

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, MONDAY, AUGUST 05, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Australia raises terror threat level to 'probable' amid spike in extremist views



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BRIEFLY

2 militants associates arrested in Pulwama

SRINAGAR, Aug 5 (Agencies): The security forces on Monday arrested two militants associates in Panzgam area of Pulwama district, officials said. An official said that arms and ammunition, including a pistol and two magazines have also been recovered from their possession. He said that a case has been registered in this regard and further investigation has been taken up.

Man's body recovered from Jhelum in Pantha Chowk

SRINAGAR, Aug 5 (Agencies): Body of a man was recovered from the river Jhelum near Pantha Chowk area of Srinagar on Monday, officials said. An official that the man has been identified as Tariq Ahmad of Pampore, and his body has been sent to the hospital for medico-legal formalities. Police have taken cognisance of the incident.

Black Bear kills man, injures another in Ramban

JAMMU, Aug 5 (Agencies): A man was killed while another injured in a bear attack in the upper reaches of tehsil Ukhral Pogal Paristan of Ramban district on Sunday, officials said. Ramban wildlife's Range Officer, Hukum Singh said that the two men were herding their cattle in the forest area when a black bear appeared and attacked them, killing one of them on spot. While the deceased has been identified as Nazir Ahmed Malik, 48, son of Mohammad Hanief Malik, resident of Halla Dandrat in Ramban. The injured has been identified as Reyaz Ahmed Gosri, 15, son of Ghulabo Gosri, resident of Ghonate Ramban. Gosri is presently undergoing treatment at PHC Ukhral while his condition is said to be stable, reports said. The doctors at the health facility have done post-mortem on the deceased's body, said reports. Hukum Singh said that two teams of from the wildlife department have been sent to the area, but didn't said what the purpose was. **Turn to page 9**

Wanted decision on Article 370 to happen with concurrence of people rather than imposition: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, Aug 5 (Agencies): "There was complete clarity in my mind that taking the public in Jammu and Kashmir into confidence was absolutely essential for the execution of the decision," Prime Minister Narendra Modi says about his government's decision to abrogate Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir. The prime minister's remarks come in the foreword of a new book titled "370: Undoing the Unjust, A New Future for J&K". "We wanted the deci-



sion, whenever it would be taken, to happen with concurrence of the people rather than imposition," he writes in the book, researched and written by non-profit

organisation BlueKraft Digital Foundation and published under the Penguin Enterprise imprint. The book mentions in detail how Modi man-

aged to achieve the goal that he set out for himself. The publishers said the book, which is scheduled to release this month, "chronicles, what is inarguably the greatest constitutional feat in India's history and tells the inside story of how Prime Minister Modi managed the seemingly impossible". It "delves into multiple blunders at the time of independence that culminated into the unjust regimen of Article 370. It discusses the social,

Turn to page 9

Kharge criticises BJP's JK Policy, Demands elections as per SC deadline

NEW DELHI, Aug 5 (Agencies): The Congress on Monday demanded that elections in Jammu and Kashmir must be held according to the Supreme Court-set deadline, with party chief Mallikarjun Kharge alleging that the BJP's policy on J-K and Ladakh neither respects 'Kashmiriyat' nor upholds 'Jamhuriyat'. Kharge's remarks come on the fifth anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370 and the bifurcation of the state



of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories of J-K and Ladakh. "BJP's policy on Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh neither respects 'Kashmiriyat' nor upholds 'Jamhuriyat' (democracy)," Kharge

said in a post on X. "The Modi government had claimed that this move would help to fully integrate Jammu and Kashmir, boost economic development of the region and prevent terrorism and separatism. However, the reality is starkly different," he said. Since 2019, there have been 683 fatal terror attacks, resulting in the martyrdom of 258 security personnel and the loss of 170 civilian lives, the Congress chief said. Notably, 25 terror **Turn to page 9**

Govt preparing to 'Gag' Digital Media, Social Media through broadcast bill: Priyanka

NEW DELHI, Aug 5 (Agencies): Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday accused the Modi Government of preparing to "gag" digital media, social media, OTT platforms and those who write and speak in private capacity by bringing in the Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill, and said the country will not tolerate such actions.



The Congress general secretary shared on X two quotes of Mahatma Gandhi (Young India, 1922) and that of Jawaharlal Nehru (March,

1940) in which they had stressed the importance of freedom of speech and press. "These two examples show that our citizens have not got freedom of speech and freedom of the press just like that. Millions of people have fought for it for years," Priyanka Gandhi said in a post in Hindi on X. "Civil liberties and freedom of the press **Turn to page 9**

Security tightened in Jammu on 5th anniversary of abrogation of Article 370

JAMMU, Aug 5 (Agencies): Security measures have been escalated in the Akhnoor area of Jammu district on Monday marking the 5th anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370 in the Union Territory. The Jammu and Kashmir Police have increased patrolling in the Akhnoor LoC area by setting up checkpoints at various places.

Along with the Jammu and Kashmir Police, other security agencies are also in alert mode. The vehicles and documents are also being thoroughly checked. On August 5, 2019, Article 370 was abrogated, taking Jammu and Kashmir's special status and statehood and splitting it into two Union Territories. From city to village,

strict surveillance is being done so that any kind of infiltration or other incidents from Pakistan can be prevented. "Looking at the terrorist activity, we are always alert, be it August 5 or August 15. We cannot say everything regarding our security preparations to the camera; we want to assure **Turn to page 9**

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina resigns, flees country amid protests



SRINAGAR, Aug 5 (Agencies): In a significant development Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has resigned from her premiership. Thousands of protesters stormed her official residence in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, leading to her resignation. According to a BBC correspondent, Hasina has left the country, accompanied by her sister. BBC Bangla has confirmed her departure, highlighting the escalating tension and unrest in the nation. Hasina will be probably arrive to India, reported Pratham Alo, leading local newspaper of Bangladesh. **MeT warns of cloud-bursts, heavy rains over parts of J&K for next 3-days** JAMMU/ SRINAGAR, Aug 5 (Agencies): Meteorological Centre Srinagar Monday issued a fresh weather advisory, in which it predicted occurrence of flash-floods, cloudbursts, landslides, mudslides and shooting stones over vulnerable parts of **Turn to page 9**

Article 370 Abrogation | Amarnath Yatra suspended for a day from Jammu

JAMMU, Aug 5 (Agencies): No fresh batch of Amarnath Yatra pilgrims was allowed to leave the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here for Kashmir as a precautionary measure in view of the fifth anniversary of the abro-

gation of Article 370 on Monday, officials said. More than 4.90 lakh pilgrims have paid obeisance at the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine so far this year. "The yatra has been **Turn to page 9**

Army opens fire on suspected infiltrators along LoC in J&K

JAMMU, Aug 5 (Agencies): Army troops opened fire after noticing the movement of two groups of infiltrators along the Line of Control (LoC) in Akhnoor and Sunderbani sectors of Jammu and Kashmir in the early hours of

Monday, officials said. Though there was no exchange of fire, a massive search operation is underway in both areas to ensure that there is no infiltration from across the border, they said. Alert Army troops fired after picking up suspi-

cious movement of three to four infiltrators in a forward area in the Battal sector of Akhnoor on the outskirts of Jammu around 1:30 am, the officials said. The area was illuminated with flares and put under surveillance

through drones with reinforcements mobilised to lay a tight cordon. A search operation was launched at first light, they said. The Army troops also fired a few rounds on noticing suspicious **Turn to page 9**

MBA MOTORS

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TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Devi Dayal Sharma (Retd. C.A.O Post Office)** S/o Late Sh. Mangru Ram Sharma on 27th of July.
Tenth Day will be performed on Monday, 5th August 24 at 10 AM at our residence Greater Kailash Lane No. 25 Upper.
Kriya will be performed on Tuesday, 6th August 24 at 12 noon at our residence. **Uthala** will be performed on Wednesday, 7th August 24 between 4 to 5 pm at Kailash Dhams Mandir Greater Kailash lane No.26
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Nirmal Sharma (Wife)
Daughters & Son-in-laws
Smt. Rashmi Sharma & Sh. Raman Sharma
Smt. Rajni Sharma & Sh. Ashish Sharma
Brother & Bhabhi
Sh. Vaishno Datt & Smt. Kanta Sharma
Sisters and Brother-in-laws
Smt. Mohani Sharma & Sh. Madhu Sudan Sharma
Smt. Kamlesh Sharma & Sh. Shakti Sharan
Nephews & Daughter-in-law
Sh. Sunil Sharma & Smt. Ruchika Sharma
Amit, Avinash
Grand Children: Amulaya, Varalika, Aadhvik, Atulaya
Mb. 9796424477, 9419104484



Sh. Devi Dayal Sharma (Retd. C.A.O Post Office)

ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we informed the sad demise of our beloved father **S. Dalip Singh** S/o Lt Mian Singh R/o Chatha Pind Jammu.
Arambh Shri Akhand Path on 05-08-2024 at residence at 9 am.
Bhog Shri Akhand Path on 07-08-2024 at 9 am at residence.
Shabad Kirtan, Antim Ardas will be performed in Gurudwara Singh Sabha Chatha Pind Jammu on 07-08-2024 (Wednesday) from 10:00 am to 11:30 am
Grief Stricken :
Sdn Agya Kour (Wife)
S. Taran Singh and S. Ajit Singh (Sons)
Sdn Satvinder Kour and Sdn Chanchal Kour (Daughters in law)
Sdn Mohinder Kour (Daughter)
Gurvir Singh, Ishvinder Singh, Hargun Singh, Navgun Singh (Grand Son)
Jasmine Kour (Grand Daughter)
Mobile No. 9419237082, 9419115463, 7006637809



S. Dalip Singh

BARKHI

One year has passed since you left us for an eternal journey. Your memories are still fresh & your presence is felt everywhere.
Barkhi of our beloved **Sh. Pranab Verma** S/o Late Sh. Subash Chander Verma will be performed at our residence H.No. 2/136, Shant Nagar, Old Janipur, Jammu on August 6th, 2024 (Tuesday) at 12 noon.
Grief Stricken
Smt. Urmila Verma - Mother
Smt. Savita Verma - Wife
Brothers & Bhabhis
Sh. Sunil Verma & Smt. Sudha Verma
Sh. Mohinder Verma & Smt. Sunita Verma
Sons: Guyam Verma & Sehaj Verma
Ph.No: 9419202687, 9419185803



Sh. Pranab Verma

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound sadness and deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved father, the esteemed **Karam Yogi Shri Nana Ji Dass (Chaman Ji)**, son of Late Badri Nath Dass, R/o H No 1, Doodarshan Lane, Talli Moh, New Plots, Jammu.
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. Lajwanti Kaur (Wife)
Son and Daughter-in-law
Vincy Dass & Shivali Pandita (9610333912/9810589912)
Daughter and Son-in-law
Shanti Raina & Satish Raina (7885359401)
Brothers and Sisters-in-law
Smt. Sheela Dass/Wife Late S J Dass
Sh. M.H. Dass & Smt. Kamni Dass
Grand Children :
Saksham, Siddhi, Krishna, Bhavik
In Laws (Brother & Sister in law)
Smt. Roopa Kaur Wife Late P N Kaur
Sh. M.L. Kaur & Smt. Krishna Pyari Kaur
Sh. H.K. Kaur & Smt. Krishna Kaur
Sh. M.K. Kaur & Smt. Kundan Kaur (8178420051)



Shri Nana Ji Dass (Chaman Ji)

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Yatinder Singh** S/o Sh. Virender Singh R/o H No.377, W.No. 5, Subhash Nagar on 28 July.
10TH DAY will be performed on 6th of August (Tuesday) at 12:00 noon at our residence Near Central Silk Warehouse, Village Laddan, Udhampur.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Late Smt. Vijay Luxmi & Sh. Virender Singh (Mother & Father)
Smt. Anita & Sh. Narinder Singh (Chachi & Chacha)
Smt. Kamlesh & Sh. Shivali Surinder Singh (Chachi & Chacha)
Smt. Sushila & Dr. Sukhinder Singh (Chachi & Chacha)
Smt. Nirmal & Sh. Ashok Yashwan Singh (Bua & Fuffa)
Smt. Saba & Sh. Harsh Bhayal (Bhabhi & Bhaiya)
Smt. Mily & Sh. Vikramjit Singh Bhatia (Bhabhi & Bhaiya)
Smt. Poonam & Sh. Shafer Singh (Bhabhi & Bhaiya)
Smt. Divya & Navjot Jarnwal (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Smt. Chakshu & Sh. Udit Bhayal - Bhabhi & Bhaiya
Aditya, Udit, Rudraksh, Vaiboo, Sothok, Avni, Aanya, Hiranya, Yaya
BHAYAL FAMILY (Village Pangara)
PHONE : 9086055620, 7869427465, 9419969326



YATINDER SINGH

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.
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



Rajinder Kaul (fondly known as "Raja ji")

Masvar/Waharwar

One year has passed since you left us suddenly in deep sorrow & tears. Fragrance of your sweet memories is as fresh as ever. We pay respectful Homage & pray to God for eternal peace to your noble soul.
Shadmos & Waharwar of our beloved Late **Smt Rupawati Bhan** will be performed on 6th & 7th of Aug 2024 at our residence i.e. Nanak Vihar, Lower Muthi.
DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:
BHAN'S, KHAR'S, DHAR'S, PANDIT'S, WALI'S & RAINA'S
Contact No. 9419097624



Smt Rupawati Bhan

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

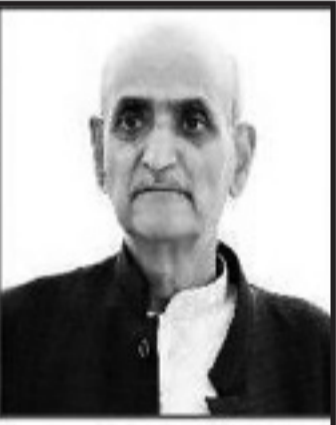
With profound grief and sorrow, we express the sad demise of our beloved **Mrs Yashasvi Raina** W/o Ramesh Kumar Raina, Flat No. 24, Block No. 1, Lane No. 01, Jagti Township, Nagrota Jammu.
TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on Sunday, 11th of August 2024 at 09:00 AM at Muthi Ghat, Near Director School Education.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Mohan Rani Raina (Mother-in-law)
Sh. Ramesh Kumar Raina (Husband)
Miss Karnyakshee Raina (Daughter)
Mr. Kritartha Raina (Son)
Mrs. Sunita Kumari Raina (Sister-in-law)
Sh. Pankaj Raina (Brother-in-law)
Smt. Sunita Kaul (Sister-in-law)
Sh. Nana Ji Kaul (Brother-in-law)
Deeply missed by: Mehak, Nikhil, Lucky & Nuvish.
Contact: 9796652917, 7006129964, 9419608757.



