands for promotion of Art and culture but it seems that this genuine concern is not appraised by bureaucrats.

Zoravar Singh Jamwal stated that non creation of sufficient positions of Dogri teachers at School level will not only be detrimental for growth of Dogri but will have other very serious consequences as well. A large number of youngsters who hold degrees of Ph.D and Masters in Dogri or are studying Dogri find the chances of their future employability drastically cut down. Further, this policy will also dry up the flow of Dogri students from School to Colleges whereby making the positions of Dogri teachers in Colleges also redundant. This will be disastrous for the growth of the Dogri language as a whole.

It was urged upon the concerned authorities that this Notification be immediately modified by creating maximum number of positions of Dogri teachers so that Dogri is promoted through the education system and is enabled to take on the mantle of the official language of J&K.

# GGM Science College organized "Discussion on Freedom Fighters"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 4: Faculty Members and students of GGM Science College organized "Discussion on Freedom Fighters" an event to commemorate 77th Independence Day celebrations. The "Discussion on Freedom Fighters" is organized to celebrate the spirit of unity, to remember the great sacrifices of freedom fighters 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 "Discussion on Freedom Fighters" is not only a topic of discussion on a particular day, but their great sacrifices should be always remembered and a sense of respect and gratitude should be in our minds always. It also instills values such as unity, teamwork and the feeling of national integration among us. A floral tribute was given to the Rashtrapita Mahat-

ma Gandhi, Chandra Shekhar Azad, Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru and Sukhdev Thapar. This event served as a tribute to India's independence Heroes and reminder of the importance of staying united as a nation. The whole event was coordinated by ANO's Lt. Dr. Devinder Kumar Sharma, Dr. Shafia Saleem and NSS Program Officers Dr. Neha Sharma, Dr. Rahul Kait Prof. Lekh Raj, Dr. P. S Thakur, Dr Sunil Dutt, Dr Pankaj Gupta, Dr Jyotdeep Kour Raina, other faculty members and students.

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