Mrs Yashasvi Raina

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With extreme grief & sorrow, it is to inform that **Sh. Rajnath Raina** S/o Late Sh. Shamboo Nath Raina R/o erstwhile Pethbug Dalgam (Anantnag) A.P. Qtr. No J-17 TRT, Butanagar, Muthi, Jammu left for his heavenly abode to merge with the supreme on 30-07-2024.
Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on August 08, 2024 (Thursday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 8.30 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Vijay Raina (Wife)
Smt. Indu Raina Saraf and Ankush Saraf (Daughter & Son in law)
Smt. Girja and Sh. Moti Lal Raina (Sister in law & Brother)
Smt. Shanti Ji and Sh. B. L. Raina (Sister in law & Brother)
Smt. Daizy & Sh. M.K. Raina (Sister in law & Brother)
Smt. Santosh & M.L. Pandita (Sister & Brother in law)
Smt. Shanti & R.L. Koul (Sister & Brother in law)
Smt. Usha Ji & Ashok Ji (Sister & Brother in law)
Smt. Jyoti & R.K. Pandita (Sister & Brother in law)
Ayaan and Shaurya (Grand Children)
Ph.: 7889674657, 9311498831, 9958005597



Sh. Rajnath Raina

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA

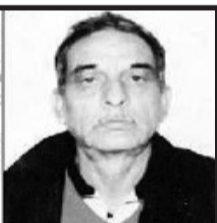
With profound grief, we announce the demise of our beloved **Smt. Phoola Ji Kaul** W/o Lt. Sh. Sook Nath Kaul. Originally from Dalseer, District Anantnag, Kashmir, she resided at House No. 314, Lane No. 3, Suryavanshi Nagar, Lower Roop Nagar, Jammu. She left for her heavenly abode on 31st July, 2024.
The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 09th August, 2024 at 8.30 A.M. at Muthi Ghat, near Director Education Muthi, Jammu.
We pray for her soul to rest in eternal peace.
Grief Stricken
Sh. Vijay Kumar Kaul & Smt. Renu Kaul (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Sh. Krishan Kumar Sharma & Smt. Parmal Sharma (Son-in-Law & Daughter)
Sh. Veena Ji Kaul W/o Lt. Sh. Bansilal 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



Smt. Phoola Ji Kaul

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our dear **Shri. Sham Lal Koul** originally from Havanad Chowgam (Kulgam) Kashmir at present at Faidabad (Haryana) on 31st July 2024.
Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Friday 9th August, 2024 at 8:00 am at Murad Nagar, Canal Maud Nagar, J.P.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Shakunila Koul - Wife (8527556705)
Bansi Lal & Ratnaji Koul - Brother & Sister-in-law
Maharaj Krishan & Ashaji Koul - Brother & Sister-in-law
Shivani & Sh. Jagdish Ji (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Sunita & Sh. Mohit Raina (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Ari & Sh. Rishi Ji (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Shana & Sh. Raj Nath Dhar (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Santosh & Sh. Bhan Lal Dhar (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Sania & Sh. Surinder Koul (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Samast Gash Koul Parivar / Saraf Parivar (Anantnag)
H.No. 2040, Block-C, Sainik Colony, Sector - 49, Faidabad
Contact Nos.: 9818162922, 9654088191



Shri. Sham Lal Koul

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. Devi Singh R/o 273, U.N.O. Lane Talab Tilo, Jammu.
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 7/9/2024 at Gurudwara Talli Saheb Talab Tilo, Jammu from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Madhu Jarnwal (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. Neema Singh
Lt. Dr. Uday Singh & Smt. Aruna
Sh. Daljeet Singh & Smt. Nirmal
Sisters & Brother-in-laws
Smt. Maya & Sh. Sham Ji
Smt. Aarti & Sh. Krishan Ji
Lt. Smt. Kanta & Sh. Jagdev Singh
Nephew & Niece
Sh. Vikram Singh
Dr. Manisha & Mr. Varun
Dr. Nandini
Brother-in-laws
Sh. Arun Singh Jarnwal & Smt. Lalita
Sh. Digpal Singh Jarnwal & Smt. Chanderkala
Sh. Narendra Singh & Smt. Rama Jarnwal
Grand Childrens : Aakshat, Aya, Sidhant, Aadya, Anya, Akshat
Mob.: 9419115425, 9419103766, 8899483091



Sh. Kuldeep Singh (CAO Retd)

OBITUARY FROM MALYUN SIDE

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our Puffad **Sh. Badri Nath Pandita** husband of Smt. Sheela Ji Pandita R/O Fohar Anantnag on 3rd August 2024 at his residence Nagrota Jammu.
MOURNING FROM MALYUN SIDE will be held at H. No. 127 Lane No 5 Anand Nagar Bohri Jammu.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt & Sh R K Raina
Smt & Sh A K Raina
Smt & Sh Sunil Raina
Smt & Sh Inder Koul
Smt & Sh J L Pandita
Smt & Sh R K Sapru
& SAMAST RAINA PARIVAR
MOB: 9541563712, 9906180941 & 7006718189



SH. BADRI NATH PANDITA

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, Dept of Youth Services and Sports)** S/o Lt. Bhai Saur Singh Ji R/o W No. 8 Khoriar (Talab) Poonch who left us for heavenly abode on 29/7/24.
ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB on 28/24 (Monday) 9 am at our residence.
BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB on 28/24 (Wednesday) 9 am at our Residence W. No. 8 Khoriar (Talab) Poonch.
SHABAD KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDAS will be performed from 10 am to 12:30 PM at Gurudwara Pipal Sahib KHORINAR Poonch followed by Guru Ka Langar.
GRIEF STRICKEN:
Jasbir Kour (Wife)
Sdn Gurbachan Kour (Mother in Law)
Sons and Daughter in law
Dr Parvinder Pal Singh (Colonel, IIM Jammu) and Dr Harpreet Kour.
S. Jasvirde; Pal Singh (JP) and Sdn. Parandeep Kour
Son in law and Daughter
S. Harpreet Singh and Sdn. Ravneet Kour
Grand Sons: Tarnvir Singh, Rona vir Singh, Ruzmir Singh, Prabvir Singh, Shevjit Singh
MNO: 9419157276, 9419151569



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

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Roop Krishan Raina** S/o Lt. Triokli 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.
TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Education Department on 9.8.2024 at 9 AM
GRIEF STRICKEN
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



Sh. Roop Krishan Raina

BARKHI

One year has passed since you left us for your eternal journey. Your memories are still fresh and we feel your presence everywhere, everytime.
Barkhi of our beloved **Lt. Sh. Sumit Gupta** will be performed at our residence H.No. 51, Chand Nagar, Below Gummat, Jammu on 06-08-2024 from 11.00 am onwards.
Deeply Missed & Remembered by:
Sh. Bachan Lal Gupta & Baby Gupta (Father & Mother)
Mansi Gupta (Wife)
Amit Gupta & Nidhi Gupta (Brother & Bhabhi)
Dinesh Gupta & Sonali Gupta (Brother & Bhabhi)
Gopal Gupta & Moni Gupta (Chacha & Chachi)
Late Sh. Raj Gupta & Madhu Gupta (Chacha & Chachi)
Baby Dry Fruits Hari Market, Gupta Brass Band Jewel Chowk
Contact No. 9906114117, 6006696685



LATE SH. SUMIT GUPTA

CHOUBARSI

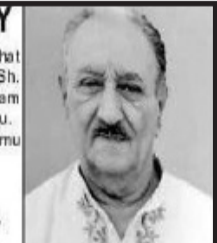
Days will pass and turn into years when you left us for heavenly abode. We all miss you and feel your presence everywhere & in every moment. Your love and memories shall remain alive with us till our last breath.
Choubarisi of our beloved **Late Sh Roshan Lal Gupta** S/o Late Sh Jugal Kishor Gupta will be performed at Trikuta Palace Opp Hello Stationery Trikuta Nagar on 6-8-2024 (Tuesday) at 12 Noon.
Deeply Remembered By :
Smt Pooja Gupta -Wife
Master Abhinav Gupta -Son
Smt Palak & Sunny Langer -Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt Saloni & Shivam Gupta -Daughter & Son-in-law
Roshan Lal Coal Depot
M/s Jugal Kishor
Contact: 9419201624, 9419181298



Late Sh Roshan Lal Gupta

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 Havanad Chowgam, Kulgam at present Lane No. 2, Adarsh Nagar, Paloura, Jammu.
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 Kalle & Smt. Binla Ji - Sister & Brother-in-law
Sh. TK. Sharma & Smt. Sudesh Ji - Sister & Brother-in-law
Sh. Ramesh Dhar & Smt. Babita Ji - Son-in-law & Daughter
Sh. Roop Krishan Handoo & Smt. Sunita Ji - Son & Daughter-in-law
Sh. Pawan Handoo & Smt. Achana Ji - Son & Daughter-in-law
& All Nears & Dears with Kids
7006638233, 7889850219



Sh. Jagan Nath Handoo

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Political Parties Observe 'Black Day' on Article 370 Abrogation Anniversary

JAMMU, Aug 5 (Agencies): The Congress and Peoples democratic Party (PDP) on Monday observed the fifth anniversary of Article 370 abrogation as a "black day" by holding separate protest rallies here to demand the restoration of statehood and special status for Jammu and Kashmir.

Jammu and Kashmir Congress chief Vikar Rasool Wani criticised the BJP-led Centre for failing to curb the rise in terror attacks in the region following the abrogation of Article 370 and the bifurcation of the state into two union territories.

Wani, dressed in black, led hundreds of Congress workers carrying black flags in a rally here. Chanting slogans against the BJP, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and in favour of statehood restoration, the protesters sat on a dharna after

being stopped by police from proceeding further. Flanked by senior leaders and former ministers Choudhary Lal Singh and Raman Bhalla, and former legislator Ravinder Sharma, Wani said August 5 has become the darkest day in Jammu and Kashmir's history.

"It is a day when our prosperous, happy state was downgraded into a union territory, its historic statehood and special status snatched, and bifurcated into two UTs. We are marking it as a black day, wearing black clothes and badges to protest against this injustice," the Congress leader told reporters.

Wani held the BJP and its government responsible for the decision, which he called a "draconian measure".

"For this symbol of injustice to the people of J-K, they are celebrating this day as UT Divas,"



he added. Meanwhile, the PDP also held a protest rally in Gandhinagar here on the fifth anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370.

Led by party general secretary Amrik Singh

and spokesperson Virender Singh, the PDP workers wore black badges and raised anti-BJP slogans, demanding the restoration of the special status and statehood of Jammu and Kashmir.

Police did not allow them to move towards the national highway, prompting them to hold a brief sit-in.

"We are observing this day as black day. We held protests against the BJP which

destroyed our state. We are demanding restoration of special status of J-K", Vijender Singh told reporters here.

During the Congress protest, Wani slammed Union Home Minister Amit Shah for his assurance that the abrogation of Article 370 would end terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, and questioned if terrorism had indeed been eradicated.

"Instead, there has been a significant increase in terrorist violence. Fifty soldiers have been martyred in the last three years in the Jammu region. The attacks are increasing," he said.

He said that the security situation has worsened in the region and the government has failed to contain the chain of terrorist attacks. Wani also mocked

the Centre's claims of development and job opportunities for youth, stating that Jammu and Kashmir has the highest unemployment in the country, with little industrial development.

He accused the BJP government of looting Jammu and Kashmir by awarding contracts to outsiders and fostering a drug problem among the youth.

"They have created all sorts of records in J-K, including a huge increase in drug addiction," he said.

The J-K Congress chief demanded the immediate restoration of statehood, accusing the BJP of destroying the princely state by dividing it into two union territories.

"They have destroyed this historic state. We demand immediate res-

toration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir," he stated, as he urged the people to vote the BJP out of power.

Meanwhile, PDP president Mehbooba Mufti and several other regional party leaders on Monday claimed that they have been placed under house arrest amid heightened security on the fifth anniversary of the reading down of Article 370 of the Constitution.

On August 5, 2019, the Centre revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 of the Constitution and bifurcated it into the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, which formalised the division, came into effect on October 31, 2019.

MP Khatana ensures rehabilitation support for Taraf Manji residents amid industrial area plans



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: In a bid to address the concerns of residents in Taraf Manji village, Kathua, where the government has proposed constructing an industrial area, Senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Er. Gulam Ali Khatana assured the community of all possible support.

He revealed that he has already taken up the matter of rehabilitation with Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

A deputation of 200 members from the Gujjar community, comprising refugees and tribal, led by Vardeep Singh, approached MP Khatana seeking his intervention.

The MP informed the delegation that he had already discussed the matter with the Divisional Commissioner Jammu and the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to ensure rehabilitation and compensation for the affected families.

"Rehabilitation and compensation are integral parts of the project for those affected by the creation of the industrial area. Our government will evict people without ensuring their future," said Khatana.

He further emphasized the positive impact of the industrial policy, highlighting that it would generate

employment opportunities while assuring local traders that their interests would be protected and their rights maintained.

"The people of Jammu and Kashmir are fortunate to have an administrator like Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, who believes in constructive development rather than destructive policies," Khatana stated.

He reassured the deputation that LG Sinha had assured him telephonically that the rehabilitation and compensation for the affected families would be a crucial part of the project.

Khatana advised the community not to fall prey to anti-social elements, emphasizing that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, constructive policies are being implemented with the welfare of every individual in mind. "Our PM, Narendra Modi, personally supervises all development projects to ensure that no citizen of India faces discomfort and forced eviction," he added.

The deputation, including notable community members such as Surmu Din Khatana, Moulvi Saif Ali, Wagh Hussain, Kasam Din, Talab Hussain, Mohd Shavir, Lal Din and others expressed their trust in PM Modi's leadership.

"We believe only PM Modi can deliver justice to us. Over the past five decades, we have turned a desert into fertile land with our hard work. Previous governments never addressed our needs. We request at least five kanal plots for each affected family so that we can rebuild our dream houses," they appealed to the MP.

Khatana's commitment to the cause has provided a ray of hope for the residents of Taraf Manji village, who now look forward to a balanced approach that supports industrial development while ensuring the welfare and rights of the local community are safeguarded.

The proposed industrial area aims to bring economic growth and job opportunities to the region. The interaction between the MP and the deputation underscores the importance of transparent and inclusive planning in development projects. It highlights the necessity for authorities to consider the socio-economic impacts on local populations and to engage with them actively throughout the process.

The residents of Taraf Manji village are hopeful that their voices have been heard and that their concerns will be addressed.

The proactive steps taken by MP Er Gulam Ali Khatana demonstrated a commitment to balancing development with the needs and rights of the local community, setting a precedent for future projects across Jammu and Kashmir.

DPAP observes August 5 as Black Day, demanded restoration of full Statehood to J&K



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) held protest led by Ex. Minister, Ch. Gharu Ram, DPAP Zonal President in presence of Ashok Sharma Ex MLA, DPAP Provincial VP, demanding immediate restoration of full Statehood to downgraded 200 years old State of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh including Baltistan and other areas illegally held by POJK on fateful Day of 5 August, 2019 under an act of Parliament.

Ch. Gharu Ram reiterated its often raised demand for Presidential Order, conferring statehood to J&K as existed before August 5, 2019 and appointment of Governor prior to commencement of Assembly elections.

Ashok Sharma, Member Working Committee DPAP stressed that J&K state has been crown state of India with 21 gun salute status. This most strategically situated famous secular State cannot be equalised with the Union Territory of

Pondicherry. Sharma said that this day of August 5, observed as Black Day is the darkest day in the history of Jammu & Kashmir which has divested the people of J&K of land and job guarantee as it was prior to the abrogation 35-A. The mostly economically poor Muslims, Hindus, Gujjar-Bakkerwals, Sikhs, Pahari, Christians and others are adversely hit by menace of unemployment, meagre avenues of livelihood, minimum land holdings and remote hilly terrain.

DPAP paid floral high tributes to bravehearts of Army, CRPF, BSF, J&K Police and others for laying their precious lives in service of the nation.

Prominent among those who participated were Meshwer Singh, H.L. Abrol, Gourav Chopra and S Balbir Singh District Presidents; P K Ganju Member; Sobat Ali Ex Corporator, Provincial President ST Cell; Er. Rattan Lal, Prabha Salathia, Provincial Mahila President; Kamalpreet Singh, Arjun Sharma, Anirudh Raina and Kailash Nath.

GCW Bhagwati Nagar organizes Painting Competition

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: Eco Club "Tawishi in collaboration with Yuva Tourism Club of GCW Bhagwati Nagar organised a Painting Competition on Monday as a part of series of celebrations of India's 78th Independence Day under the patronage of Dr Meeru Abrol, Principal of the college.

The theme of the painting competition was "Freedom Movements in India" aiming to commemorate the sacrifices of freedom fighters and reflect on the nation's journey to sovereignty.

Fifteen students participated in the event, held in the college premises and showcased their artistic

talents and deep appreciation for India's rich history of struggle for independence.

The competition not only provided a platform for creative expression but also served as an educational experience, encouraging students to explore and express their understanding of India's freedom struggle.

Panel of judges, comprising of esteemed faculty members Prof Nisha Bhagat, Prof Anju Bala and Prof Gagan Jyoti evaluated the artwork based on creativity, relevance to the theme, and artistic execution.

The judging panel expressed their admiration for the participants' interpretations of the theme, which ranged

from powerful depictions of historic events like the Khadi Movement, Dandi March, Flag Satyagraha and Quit India Movement Gurleen Kour, Gunkeen Kour and Ananya Jamwal of semester 5th secured first, second and third position respectively.

Principal of GCW Bhagwati Nagar, Dr. Meeru Abrol, congratulated the winners and expressed her pride in the students' efforts and their deep engagement with the theme. She emphasized the importance of remembering and honouring the sacrifices made by countless individuals to secure the nation's freedom.

The event was organised by Dr Mosmi Raina, convener Eco Club and Yuva Tourism Club.

Manjit Singh asks voters to bring change in J&K

Says elected Govt will be responsible to public

Top News Report

SAMBA, Aug 5: Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh today asked the voters in Jammu and Kashmir to participate in the proposed Legislative Assembly elections in large numbers to bring a change by electing a democratic GOvt in the erstwhile state that deserves statehood restoration, and full powers to the elected Govt.

"Jammu and Kashmir has a history that has been reduced into a Union Territory that is being ruled directly by the Central Govt through the Lt Governor where the local people have hardly any say. Hence, it bypasses all the elected institutions, and the constitutional values that guarantee equitable development, employment, protection of resources and environment," said S. Manjit Singh, while addressing a meeting at Parmandal Block in Bari Brahmana of Samba District.

The meeting was also attended by the J&K ST Wing, President, Saleem Alam. The people listed their problems before the Former Minister alleged that the authorities do not listen to them, and initiate works at their own wishes that often leads to the harassment and displeasure of the general masses in the name of development, he said citing the anger among the people against the present form of Govt.

He said that "The people have alleged that the LG Govt has completely failed to work out the issues confronted by



the people. The development is taken as excuse to harass the people whereas the official work takes days to complete."

He said that the Govt offices often remain deserted with no presence of the people and questioned the attention of the authorities if they work for the welfare of the people.

"The basic amenities like lanes, drains, clean drinking water, and supply of electricity 24/7 remains a distant dream even till date in Parmandal, Bari Brahmana, and other areas of Samba as well as other areas in Jammu Province," he added raising the question mark on the claims of development that are being made by the administration.

He said that SC/ST colonies are allegedly being discriminated against with poor basic amenities, and worse road connectivity. "There is no sanitation, garbage collection, maintenance of water bodies, and collapse of the public grievance redressal system," he alleged.

These circumstances have compelled the people to think for a change in the governance that would be

beneficial for them, and the elected Govt would also be accountable to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, he said, assuring all possible support to the people, and their growing concerns.

He said that "The voters shall not miss the opportunity and participate in the proposed Legislative Assembly elections in J&K in order to elect a Govt of their choice."

He further stated that if the Apni Party Govt forms next Govt in Jammu and Kashmir, the aspirations of the general masses, especially marginalized and economically poor sections of society will have their representation, and their issues regarding development, protection of resources, reservation of employment for locals in industrial sector of J&K would be protected at any cost.

He also criticized the expanded role of non-local influential contractors, mining and liquor mafia in Jammu and Kashmir that has eroded the rights of locals on the natural resources, employment and business. Therefore, the Apni Party is committed to protect the rights of the locals, he added.

Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum projects demands

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum held a protest at Hari Singh Park, Jammu, under the chairmanship of Ajit Singh.

During the protest, several issues concerning the retired police fire services personnel of Jammu and Kashmir were raised.

The forum brought the points to the attention of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory:

According to Govt. Order No. 229-F of 2014 dated 17-16-2014, the effect of the pay anomaly correction is being given prospectively from the date of the order.

The forum argued that the effect should have been retroactive, starting from 1996 when the



5th Pay Commission was implemented across the state, except for the police department. Many of the affected personnel have passed away, and the surviving members should receive the benefits they are entitled to.

The forum requested that state police personnel receive medical facilities similar to those provided to paramilitary forces, as the J&K State Police now falls under the Home Min-

istry due to its status as a Union Territory.

The forum proposed a 10% reservation for the children of police personnel in admissions to professional colleges and recruitment processes.

The forum called for the implementation of orders similar to those from the Government of Gujarat and the Punjab & Haryana High Court regarding the recovery of commuted pensions. Specifically,

they requested that the recovery period be reduced from 15 years to 12 years.

The forum highlighted the delay in processing pension papers and completing formalities like obtaining NOCs in the police department. This delay often results in retirees not receiving their pension and other retirement benefits promptly, which they need immediately after retirement.

The forum urged the government to issue strict instructions for adhering to a time frame for processing pension papers. They recommended starting the pension paperwork at least two years before retirement, similar to procedures followed in the army and other sectors.

The forum noted that Special Police Officers (SPOs) face delays in receiving their salaries, which causes significant financial difficulties. They urged that SPOs be paid their salaries on time, according to a proper schedule, to help them manage their households effectively.

The forum requested that these issues be addressed urgently and that the government take appropriate action to resolve them.

EDITORIAL

Changing
Lifestyles

The pace of modern life has undergone unprecedented change over the past few decades, driven by technological advancements, shifting societal norms, and evolving personal values. From how we work and communicate to how we consume and interact with the environment, the transformation in lifestyles reflects broader changes in our world. This essay explores the various dimensions of changing lifestyles, highlighting the impact on individuals and society as a whole.

One of the most significant drivers of lifestyle change is technology. The proliferation of digital devices and the internet has revolutionized how people communicate, work, and access information. Smartphones, social media platforms, and instant messaging have transformed interpersonal communication, making it more instantaneous but also more superficial at times. The rise of remote work and digital nomadism has redefined traditional workplace structures, allowing for greater flexibility but also blurring the lines between work and personal life.

Technology has also influenced consumer behavior. Online shopping, digital payment systems, and the rise of e-commerce have changed how people purchase goods and services. The convenience of online transactions has shifted consumer expectations towards instant gratification and personalized experiences. Additionally, the growth of streaming services and digital media has altered entertainment consumption, with on-demand content replacing traditional broadcasting methods.

Lifestyle changes have had a profound impact on health and wellness. The increased focus on fitness and well-being is a notable shift from previous decades, driven by greater awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle. The rise of fitness culture, including gym memberships, yoga practices, and health-conscious diets, reflects a growing emphasis on physical health. Social media has played a role in promoting fitness trends and wellness movements, making health and self-care more mainstream.

However, the modern lifestyle also presents challenges to health. Sedentary habits, driven by long hours of screen time and reduced physical activity, contribute to health issues such as obesity and cardiovascular disease. Additionally, the prevalence of processed and convenience foods has led to concerns about nutrition and diet-related health problems. Balancing the benefits of technological advancements with the need for physical activity and healthy eating remains a key challenge.

The changing lifestyle has also brought increased awareness of environmental issues. Concerns about climate change, pollution, and resource depletion have led to shifts in consumer behavior and lifestyle choices. Many individuals and organizations are adopting sustainable practices, such as reducing plastic use, conserving energy, and supporting eco-friendly products. The rise of the "green" movement reflects a growing commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Lifestyle changes are also evident in urban planning and transportation. The trend towards greener cities, with improved public transportation, cycling infrastructure, and green spaces, aims to reduce environmental impact and enhance quality of life. The popularity of electric vehicles and renewable energy sources further illustrates the shift towards more sustainable living.

Social dynamics have evolved significantly, impacting how people relate to one another and their communities. The concept of family and relationships has diversified, with increased acceptance of various family structures and non-traditional living arrangements. Changing societal attitudes towards gender roles, sexual orientation, and identity have contributed to greater inclusivity and social progress.

Moreover, the rise of individualism and personal empowerment reflects a shift towards self-fulfillment and self-expression. People are increasingly prioritizing personal goals, experiences, and well-being over traditional norms and expectations. This shift is evident in the growing popularity of travel, personal development, and creative pursuits as people seek to define their own paths and achieve a sense of fulfillment.

The changing lifestyle reflects a complex interplay of technological, social, and environmental factors. As technology continues to advance and societal norms evolve, individuals and communities must navigate the challenges and opportunities that arise. Embracing technological innovations, prioritizing health and wellness, and fostering environmental awareness are essential in shaping a balanced and fulfilling lifestyle. While the transformation in lifestyles presents new possibilities, it also requires thoughtful consideration of its impact on well-being and society. Adapting to these changes while maintaining a focus on sustainable and meaningful living will be crucial in navigating the future of modern lifestyles.

Anti-migrant rage after kid stabbings; play sparks fainting fits among UK men

By: Kishwar Desai

It has been an extremely sad week in the country – following the cruel stabbing of young children at a dance class in Southport. This act led to the death of three young girls – while other children and two adults who were also present were critically injured. All were wounded and traumatised by British-born 17-year old Axel Radukubana who wielded the knife. The children who died were between the ages of nine and six – and were at a community centre where dance and yoga classes were often conducted. On this brutal day, it was meant to be a special Taylor Swift inspired dance class. Also Read - Sanjaya Baru | Looking East or West Asia... Which way is India headed? Advertisement While one hears of random gun-related murders in the US often targeting school children – it is still comparatively rare in the UK. But there has been a rise in knife crime, which has been referred to often, in recent years, with concern. The outpouring of grief was spontaneous – and many went to Southport to express their sorrow and solidarity with the families of the victims and survivors, including the Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer. Also Read - Pavan K. Varma | BJP vs

AAP tug-of-war killed students in Delhi However, the situation soon turned violent when the rumour mill, instigated by social media posts began claiming that the murderer was a Muslim youth – which turned out to be incorrect. In fact, he is of Rwandan origin but was born in Cardiff after his parents (who are Christians) fled from Rwanda. They now live just a few miles away from Southport. But instead of waiting for the police to reveal his name, far right goons, led by the English Defence League (EDL), began stoning a mosque in Southport – and soon the violence, unabated, has spread to other parts of the country. Also Read - Anita Katyal | Chouhan leads BJP chief race? Yogi, Shivpal exchange jibes This weekend has seen many confrontations between EDL, their supporters and the police as well as a continuous barrage of assaults at targets associated with immigrants. Now the far right has shifted their attack from Muslims to anti-immigration. The police has been struggling to keep the situation under control as many other areas such as London, Bristol, Brighton and Liverpool have also become flashpoints. Also Read - Shashi Warrior | How to make the most of rainy days The good news (if there can be any in

depressing moments like this) is that the EDL and other right wing protesters have been confronted by gatherings of those who believe in inclusivity and multi-culture. While this has been an encouraging development – the confrontations taking place between the protesters and the counter-protesters will certainly lead to more problems. The police again has stepped in – and arrests have been made. In the midst of all this, the victims who deserve our sympathy have been overshadowed. Axel Radukubana's name was revealed early by the presiding judge as he felt that there were far too many rumours on social media adding to the present turmoil. Indeed, if there has been another culprit in this sorry saga – it has been those irresponsible people who have been forwarding unverified messages. No doubt some action will also be planned against those social media providers who have allowed this kind of rampant fake news to spread. Meanwhile "fakery" can be put to good use as well. For instance the recent revelation that a cat had been impersonating as an academic! Larry the cat was given the (fake) persona of Larry Richardson, a respected academic, who had published many papers, by two intrepid scholars – when they realised

that Google Scholar was being misused by fraudsters, to promote other academics by publishing bogus papers. The two, Reese Richardson and Nick Wise, decided to explore and expose the lacuna in the system by creating a fake identity around his grandmother's cat. So the cat as "Larry Richardson" was also cited by other academics, apart from publishing his own papers. One has to be really careful about everything on the Internet, it seems! And meanwhile – the weather is superb – with the sun shining almost every day. It is bringing some relief at this sad time – with hordes of tourists descending on London undeterred. And we know that summer has truly arrived when necklines plunge and hemlines rise – and everyone is on a bicycle going somewhere. And for those who don't want to go anywhere there is always art and performances to be enjoyed. Theatre shows are running houseful – one which has become a little controversial is based on Nobel Prize winning Annie Ernaux's novel about her life. Some have found the play so "raw" that men have fainted during a scene when an abortion is carried out. Depicting Annie's life through the decades, each section is handled by a different actress. This format is not new (as I remember acting in a similar play on Sylvia Plath and writing one similarly formatted on the life Ismat Chughtai) but definitely – as the material is powerful enough to knock men out – women are loving it!

Career opportunities and challenges in Air Hostess/Flight Steward

By: Vijay GarG

Air Hostess/Flight Steward is a professional who welcomes passengers on board, performing all the safety procedures prior to taking off and ensuring that passengers are made comfortable during the flight. This profession is an all-time dream of many young and energetic faces of society. With the commercialization and opening of the sky, many more can cherish this dream and fulfil their wish of flying in the sky throughout the world.

This profession is considered as glamorous as any profession of the fashion world. But this profession is most suited to those who love to travel a lot and are comfortable in the company of strangers. Moreover, they should also have a knack to work at odd hours. Truly speaking, to be in this career, one should have strong conviction and commitment to learn and cope with challenging conditions on-board.

The job requires a lot of hard work, stamina, alertness of mind, adaptability to follow difficult time schedules, good team spirit as well. To discharge his duties efficiently and effectively he/she requires special training which is provided by some of the best-given institutions in India.

Air Hostess/Flight Steward Eligibility

Air Hostess Qualifications
To be eligible for becoming an Air Hostess/Flight Steward in India, one should be 10+2/Graduate with a diploma/degree in Tourism Management or Hotel

Management. Fluency in English, Hindi and knowledge of an international language is an added advantage in this field.

Age Limits

A female aspirant should be below 25 years and a male counterpart should be below 26 years of age and should hold an Indian Passport.

Physical Standards

A female aspirant should be 157.5 centimetres long whereas a male aspirant should have at least 163cm of height. The weight should be in proportion to height.

Marital Status

One must be unmarried, with normal eyesight of 6/6 uncorrected vision in each eye.

Air Hostess/Flight Steward Required Skills

For adopting Air Hostess as a career one should have discipline, patience, sense of responsibility, punctuality, commitment, self-confidence, and above all a friendly outgoing pleasing personality.

They also possess good communication skills; confidence in dealing with a range of people; the ability to work as a team member and be supportive of colleagues.

They should also be competent in handling difficult situations and the ability to remain calm under pressure and in emergency situations; the ability to be tactful and diplomatic but also assertive when necessary.

They also have commercial awareness and sales skills; flexibility in working unsocial hours on any day of the year.

How to become an Air Hostess/Flight Steward?

To be an Air Hostess one has to follow the given steps:

Step 1

As and when advertised in the National Newspapers or other mass media, the aspirants have to apply in various airlines for the required post with demanded certificates.

Step 2

Once shortlisted after the initial screening airline company calls the most eligible candidates for a written examination, usually an objective type multiple choice one. Successful candidates in this written test are called for a group discussion followed by a personal interview.

Step 3

Successful candidates of the second step are trained for 2 to 3 months in various fields in which they learn about service, grooming, safety and first aid etc. After successful training in the technical and non-technical aspects and grooming in the required field, the prospective Air hostess is put on trainee flights before assigning duties on to full-fledged commercial planes.

Institutes offering Courses for Air Hostess/Flight Steward

Air Hostess Academy (AHA), Bangalore

Air Hostess Academy (AHA), Chandigarh

Frankinn Institute of Air Hostess Training (FIAT), Mumbai

Kingfisher Training Academy, Mumbai

Air Hostess Job Description

The job of an Air Hostess/Flight Steward is not less important than the job of the Pilot of the plane itself. If it is the responsibility of a pilot to carry the

passenger to their destination safely, then it is the responsibility of an Air Hostess to see the comfort of the passenger well above 10,000 meters above the ground level. This is not a less demanding task by any means. An Air hostess is the one who sees the well being and comfort of the passenger and that also in quick time. He/She is one who boosts up the morale of the passengers when there is any kind of challenging moment during the flight. We can say that from welcoming the passenger's to the aircraft, till their boarding, she/he is the sole representative or one must say the human face of the airlines.

Air Hostess Career Prospects

After starting her/his carrier as an Air Hostess/Flight Steward one can be promoted to the post of Senior Flight Attendant and ultimately to the post of Head Attendant with the experience and efficiency in her/his field of work.

Air Hostess/Flight Steward Salary

Depending upon the Airlines and one's capabilities, one can expect to nearly Rs.35,000 to Rs.40,000 with a range of benefits and allowances in addition to housing facilities, medical expenses and outstation allowances, as well as free/concessional air passages for their immediate family members and dependants etc.

*(Vijay GarG Retired
Principal Educational
columnist Malout)*

GDC Boys Kathua organises Singing Competition

Top News Report

KATHUA, Aug 5: Government Degree College (GDC) Boys Kathua is organizing series of activities from August 1 to 15 to celebrate 78th Indian Independence Day.

On 5th of August, the college organised National Anthem/ Patriotic Song. The whole event was organized by NSS and NCC Units of the college under the patronage of Principal of the College, Prof. Seema Mir.

The program started with the inaugural speech delivered by Dr. Yash Pal Sharma, HOD Urdu.

He highlighted the supreme sacrifices made by the freedom fighters. Dr. Yash Pal also spoke about the Independence Day 2024, Viksit Bharat



theme.

In this competition, solo singing performances were presented by the students in which nine students participated enthusiastically. The students sang melodious Desh-Bhakti songs to honor our patriotic heroes in Hindi and Dogri languages and showed their love towards Mother

India.

The performances were adjudged by senior faculty members Dr. Yash Paul, Dr. Shrdha Anand and Prof. Shivani Sharma. The first position was secured by Ankush Majotra, second and third position was secured by Payal Devi and Vansh Singh.

The principal of the

college appreciated the efforts made by NSS and NCC Units of the college for organizing series of activities for the celebration of 77th year of Indian Independence. She infused the sense of patriotism among the participants and motivated the students to participate in all activities going on in the college to celebrate

this national festival.

The programme was attended by more than hundred students and faculty members of the college. The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Kanika Sharma and Shivika Rajput of 5th semester.

Formal welcome address was presented by Dr. Pinkey while vote of thanks was given by Dr. Kulbir Singh, NSS Program Officer of the college.

The program was duly coordinated by NSS Pos Dr. Kulbir Singh, Prof. Arvind Kumar and Dr. Pinkey and NCC ANOS Dr. Raj Kumari, Prof. Ajay Sharma and Lt. (Dr.) Daya Ram. Various staff members of the college were also present in this celebration.

GDC R S Pura organizes Intra-College National Anthem Singing Competition

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: As a part of ongoing Independence Day Celebrations from 1st to 15th August, 2024 to commemorate 77th Independence Day, Intra-College National Anthem Singing Competition was organized by the Cultural Committee and Fine Arts in collaboration with Department of Music, NSS Unit and Swachhta Pakhwada campaign under the patronage of Principal of the College Prof. (Dr) Preetpal Kour. There were total 10 participants.

All the participants sang beautifully and charged the atmosphere with patriotism. The competition was adjudged by Dr. Chanchal



Angral, HOD Zoology, Prof. Shifali Abrol from Department of Zoology and Dr. Rakesh Kalotra, HOD Music. Gursimran Kour of Semester 5th stood 1st, Ankita of Semester 5th bagged 2nd position and Komal of Semester-III clinched 3rd position. The worthy Principal appreciated the efforts of all the participants and congratulated

all the winners of the competition.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. Shivani Manchanda, Convener, Cultural and Fine Arts Committee. The other faculty members present were Prof. Meeshu Pandita, Prof. Vijeeta Anand, Prof. Jai Mala Thakur and Dr. Rakesh Kalotra. The programme ended with a formal vote of thanks.

GDC Kishtwar hosts Intra-College Competitions



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Aug 5: Government Degree College (GDC) Kishtwar on Monday organized a multifaceted event to commemorate India's 77th Independence Day.

The event comprised an intra-college essay writing competition themed "Unsung Heroes of the Freedom Struggle" and a symposium on "Swachhta Hi Seva" to foster a sense of cleanliness among students.

The event witnessed an overwhelming response from students, with approximately 150 participants showcasing their talent and knowledge.

Uzma Bano clinched the first prize in the symposium, followed by Payal Parihar and Uzma Tabassum.

In essay writing competition First prize was bagged by Salma Liyaqat while Priya Manhas followed by Riyaz Ahmed bagged the second and third prize.

The event was meticulously organized under the guidance of Dr. Yasar Ahmed and Prof. Esarul Ayub (NSS PO), with the unwavering support of Principal Prof. Basharat Iqbal.

Dr. Tabassum Saleem, HOD English hosted the event, while Dr. Yasar Ahmed delivered the formal vote of thanks.

The dedicated faculty, including Dr. Zahoor Din, Dr. Vijay Kumar, Dr. Sehrish Gazzal, Prof. Ajeet Kumar, Prof. Jaideep Kumar, and Prof. Sheikh Mohd. Usman, played a crucial role in encouraging student participation

and fostering a spirit of camaraderie.

Dr. Sehrish and Dr. Yasar Ahmed served as esteemed judges for the symposium, while Dr. Zahoor Din, Dr. Tabassum Saleem, and Prof. Waseem Rashid evaluated the essays. Principal Prof. Basharat Iqbal commended the students for their enthusiastic participation and applauded the organizing committee for their exceptional efforts in making the event a resounding success.

He emphasized that these competitions are integral to the ongoing 15-day Independence Day celebrations, aiming to inculcate patriotism, respect for freedom fighters, and a commitment to cleanliness among the student community.

Hariyali Teej Festival on August 07: Mahant Rohit

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: The festival of Hariyali Teej in Jammu and Kashmir will be celebrated on Wednesday, August 07, 2024, as stated by Mahant Rohit Shastri, Jyotishacharya, and president of the Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic Sans-than Trust.

Hariyali Teej commemorates the reunion of Lord Mahadev and Mata Parvati.

On the third day of Shukla Paksha in the month of Shrawana, Mata Gaura's penance and devotion led to her union with Mahadev. This festival is also known as Shrawani Teej, Kajari Teej, or Madhu Shrava Teej.

Women observe a waterless fast on this day, praying for the long life and fortune of their husbands by worshipping and narrating sto-



ries of Lord Ganesh, Mata Parvati, and Lord Shiva. Unmarried girls also fast, hoping for a good husband. Swings are decorated in temples and homes, and women enjoy swinging on them.

A newly married girl celebrates her first Sawan at her parents' house, where her in-laws send her Sindhara, which includes items for her adornment and delicious dishes. Sindhara represents the love and affection between the mother-in-law and daughter-in-law.

Batwal community members hailed govt for granting proprietary rights to WPRs

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: The Batwal community members at a meeting held in R S Pura, hailed granting of proprietary rights to West Pakistan Refugees (WPRs) for land in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir by the government.

They said that the move addressed over seven decades of perceived "discrimination" against the "displaced persons from West Pakistan", adding that this new policy would provide proprietary rights to thousands of WPR families residing in the Jammu region.

R.L.Kaith said, much of the credit goes to Late WPRs President Rattan Lal Anmol who from the very beginning advocated the plea of West Pakistan Refugees for the same.

Among those who attended the meeting included Messers Hans Raj Loria, Sub Inspector Darshan Kumar Bassa (Retd), Subedar Baldev Chand Sandhu (Retd), Tilak Raj Bassa, Naresh Kumar Kaith, Sewa Ram Lakhotra, Puran Chand Kaith, Hakikat Anmol, Pt. sham Lal Lakhotra, Harkrishan Lal Kaith, Dev Raj Kaith, Hakikat Anmol and Jagdish Raj Kaith.

Plantation Drive held at GDC Ghagwal

Top News Report

GHAGWAL, Aug 5: Under the guidance of Principal, Dr. Sujata Slathia, the NSS Program Officer, Dr. Vani Awasthi of GDC Ghagwal, in collaboration with Sarpanch Nonath, Arpan Pangotra, organized a plantation drive in the college premises.

The event was held under the theme "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam aur Ek Ped Shaheedon K Naam," symbolizing a tribute to both motherhood and the nation's martyrs.

The plantation drive took place today on the college campus, where six plant saplings were successfully planted by the NSS volunteers.

This initiative aimed not only to promote environmental awareness but also to instill a sense of responsibility and gratitude among the students and faculty towards the environment and those who have served the nation.

The event commenced with a brief address by Dr. Sujata Slathia, who emphasized the importance of such drives in contributing to the global effort to combat climate change and create a greener planet.

She also highlighted the significance of dedicating these plants to mothers and martyrs, recognizing their unparalleled contributions to society.

Dr. Vani Awasthi, the NSS Program Officer, coordinated the activities of the day and ensured active participation from the students.

She acknowledged the efforts of the NSS volunteers who played a crucial role in the successful execution of the drive.

Sarpanch Nonath, Arpan Pangotra, appreciated the college's initiative and expressed his support for future collaborations aimed at community welfare and environmental sustainability.

The plantation drive concluded with a pledge by all participants to nurture the newly planted saplings and continue contributing to the betterment of the environment.

The plantation drive at GDC Ghagwal was a suc-

cessful event that not only contributed to environmental conservation but also served as a meaningful tribute to motherhood and the sacrifices of martyrs.

It fostered a sense of responsibility among the students and set an example of how small actions can lead to significant positive impacts on society and the environment.

The college looks forward to organizing more such events in the future to continue its commitment to community service and environmental stewardship.

15 days summer Internship program of students of GDC Neeli Nallah culminates

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Aug 5: Govt. Degree College (GDC) Neeli Nallah district Udhampur organised 15 days summer Internship programme for the students of 5th semester, as per the University Clause Statute in the FYUP- NEP 2020 in collaboration with Govt. Middle School Dhanni, Anganwadi /community centres and Mahatma Rasila Ram vedic Vanprasth Ashram Jib.

The internship programme started under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Seema Arora, Principal of

the College.

The internship programme aimed at professional training of the students in a suitable organization at college level in order to gain work experience.

During the internship period at Govt. Middle School Dhanni, the students learnt various teaching skills through practical work experience related to their field of study in addition to the various strategies of teaching-learning process.

Students from 5th semester were provided with opportunities for

internship in collaboration with Panchayats/Aaganwadi/Bal Ashram where the curricular component seeks to blend with community engagement.

This program offered a wide range of opportunities to gain insight into the community out-reach programme. The objective of the internship was a kind of glimpse and exposure to real life situations in rural and urban context.

Total 67 students having Education, Political science and Sociology as major subjects participated in this internship programme under the supervision of their

respective supervisors, Dr Maansi Sharma and Dr Sunil Tanoch.

The Principal of College, Prof. (Dr.) Seema Arora, along with internship Supervisors Dr. Mansi Sharma and Dr. Sunil Tanoch also visited these centres.

Dr. Seema Arora, Principal of College motivated the students and emphasized that the students have wonderful opportunity to understand the different socio-economic problems in the community where they were acquainted with different community organisational structures.

Many join Aam Janta Party in Baramulla

Top News Report

BARAMULLA, Aug 5: The State President of the Aam Janta Party, Abdul Hameed Gujri, along with National Vice President Mohd Sidiq Malik and all District Presidents from the Kashmir Valley, visited various areas of Hamamkot Rafiabad in District Baramulla.

During their visit, a significant number of local residents joined the Aam Janta Party, showing their support and trust in the party's vision and leadership.

In a community meeting held during the visit, State President Abdul Hameed Gujri addressed several pressing issues faced by the residents of Hamamkot Rafiabad.

He appealed to the District Administration of Baramulla to take immediate action to improve the basic infrastructure and amenities in the area. His key appeals included:

Gujri emphasized the need for well-maintained and accessible roads to connect Hamamkot with other regions, facilitating smoother transportation and communication for the residents.



Highlighting the importance of clean and safe drinking water, Gujri urged the administration to ensure that all households have access to a reliable supply of fresh water.

Addressing the concerns of the local people about the high electricity bills they receive every month, Gujri called for a review of the billing system and the provision of more affordable and consistent electricity services.

Gujri also appealed to the Lieutenant Governor's administration to personally visit Hamamkot Rafiabad and its adjoining villages to understand the ground realities and take necessary steps to resolve the issues faced by the residents. He expressed concern that

the electricity bills were disproportionately high, placing a significant financial burden on the people of Hamamkot.

The visit and the meeting were well-received by the local community, who expressed their gratitude towards Abdul Hameed Gujri and his team for taking the time to visit their area and listen to their problems. The community members appreciated the party's efforts to address their concerns and were hopeful for positive changes in the near future.

Overall, the visit by the Aam Janta Party's leadership was a significant event for the people of Hamamkot Rafiabad, as it brought attention to their needs and aspirations, while also strengthening their connection with the party.

Musa Pervaiz of DPS Jammu wins gold medals in inter-district swimming competition

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: Musa Pervaiz (IX-F), a student of Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu brought laurels to the school and his parents by winning 3 gold medal in 50 mts, 100 mts & 200 mts style, respectively in Inter-District Swimming Competition for Boys & Girls organized by Youth Services and Sports held from 29th July to 1st August, 2024.

Dhwanit Mahajan (IX-H) won bronze medal in 50 mts back stroke style; Manha Pervaiz Malik



(VI-J) won gold medal in 50 mts & two silver medals in 100 mts style; and Myra Thakur (VII-F) won silver medal in 50 mts back stroke style.

The management of DPS Jammu under the leadership of President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh,

Pro VC- Dr. Ritu Singh, Director- S.S. Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra congratulated all the winners and their parents for their achievement. They also extended their best wishes to them for all their future endeavours.

GDC Udhampur hosts Intra-College Essay Writing Competition

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Aug 5: The Literary Club of GDC Udhampur, in collaboration with NCC 2 JK Battalion Jammu, successfully organized an intra-college essay writing competition under the theme "Unsung Heroes of Freedom Struggle and 77 Years of Independence."

The event was held in the college premises as part of the ongoing celebrations for the 77th Independence Day and Swachhta Pakhwada.

Under the guidance of the college Principal,

Prof. Dr. Sanjay Verma, around 20 undergraduate and postgraduate students participated, showcasing their views in multiple languages on the topic.

The essays were judged on the basis of ideation and writing skills relevant to the theme.

The distinguished panel of judges included Dr. Sonia Khajuria (HOD, English), Dr. Sanjeev Kumar (HOD, Urdu), and Prof. Rahul Sharma (HOD, Hindi).

In his address, Principal Dr. Sanjay Kumar Verma praised the participants and organizers for their

dedication and for conducting the event in an exemplary manner.

Baljeet Singh, a student of BA Semester V, emerged as the winner of the competition.

The event was attended by notable faculty members, including Dr. Parveen Singh, Prof. Tanai Akhter (Convener, Literary Club), Prof. Bhanu Priya, and Prof. Vijay Kumar (ANO NCC).

The program concluded with a vote of thanks, marking a successful and inspiring celebration of India's independence and the unsung heroes of its freedom struggle.

Amitabh Bachchan says 'Kaun Banega Crorepati' makers have introduced 'interesting changes' in season 16

He hosts 'KBC' since its inaugural season in 2000

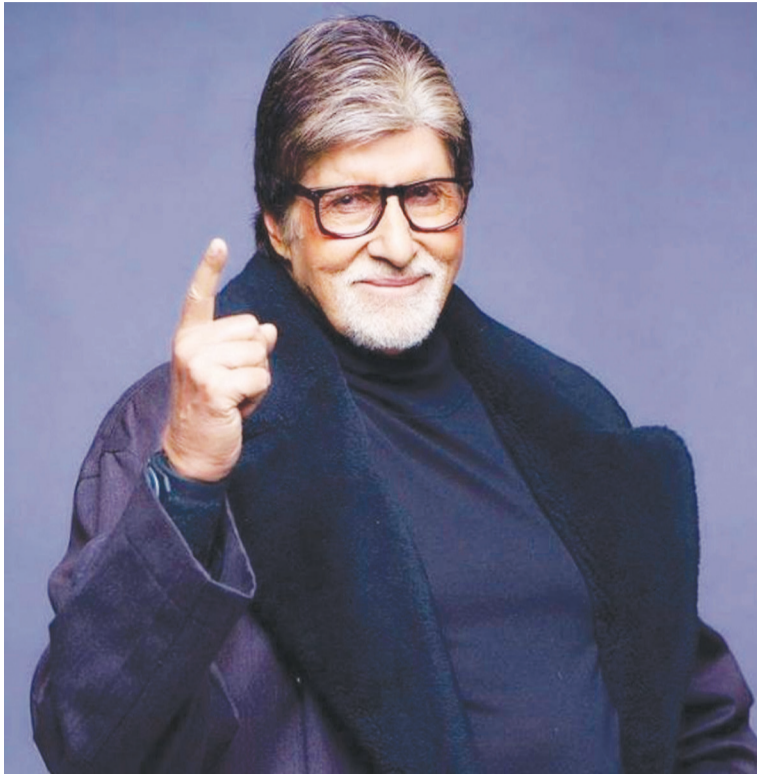
Megastar Amitabh Bachchan, who is set to host the 16th season of 'Kaun Banega Crorepati' (KBC), said the new chapter of the popular quiz show will introduce 'interesting changes' in the game.

The latest installment of 'KBC' will air on Sony Entertainment Television from August 12. It will premiere on weekdays at 9 pm.

In a lengthy post on his personal blog, Bachchan wrote the show offers a platform to the contestants to not only win a handsome cash prize but also share their personal stories.

"Some fresh new interesting changes in the GAME and the impact it will have and the learnings .. but above all the 'emotions' that overcome us all when the outcome of the contestant before us narrates his or her story ..

'The dire circumstances they exist in and then the volume of their years of distress .. and suddenly they find themselves here on the 'garam kursi' (hot seat) and they get taken up by



the emotion of the moment (sic)' the 81-year-old actor said.

One of those new changes is 'Dugnaastra', through which the amount won by the contestant

would be doubled after they correctly answer the 'super sawaal'.

The catch is that the contestant would have no options to choose the right answer from,

according to a video shared by the channel on social media.

Bachchan, who is currently shooting for 'KBC', said listening to the contestants talk about their struggles in front of millions of audience members in the past few days has been a "moving" experience.

'BUT .. with that most endearing smile which just melts us ..for the past few days the contestants and their lives that come before us have been most emotional and moving .. and we sit in the wonder of their narratives .. and try to extend helping hands for their needs and to try and overcome their harsh lives ..

'.. may they be given all the strength that the Almighty can ever bestow upon those that struggle and set examples .. and teach a lesson to these (sic)' he added.

The cinema icon has hosted 'KBC' since its inaugural season in 2000, except the third chapter in 2007, which was hosted by superstar Shah Rukh Khan.

Punjabi actress Prreet Kamal will be seen in Bollywood project



After Fer Mamlu Gabbad Hai, Prreet Kamal is currently busy

shooting for her upcoming Bollywood project, titled Continuity. The

film is directed by Chanddeep Dhaliwal. The shoot is taking place in the picturesque city of Dehradun, and Kamal is thoroughly enjoying her time there. "Being in Dehradun feels amazing. I'm enjoying the essence of this city in terms of food, weather, and the people," she says. Acting has always been a passion for Kamal. She shares, "This project has been incredibly enjoyable, and I would love to explore more avenues where I can showcase my skills."

In her eight-year-long career, Kamal has acted in both Hindi and Punjabi projects and has worked alongside actors like Ravi Kishan and Deepak Dobriyal. "Sharing screen with such talented actors has been a tremendous learning experience, and I feel I have evolved so much," she says.

Sonam Kapoor expresses shock at rising death toll amid student protests in Bangladesh: 'This is horrible'

Sonam Kapoor is once again the first Indian celebrity to take a stance on a political matter. On Monday, she took to Instagram to share a post about the unrest in Bangladesh, calling it 'horrible'. Bangladesh has been engulfed by protests and violence that began last month after student groups demanded scrapping of a controversial quota system in government jobs.

Sonam's post for Bangladeshi people Sonam reposted an IG post by The Juggernaut, which mentioned how 66 people had died in a single day amid the clashes. "This is horrible. Let's all pray for Bangladeshi people," Sonam wrote. The death toll has now risen to 100.

What's happening in Bangladesh? At least 91 people were killed and hundreds injured on Sunday in a wave of violence across the country of 170 million people as police fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse tens of thousands of protesters. Starting Sunday evening, a nationwide curfew has been imposed, the railways have suspended services and the country's huge garments industry has closed.

The protests escalated into a campaign to seek the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who won a fourth straight term in January in an election boycotted by the opposition.

Sunday's death toll, which included at least 13 policemen, was the highest for a single day from any protests in Bangladesh's recent history, surpassing the 67 deaths reported on July 19 when students took to the streets against the



quotas.

The government declared the indefinite nationwide curfew starting at 6 p.m. (1200 GMT) on Sunday and also announced a three-day general holiday starting from Monday.

Sonam Kapoor is living in London these days with her husband Anand Ahuja and son Vayu. She recently attended a Wimbledon match with Anand and also the Taylor Swift Era's concert.

She was last seen in Blind, which did not create any waves among movie lovers.

Zubin Mehta, whose film Bus No 7 makes it to the online edition of IFFM, says he wants to tell simple stories and engage with people emotionally and artistically

"I am not an intellectual..." With these words Chandigarh based, prolific theatre person Zubin Mehta lets us into the method behind his large body of work, including his films Bus No 7 and The Usher. As the 60-minute Bus No 7 makes it to the online edition of Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM), he not only stands a happy man but also at the cusp of new tidings. For someone who has dedicated nearly two decades of life to theatre, at the young age of 39, he is now interested in filmmaking. And as with theatre, his motto remains — "Training, formal or informal, is paramount."

"Intention and passion alone are not enough. You have to master the craft," he says. This sagacious advice he proffers to not only students at his Wings Theatre Academy but practices it on his own self. Thus before turning behind the camera he self-trained himself in the art of filmmaking. Fully aware that theatre can often be too verbose, he ensured that his movies are more visual and paid much heed to imagery.

"The difference between the two performing arts," he feels, "is not too stark for at the end of the day in both its eyes that watch and ears that listen and both appeal to the head and the heart." His movies, in fact, are



slice of life, inspired as much from personal emotions as his keen eye for observation. A true incident in Chandigarh led him to imagining one of his key characters the female attendant in Bus No 7. Produced by Vivek High School, it talks of class differences as well as how three persons, including two students, dealing with voids in life, come together.

An avid bike rider, for his second film The Usher the seed was sown during one of his sojourns when he encountered a 13-year-old boy filling up for his ailing father at a dhaaba in Rajasthan. Starring Samuel John the 14-minute film is self-funded and he sure is looking for sponsors. Indeed, for indie makers, film festival is the best route. As Bus No 7 has also made it to yet another prestigious festival Tasveer South-Asian Film Festival, he shares,

"Not only you get exposure and audiences at film festivals but also avenues for finance." Interestingly, his ideal is renowned Iranian filmmaker Majid Majidi whose film Children of Heaven he adapted for a play.

With 80 plus productions to his credit, Zubin's theatre innings has been most satisfying. Beginning his career on stage at the age of nine, his mentor has been the late Gursharan Singh. Only over a period of time he felt that aesthetics need to be as integral a part of a play as passion that drives it. Associated with stage productions of several elite schools of the City Beautiful, he insists, "Schools don't impose diktats and have allowed me to do theatre the way I want to and the kind I want to." But, yes, one adverse fallout could be, "People tend to see your work as child's play and don't take you as seriously." An

avid theatre buff himself, he is an ardent admirer of theatre czarina Neelam Mansingh Chowdhry and is especially taken in by her visual language, "so brilliant and stunning that often cinema can't achieve the same effect."

What he intends to do through his newfound ardour for cinema is to tell simple stories and engage with people emotionally and artistically too. When he set up Wings Theatre Academy, the idea was not to create professional actors but to create empathetic human beings. As the world is moving towards corporate order of 'profit, profit and profit,' he feels theatre can make us sensible and sensitive. In his new flight as a filmmaker he may have bid adieu to school productions but theatre will remain his first and abiding love. Much of his life may have gone into creating plays in English but in the world of cinema he is aspiring to make a Punjabi feature film.

First love

Acting may have been an occasional foray for Zubin Mehta whose love for theatre began with donning the greasepaint in his formative years. But he thoroughly enjoyed his acting stint in acclaimed web series Kohrra. Especially, he loved his rapport with one of its leads Suvinder Vicky.

Abhishek Banerjee on success of Stolen: Feel you have done something for India

Actor Abhishek Banerjee has garnered international acclaim with his film Stolen, which has been recognised at several prestigious film festivals, including the Venice Film Festival 2023, BFI London, and more recently at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM). The film has also won the Audience Choice Best Film and Best Director awards at Japan's Skip City International Digital Cinema Festival.

"This is my first international film and I will get to know once the sales happen. As a layman who doesn't understand the market conversations or the sales pitch conversations, I would just say that there is an audience for every kind of film and we are a huge market of moviegoers. Humare yaha kisi bhi tarah ki films chal sakti hain. Sabke liye audience hain. So if you make a good film, the Indian market should be accepting of a good film. I don't see why they should not be," says Banerjee, known for his roles in web series and films such as Pataal Lok, Rashmi Rocket, and Rana Naidu.

Despite the uncertainty of a domestic release, the joy of seeing an international audience respond positively to an Indian film is unparalleled for the actor.

"I realised that it gives you a feeling of pride when the international audience is watching,



awarding, and clapping for your film. You feel that you have done something for India and not just for yourself. This is why indie films are important. All of us actors, writers, and directors can earn our money and gain our glory in our country, but when you are doing it abroad, you are also bringing glory to the country," says the 39-year-old, adding, "I feel

very proud and glad I did Stolen and hopefully will look for (more) films where I can represent my country proudly."

Directed by Karan Tejpal, Stolen features Banerjee in the role of Gautam Bansal, an upper-middle-class man caught between morality and self-interest. Banerjee views this character as a reflection of "the hypocrisy of society," but he believes that understanding India isn't necessary to grasp the film's essence. He also notes how international acclaim boosts the confidence of the entire team, including the actors.

"We had the loudest cheers and claps at the MAMI film fest. People are already talking about the film globally. I am happy because even at home, in India, people are already expecting a good film because they have heard and read about it. People are asking me when it's going to release, and there is curiosity," he concludes.

"International viewers are also audience. We had the loudest cheer and claps at MAMI film fest. We have just finished festivals and people are talking about film. I am just happy because when you come back to India, people are already expecting a good film because they have heard and read about it. People asking me when is it going to release and there is a curiosity," he says.

Ulajh box office collection day 3: Janhvi Kapoor film struggles to cross 5 crore mark in India

Ulajh box office collection day 3: Janhvi Kapoor's Ulajh opened to mixed reviews and had a slow start at the box office. The film rounded off a dull first weekend, as indicated in the latest update on Sacnilk.com. Ulajh has collected 4.90 crore by the end of three days.

Ulajh box office update The report added that Ulajh earned 2.00 crore on day 3, as per early estimates. The film had a low opening day collection at 1.15 crore. Day 2 barely saw any growth in the collections, as the film earned 1.75 crore. With day 3 collections included, Ulajh is yet to cross the 5 crore mark at the box office.

Ulajh had an overall 23.26 percent Hindi occupancy on Saturday. Overall, the occupancy in theatres in terms of morning shows was 9.37 percent. When it comes to afternoon shows, it was 26.27 percent, evening shows was 34.93 percent, and night shows was 22.45 percent.

More details Ulajh is directed by Sudhanshu Saria. The film stars Janhvi in the role of an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, Suhana, who becomes the youngest Deputy High Commissioner. She is labelled as a product of nepotism by her colleagues, and has to fight corporate

blackmail and doubts over her calibre. The film also stars Adil Hussain, Roshan Mathew, and Meiyang Chang. It has been produced by Vineet Jain and co-produced by Amrita Pandey under the banner of Junglee Pictures.

An excerpt from the agency review of the film read, "Janhvi, expectedly, dominates each and every frame of this Sudhanshu Saria directorial. She begins the film with a certain earnestness as the girl who won't stay quiet sitting amidst her seniors in front of a minister, and even blackmails him. That the same tactic comes back to bite her later, is clever."

Supreme Court raps UP government over delay to consider remission petitions

The court took strong exception when the counsel for the state government again sought time when the matter came up today for hearing.

NEW DELHI, Aug 5 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Monday rapped the Uttar Pradesh government for not complying with its order to consider remission pleas within the time frame specified by it and directed the principal secretary of the state's prisons department to appear before it on August 19.

"We want to correct the system," a bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Augustine George Masih said while hearing a convict's plea seeking remission in



accordance with the applicable policy of the state. The apex court directed the prisons department principal secretary to appear before it through video

conference.

The court took strong exception when the counsel for the state government again sought time when the matter came up today

for hearing.

"Four months have passed. Again you are asking for two more months to decide the plea. Nothing has been done. As far as state

of UP is considered, we have seen that the orders passed by this court for considering remission plea of accused persons in a specific time is not being considered."

In April, the top court had granted six weeks to the Uttar Pradesh government. On July 10, when the matter came up for hearing, the top court was informed that the state government has not passed any order despite jail authorities favourably recommending the case of the petitioner.

Row over inclusion of castes in OBC list: SC seeks from WB quantifiable data on backwardness

NEW DELHI, Aug 5 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Monday asked the West Bengal government to provide quantifiable data on social and economic backwardness and the inadequate representation in public sector jobs of the castes that were included by it in the OBC list for granting quota benefits.

The top court also issued notices to the private litigants who had moved Calcutta High Court against the inclusion of 77 castes, mostly Muslims, in the Other Backward Classes (OBC) list.

The high court on May 22 struck down the OBC status of several classes in West Bengal granted since 2010, finding such reservations to vacancies in services and posts in the state illegal.

"Issue notice, including on the application of stay (of the judgement filed by the state government).

The state of West Bengal shall file an affidavit before this court explaining the process followed for classification

of 77 communities as OBCs : (1) the nature of survey; (2) whether there was a lack of consultation with the Commission (state backward panel) in respect of any communities in the list of 77 communities designated as OBCs," said a bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra.

The bench also asked whether any consultation was done by the state for the sub-classification of the OBCs.

The state government filed the appeal against the high court verdict. "Religion indeed appears to have been the sole criterion" for declaring these communities as OBCs, the high court had said and added that it "is of the view that the selection of 77 classes of Muslims as backwards is an affront to the Muslim community as a whole".

In all, the high court had struck down 77 classes of reservation given between April and September 2010, and 37 classes created on the basis of a 2012 law.

Air Force approves production of 200 Astra missiles

NEW DELHI, Aug 5 (Agencies): The Indian Air Force (IAF) has given clearance to the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) to produce 200 Astra air-to-air missiles for its Su-30 and LCA Tejas fighter aircraft.

The clearance was given to the DRDO and public sector firm BDL, during a recent visit by Indian Air Force Deputy Chief Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit to Hyderabad.

While DRDO is the development agency for the project, BDL is the production agency for it, senior defence officials told agency.

The programme was cleared by the Defence Acquisition Council

for the IAF and Indian Navy, under which 248 missiles were expected to be produced for both services in 2022-23.

These series of air-to-air missiles are part of the Astra program, which aims to enhance the aerial combat capabilities of the Indian Armed Forces. The Astra Mark 1 missile, a predecessor to the Mark 2, has already been successfully inducted into both the IAF and the Navy.

Senior defence officials informed India Today TV that work is currently underway on the Astra Mark 2 missiles and the first test of this 130 km strike range missile is scheduled to take place in the upcoming months.

DRDO is focusing on developing a special

motor to extend the missile's range, they said.

The existing Astra Mark 1 missile has a range of up to 100 kilometres, with the potential for further extension.

The journey towards developing an indigenous air-to-air missile system began in 2001, when the DRDO initiated discussions with various stakeholders. The aim was to design and develop a missile system capable of engaging adversary targets beyond visual range.

Hyderabad's Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL) was subsequently identified as the nodal lab for this project. A dedicated task force was formed to undertake preliminary studies and drive the project forward.

Samajwadi Party to oppose Centre's move to amend law governing Waqf boards

LUCKNOW, Aug 5 (Agencies): Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Monday said his party will oppose the Centre's move to bring a Bill in Parliament to amend the 1995 law governing Waqf boards, and accused the BJP of trying to snatch the rights of Muslims.

His remarks came after it emerged that the government is all set to bring a Bill in Parliament to amend the 1995 law governing Waqf boards to ensure more accountability and transparency in their functioning and mandatory inclusion of women in these bodies.

The amendment Bill will make it mandatory for Waqf boards to register their properties with district collectors to ensure their actual valuation.

"We will be against it (Waqf act amendment bill)," Yadav told reporters when asked about the proposed amendment "BJP's only work is to divide Hindus and Muslims, snatch the rights of Muslim brothers and work on how to snatch the rights given to them in the Constitution," he said after paying tributes to late MP and party leader Janeshwar Mishra on his birth anniversary here.

The SP chief charged that the Modi government had earlier snatched the rights of Anglo-Indians.

"Anglo-Indians used to have one seat in



the Lok Sabha and one in the Vidhan Sabha. They had their own representation, but they got a fake census done and snatched the seats of Anglo-Indians," he charged.

The SP chief also targeted Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath over the Uttar Pradesh Nazul Property (Management and use of public purposes) Bill, 2024 presented by the state government.

"Look how intelligent our chief minister is... He found out that nazul is an Urdu word. The officers kept explaining to him that nazul means something else but he said no, nazul means land of Muslims," Yadav claimed.

"Think about it, this person was getting the whole of Prayagraj and Gorakhpur vacated only because of the Urdu word nazul.

He has some personal interest in Gorakh-

pur or some of his colleagues have some personal interest," he charged.

The Bill presented by the state government was sent to the select committee in the Upper House (Legislative Council) and could not be passed after some BJP leaders opposed it.

Targeting Union Minister Anupriya Patel, who has been demanding reservation in the private sector, Yadav, without naming her, said, "It is being heard that a minister is shouting that reservation has ended... Those who are concerned about reservation, whether in Delhi or Lucknow, should immediately leave the BJP."

Referring to the caste-wise census, he targeted the state's Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya, and said, "There is a 'stool kit' leader. He is doing a lot of 'kit-kit' (talks). I think I will have to end the offer. It is being heard that the 'stool kit' ministers get orders, only then he does it. At least he should talk about caste-wise census and also talk about the reservation that is being abolished." Yadav was apparently referring to his recent monsoon offer to ruling party MLAs.

"Monsoon offer: Bring hundred, form government," the former chief minister had said.

Yadav used the 'stool' prefix while talking about deputy CM Maurya as once he was seen sitting on a stool at a programme due to non-availability of a chair on the dais.

Arvind Kejriwal's bail plea, challenge to CBI arrest dismissed by Delhi High Court

NEW DELHI, Aug 5 (Agencies): The Delhi High Court on Monday rejected Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's bail plea and simultaneously dismissed a challenge to his arrest by the CBI in the alleged liquor policy scam.

The court directed the Aam Aadmi Party leader to first approach the trial court for relief.

However, AAP sources have told agency Mr Kejriwal will now move the Supreme Court.

First arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in March, weeks before the 2024 Lok Sabha election, Mr Kejriwal has now spent 115 days in jail.

This is despite the Supreme Court granting regular bail on July 12. However, that was for his arrest by the ED and not by the CBI.

The CBI had arrested Mr Kejriwal in June, days after Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court granted bail - in an order later

upheld by the Supreme Court - for his arrest by the Enforcement Directorate.

Last month, senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for Mr Kejriwal, slammed the CBI's case against his client as hearsay and that the federal agency is trying to implicate the Chief Minister using "presumptions and hypothesis".

"They refer to AAP spending 4 crore on publicity.

I wonder how much money the ruling party has spent on publicity. I wonder if CBI will ask them the question. Today there is no direct evidence, no recovery. There is pure hearsay," he said.

Mr Singhvi insisted the AAP leader met the triple test for bail - he is not a flight risk, he is unlikely to tamper with evidence or to influence witnesses.

He doubled down that Mr Kejriwal's arrest is an

"insurance arrest". "I got bail thrice, in one form or another, in the ED case. Since I was arrested by the CBI, there has been no confrontation, nothing."

The CBI, meanwhile, said it had traced the money trail in the case and it amounted to 44 crore.

"This money went to Goa. Kejriwal himself told his candidates don't worry about the money, contest elections," the agency's lawyer said.

Nine Kanwariyas electrocuted to death in Bihar, several others injured

HAJIPUR, Aug 5 (Agencies): As many as nine 'Kanwariyas' (devotees) were electrocuted, and several others received burn injuries when a vehicle carrying them came in contact with an electric wire on Hajipur-Jandaha road in Bihar's Vaishali district, officials said on Monday.

The incident took place around midnight on Sunday when a group of 'Kanwariyas' were on their way to visit Pahleja Ghat of the Ganga River to take the holy water to offer at Hariharnath Temple in Sonapur.

The Kanwariyas were going on a DJ-mounted trolley. The DJ-mounted trolley was very high and there was a wire in which it got entangled. DJ trolley came in contact with 11000 high tension wire due to which some devotees

died, while some others were injured and are undergoing treatment," Sadar SDPO Hajipur Omprakash told reporters.

The victims were rushed to Sadar hospital at Hajipur where nine of them died.

Six others who had received burn injuries in the incident were undergoing treatment at the hospital.

Vaishali district magistrate Yashpal Meena rushed to the Sadar hospital and directed the civil surgeon to ensure proper treatment of the injured.

Sadar sub-divisional police officer Om Prakash confirmed the death of eight people in the incident.

The victims were stated to be residents of Sultanpur village near Mahnar in Vaishali district.

Chhattisgarh Deputy CM's nephew drowns in waterfall in Kabirdham district

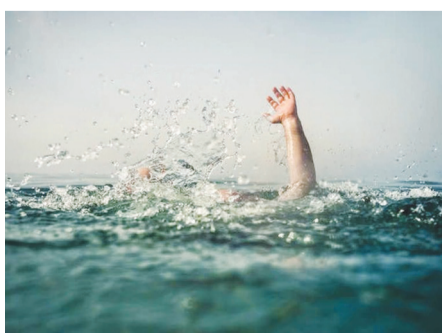
KAWARDHA, Aug 5 (Agencies): The 20-year-old nephew of Chhattisgarh Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao drowned in a waterfall in Kabirdham district, police said on Monday.

Tushar Sahu drowned in Rani Dahra waterfall under Bodla police station limits during an outing with friends on Sunday evening, Kabirdham Additional Superintendent of Police Vikas Kumar said.

As per preliminary information, he entered the waterfall and fell into the deep water, he said.

A police team was rushed to the spot, and a search was launched to trace Tushar, he said.

This morning, divers found the body stuck under a rock in the waters and



fished it out, the official said.

Prima facie, it appears that the death was due to drowning, he added. Further investigation is on.

Tushar, a resident of Bemetara town in neighbouring Bemetara district, was the son of the deputy chief minister's sister, police said.

"Won't apologise to any official, but...": Bengal minister resigns

KOLKATA, Aug 5 (Agencies): A day after the Trinamool Congress leadership asked him to step down from the ministry and apologise to a forest department woman official for threatening and verbally abusing her, West Bengal Correctional Services minister Akhil Giri on Monday said he had sent his resignation to the Chief Minister's Office.

The TMC MLA from Ramnagar, however, said that he would not apologise to any official but to Chief Minister



Mamata Banerjee.

"I have tendered my resignation through chief secretary to the Chief Minister's Office. But I will not apologise to any official. I may apologise to the chief minister," Giril told

reporters while coming out of the MLA hostel in the southern part of the city.

"I lost my cool that day seeing people's sufferings and how the forest department people were torturing them. I

am sorry for using one particular word, but not for whatever else I said. Whatever I have done is for the cause of the people," Giri said.

The Ramnagar MLA further alleged that small-time businessmen had paid forest department officials bribe to start shops on department land near the Tajpur sea beach in Purba Medinipur district.

Giri, who has been with the TMC since it was founded in 1998, said he would write in detail to the CM regarding the events that led to his

losing cool.

Asked about his plans on whether he would join the BJP, Giri said, "What would I be doing? My term is till 2026. I will be working as an MLA as per the requirement of my party.

On Sunday, Giri, flanked by locals was seen in videos threatening forest ranger Manisha Sahu, warning her of reducing her tenure after she and her team removed encroachments on forest department land near Tajpur beach.

6 more people killed in Bangladesh as protesters gather for 'Long March to Dhaka'

The government in the morning ordered a complete internet shutdown as protesters asked the general public to join a 'Long March to Dhaka'

DHAKA, Aug 5 (Agencies): At least six people were killed in a fresh outbreak of violence in Bangladesh on Monday as thousands of protesters started gathering for a "Long March to Dhaka", a day after over 100 people died in fierce clashes between the ruling party supporters and demonstrators demanding Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's resignation.

The government in the morning ordered a complete internet shutdown as protesters asked the general public to join a 'Long March to Dhaka'.

However, a government agency gave a verbal order to start broadband internet around 1.15 pm on Monday, leading Bengali-language newspaper Prothom Alo said quoting sources.

There were no instructions about restoring mobile internet. The police and military were



seen on roads as protesters started gathering in the capital.

At least six people were killed during clashes between police and protesters in Jatrabari and Dhaka Medical College areas, The Daily Star newspaper said.

Some students from various educational institutes gathered

at Dhaka Central Shaheed Minar before and after 10 am to participate in the 'March to Dhaka' programme, prompting the police to fire tear gas shells to disperse them.

All students and parents were requested to return home safely. Bangladesh Army Chief Gen-

eral Waqar-uz-Zaman is expected to address the nation after consulting all political parties.

The Army issued a statement asking people to remain patient until the Army chief addresses them. The clashes broke out on Sunday morning when protesters attending the non-cooperation programme under the banner of the Students Against Discrimination with the one-point demand of Hasina's resignation over a job quota system faced opposition from the supporters of the ruling Awami League, Chhatra League, and Jubo League activists.

At least 101 people, including 14 policemen, were killed in clashes on Sunday, leading Bengali-language newspaper Prothom Alo reported.

The violence forced authorities to cut off mobile internet and enforce a nationwide curfew for an indefinite period.

Australia raises terror threat level to 'probable' amid spike in extremist views

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and security officials urge vigilance despite no imminent threat



SYDNEY, Aug 5 (Agencies): Australia on Monday raised its terror threat level to "probable" from "possible", citing an increase in extremist views in the country leading to a more than 50% chance of the planning of an onshore attack in the next 12 months.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said he had raised the country's threat level following advice from security services, but said there was no imminent threat of an attack.

"The advice that we have received is that more Australians are embracing a

more diverse range of extreme ideologies and it is our responsibility to be vigilant," he told a news conference.

Australia lowered the threat level to "possible" in 2022, following eight years at "probable".

Mike Burgess, director general of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, the country's main intelligence agency, said tensions in the Middle East, including a conflict between Israel and Hamas that began on Oct. 7, were a contributing factor to raising the threat level.

"The conflict has fuelled grievances, promoted protests, undermined social cohesion and elevated intolerance," he said.

Australia has seen several violent attacks in recent months, some of which have been designated as motivated by extremism.

In April Australian police said a knife attack on an Assyrian church bishop and some of his followers in Sydney was a terrorist act motivated by suspected religious extremism.

Protesters in Pakistan-held Kashmir mark 5th anniversary of India stripping region of semi-autonomy

MUZAFFARABAD, Aug 5 (Agencies): Hundreds of angry people took to the streets in Pakistan-administered Kashmir Monday to mark the fifth anniversary of India's decision to strip the disputed region of its semi-autonomy and take direct control of it.

The decision — which Islamabad insists was unilateral and violated United Nations resolutions — has tested the already strained ties between the two countries.

Protesters in Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistan-held Kashmir which is split between Pakistan and India and claimed by both in its entirety, burned an effigy of the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Indian national flags, vowing to fight New Delhi's decree until its dissolution.

Another protest of about 200 people was led by Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar in the capital.

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was also expected to address lawmakers in Muzaffarabad later on Monday. In a statement, he called to resolve the tense territorial dispute over

Kashmir through the diplomatic channels of the U.N., saying Pakistan will continue to "extend its strong moral, political and diplomatic support to the Kashmiri people."

In 2019, India's Hindu nationalist-led government revoked the special status of Muslim-majority Kashmir after cutting off communications and deploying thousands of troops in the restive Himalayan region amid uproar from Pakistani lawmakers.

In December, India's top court upheld the decision by Modi's government.

The future of Muslim-majority Kashmir was left unresolved at the end of British colonial rule in 1947, when the Indian subcontinent was divided into predominantly Hindu India and mainly Muslim Pakistan. Pakistan has long pushed for the right to self-determination under a U.N. resolution passed in 1948, which called for a referendum on whether Kashmiris wanted to merge with Pakistan or India.

The rebels in Indian-administered Kashmir have been fighting Indian rule since 1989.

Australian probe into Gaza aid worker deaths 'omitted crucial details': Israel

CANBERRA, Aug 5 (Agencies): Australia "omitted crucial details" when presenting a report into the deaths of seven aid workers in Gaza, Israel's embassy in Canberra said Monday in a frank diplomatic rebuke.

Australian national Lalzawmi "Zomi" Frankcom was among a group of seven charity workers killed in April when their World Central Kitchen aid convoy was mistakenly hit by an Israeli air strike.

A declassified Australian report last week blamed the lethal error on operational failures such as the "mistaken identification" of armed security staff as Hamas hijackers.

Israel's embassy hit

back on Monday morning, saying the Australian government "regretably included some misrepresentations and omitted crucial details", such as its military's willingness to cooperate.

"The IDF (military) has taken full responsibility for the grave mistakes that led to the tragic incident of the night of April 1," the embassy said in a statement.

The deaths -- of an Australian, three Britons, a North American, a Palestinian and a Pole -- triggered global outrage and a renewed push to ensure the safety of aid workers in Gaza.

Former Australian air force chief Mark Binskin was tasked with moni-

toring Israel's efforts to unravel what went wrong.

His declassified report, released Friday, found three vehicles in the aid convoy were "struck in relatively quick succession" after they were tagged as suspicious.

An Israeli surveillance drone flagged the vehicles after noticing some of the charity's security personnel were carrying guns, Binskin found.

His report said some within the Israeli military believed the charity had "inadvertently" employed security guards from an "entity that had links to Hamas".

Based on the information available to him, this was a possibility his report "cannot rule out".

Aside from the litany of operational failures, Binskin's report said Israel's actions in the months following had been "timely" and "appropriate".

"Full accountability" Two officers were quickly stood down, three others were reprimanded and Israel was swift to issue a public apology.

Israel's embassy said Monday it would work "hand in hand" with aid organisations in a bid to "improve the humanitarian situation in the Gaza strip".

Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong has said the Israeli military needs to do more to make amends with the victims' families.

She said she would

continue to press for "full accountability", including potential criminal charges.

"We do believe an apology should be provided," Wong told reporters last week.

"The Australian government will persist until proper protections for aid workers are in place," she added.

"The best protection for aid workers and civilians is a ceasefire."

US-based charity World Central Kitchen provides food to areas ravaged by humanitarian crises and natural disasters.

It was one of only two NGOs spearheading efforts to deliver aid to Gaza by boat from Cyprus.

Kim Jong Un deploys 250 ballistic missiles on North Korea's south border

SEOUL, Aug 5 (Agencies): North Korea has deployed 250 ballistic missile launchers to its southern border, with leader Kim Jong Un describing the weapons as a "powerful treasured sword" to defend its sovereignty, state media said Monday.

The olive green mobile launchers were displayed during a special "transferring" ceremony in the capital Pyongyang on Sunday, the official Korean Central News Agency reported.

The missile launchers were an "up-to-date tactical attack weapon", Kim was quoted as saying in a speech.

It was the first time North Korea had publicised the scale of an arms transfer to its border units, Han Kwon-hee of the Korea Association of Defence Industry Studies told agency.

Each launcher was designed to hold four missiles, Han said, adding that Pyongyang's supply of arms to Moscow might have "interfered with the North's capacity to actually produce 1,000 missiles".

Relations between the two Koreas are at one of their lowest points in years, with the North ramping up weapons testing and bombarding the South with balloons full of trash.

South Korea has responded by resuming propaganda broadcasts along the border, suspending a tension-reducing military deal and restarting live-fire drills near the border.

This year, Pyongyang



declared South Korea its "principal enemy", jettisoned agencies dedicated to reunification and outreach, and threatened war over "even 0.001 mm" of territorial infringement.

Kim noted that presenting the new weapons at a time when the country was reeling from flood damage was a "manifestation of the firm will of our Party to push ahead with the bolstering of defence capabilities".

Heavy rainfall hit the nuclear-armed country's northern regions in late July, with a South Korean media report claiming up to 1,500 people could have died.

Kim has lashed out at the reports, dismissing them as a "smear campaign to bring disgrace upon us and tarnish the North's image".

The North has said there were no casualties at all in the Sinuiju area, the region Pyongyang said had suffered the "greatest flood damage".

It claimed North Korea's Air Force rescued over 5,000 people, with around 4,200 of them saved by helicopter "within a few hours".

Effective stage

Kim said in his speech that the country was facing a "significant and strategic shift due to the transformation of US-led alliances into nuclear-based military blocs", a trend he said required an upgrade in war deterrence, according to a KCNA transcript.

"The strength of our armed forces... must continue to accelerate," Kim said.

Photos released by KCNA showed rows of mobile launchers positioned before a podium where Kim spoke.

Banners flown from a balloon painted with the North Korean flag read: "Let's open the golden age of defence industry development under the leadership of the great comrade Kim!"

While it was possible that

Pyongyang had previously deployed ballistic missile launchers to its southern border, Han said it was the first time he had "seen such official reports detailing the scale of arms transfers" to military units in the area.

Producing such a large number of weapons and displaying them together indicates the event had been "planned months in advance", Hong Min, a senior analyst at the Korea Institute for National Unification, told agency.

"Producing 250 mobile launchers requires massive manpower and capital, which shows that the event on Sunday was not staged on a short notice," he said.

"Pyongyang appears to have judged that staging such a performance-like event would be an effective message to the United States."

Among the event attendees was Kim's teenage daughter, Ju Ae, who Seoul's spy agency said last week was being groomed as Kim's heir.

Ju Ae, whose exact age has not been confirmed, was seen clapping behind her father in one KCNA photo.

While Kim claimed that the new weapon system was designed by himself, it is likely that they copied the raw technology from overseas, Hong added.

"It is possible that Kim directed the modification using the original technology."

Israeli strike kills 2 in Lebanon amid growing middle east tensions

"The enemy raid that took place near the (Mais Al-Jabal) town's cemetery killed two people," Lebanon's Health Ministry said in a statement.



BEIRUT, Aug 5 (Agencies): Lebanon's health ministry said two people were killed Monday in an Israeli strike on the country's south, where Hezbollah has been trading near-daily fire with Israel since the start of the Gaza war in October.

Since last week, tensions have soared as Iran and Tehran-backed groups, including Hezbollah, vowed revenge for the killing of Hamas's political leader in Tehran and Israel's killing of Hezbollah's military chief in Beirut.

"The enemy raid that took place near the (Mais Al-Jabal) town's cemetery killed two people," Lebanon's Health Ministry said in

a statement.

"One of the two martyrs who fell in the Mais Al-Jabal raid this morning was a Risala Scouts paramedic," Lebanon's state-run National News Agency said.

Ali Abbas, a rescue worker from the Risala Scouts which is affiliated with Hezbollah ally the Amal movement, told agency that the paramedic had travelled by motorcycle with another person to inspect the site of an earlier strike.

He went "to see if there were civilians or people (in the area)... and the second strike happened immediately," Abbas said.

Mais al-Jabal, a front-line village less than two kilometres away from

the border with Israel, has experienced heavy bombardment since the cross-border clashes began, forcing most residents to leave.

Early on Monday, Hezbollah said it had targeted military sites in northern Israel with "explosive-laden drones" in response to Israeli "attacks and assassinations" in southern Lebanon.

The Israeli military said "numerous suspicious aerial targets were identified crossing from Lebanon" into northern Israel, starting a fire and leaving an officer and a soldier "moderately injured".

The cross-border violence since October has killed at least 549 people in Lebanon, mostly fighters but also including at least 116 civilians, according to an agency tally.

On the Israeli side, including the annexed Golan Heights, 22 soldiers and 25 civilians have been killed, according to army figures.

Congress intensifies protest against BJP Govt's failures on Smart Meters, Property Tax

Uday asks BJP Govt to restore Statehood to J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: The Congress Party on Monday launched a vigorous protest against the BJP government for its failures on key issues including the imposition of smart meters, property tax, and the long-standing demand for statehood.

The protesters, spearheaded by Uday Chib, General Secretary of the Indian National Congress, assembled at Purkhu (Jammu -Akhnoor) Road at Purkhu Panchayat, Jammu North Assembly and raised slogans against the government.

Talking to reporters, Uday Chib said that the BJP has spectacularly failed to protect the rights of people of Jammu and Kashmir. The forced implementation of smart meters causing unbearable burden on Public. Poor people having two



room houses has bills between 3000 to 8000 where as their total income is not more than 7000-8000 per month as told by public and unjust property taxes have placed an undue burden on the common man, while their promises of statehood remain nothing more than empty rhetoric, he added. He emphasized the need for immediate action, demanding that

the BJP government to restore statehood to Jammu and Kashmir. "The current dispensation has shown a complete disregard for the aspirations of the people. It is high time that the BJP fulfills its promises and restores statehood to Jammu and Kashmir," he asserted. Uday Chib highlighted the stark contrast between the BJP's promises and their

actual performance. "The present dispensation has shown a blatant disregard for the needs and aspirations of the people. Their policies are not only impractical but also detrimental to the welfare of our citizens," he added. Chib reaffirmed the Congress Party's commitment to safeguarding the rights and interests of Jammu's residents. "It is only Congress that

stands as a true advocate for the people's rights. We are committed to ensuring that the voices of the people are heard and that their demands for fair governance and genuine autonomy are met," he declared.

He reiterated the resolve of Congress Party to fight for the people's rights and to bring about the necessary changes in governance. Uday Bhanu chib assured the protesters that the day congress party will come in power we will replace smart meters by old digital system meters.

Among those who joined the protest include some local panches and Surinder Kumar, Parshotam Singh, Aman Singh, Sikander Singh, Ranjodh Singh, Amit Kumar, Sunil Kumar, Anil Kumar, Madan Singh, Jangbadhur, Kamal Singh, Kaka Ram, Kamal Chib, Tarun Vaid and Sunil Chib.

8th Ladakh dPal rNgam-Duston 2024 celebrated at Leh



Top News Report

LEH, Aug 5: The 8th Ladakh dPal rNgam-Duston 2024 was celebrated today with great enthusiasm and joy at Leh Palace on the occasion of Ladakh UT Declaration Day. This year's celebration was observed under the theme of '50th year of Ladakh Tourism'.

The celebrations for the Ladakh dPal rNgam Duston 2024 commenced with a traditional reception at the Palace Gate, setting a vibrant tone for the day's events and by lighting of auspicious lamp to the Royal Shrine and (Lharna), a musical offering performed by the musicians at the Royal Courtyard, Leh Palace.

Chairman/CEC, Tashi Gyalson, LAHDC Leh was the chief guest on the occasion.

Among others present were the Deputy Chairman, LAHDC, Leh, Tsering Angchuk; Executive Councillor, Art & Culture, Stanzin Chosphe; Executive Councillor, RDD, Tashi Namgyal Yakzee; Councillors, LAHDC, Leh; Deputy Commissioner/CEO, Santosh Sukhadeve; Senior Superintendent of Police, Leh, Shruti Arora, Secretary, Tourism, Vikram

Singh Malik, Addl. Superintendent of Police, Rigzin Sangdup, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ghulam Mohd; Member, National Commission for minorities, GOI, Rinchen Lhamo, Director LTO, Mipham Otsal, DYSC Tsewang Paljor; Former MP, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, District officers, heads of religious and political organisations and various prominent personalities of Ladakh.

In his address at the dPal rNgam Duston, Chairman/CEC Tashi Gyalson highlighted the significance of the occasion, noting that it marks the fifth anniversary of our Union Territory status. He emphasized that these five years have been a period of remarkable progress, a testament to the unity and strength of our people.

H'CEC Gyalson acknowledged that this progress would not have been possible without the collective contributions of every individual involved. He expressed gratitude to the leaders and the community members who have worked tirelessly towards the development of Ladakh, stressing that their dedication and effort have been pivotal in achieving

the advancements we have seen since attaining Union Territory status.

Further, H'CEC highlighted, "We celebrate not only our achievements but also the rich culture, language, our cultural pride and traditions of Ladakh. It has been eight years since we first began celebrating this event, and each year it grows more significant. This celebration allows us to pay tribute to those who have made great contributions to Ladakh and its people. We honor their legacy, ensuring that their work and dedication are remembered and inspire future generations."

CEC Gyalson stated, "As we celebrate, let us also remember the importance of preserving our cultural heritage while understanding the significance of the occasion, noting that it marks the fifth anniversary of our Union Territory status. He emphasized that these five years have been a period of remarkable progress, a testament to the unity and strength of our people. H'CEC Gyalson acknowledged that this progress would not have been possible without the collective contributions of every individual involved. He expressed gratitude to the leaders and the community members who have worked tirelessly towards the development of Ladakh, stressing that their dedication and effort have been pivotal in achieving

The inaugural program concluded with an enthralling performance of the famous 'Khatok Chenmo Dance' by all the dignitaries at the Royal Courtyard of Leh Palace.

Dimple terms August 5 as a "black day" in history of J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood Jammu and Kashmir, led an anti-BJP protest rally on Janipur High Court Road on August 5, a date he referred to as a "black day" in the history of Jammu and Kashmir.

The protest disrupted traffic as participants demanded the restoration of the J&K Dogra state and the implementation of the conditions of the Instrument of Accession.

Addressing the protesters, Dimple announced a long-term commitment to fight for the restoration of Article 370 and the implementation of



the Instrument of Accession conditions signed by Maharaja Hari Singh to preserve the identity and demography of Jammu and Kashmir. He criticized the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for its role in transforming the

200-year-old state into two Union Territories on August 5, 2019.

Dimple reiterated demands for the restoration of J&K Dogra state and called for the Supreme Court Chief Justice of India to

direct the BJP government to restore Jammu and Kashmir's statehood before conducting assembly elections. He emphasized that full-fledged powers should be granted to the Chief Minister, ministers, and

MLAs under the J&K princely statehood.

He accused the BJP of conspiring to render the state's people powerless and make them subservient by empowering the Lieutenant Governor and Chief Secretary to make all decisions.

Dimple vowed to continue the struggle to reverse these decisions and safeguard the state's demography and constitutional rights.

Other leaders who participated in the rally included S. Mohinder Singh, Sanjay Sethi, Akbar Khan, Shafi Mohammad, Bramu Sharma, Sanju Baigra, Dev Raj Das Kumar, Kala Kumar, Vicky, Vipen, Das Kumar, and many others.

FROM PAGE 1

Wanted decision on Article 370 to happen with concurrence of people rather than imposition: PM Modi

political and economic ramifications of Article 370 since its inception in 1949", a statement by Penguin said on Monday, which marks five years of revocation of Article 370.

"It sheds light on the historical reluctance to challenge this provision and the eventual paradigm shift brought about by its abrogation in 2019. Through careful examination, it discusses how the government resolved legal complexities and safeguarded against security threats to successfully execute the historic decision," the statement said.

Replete with anecdotes, the book recounts the events leading to the abrogation and also chronicles the region's history — from the ancient to contemporary times.

The publishers claimed this is the "first book of its kind on the Modi government where the actual decision-making process has been documented through interactions with top decision makers including Prime Minister Narendra Modi".

In advance praise for the book, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said, "An eminently readable account of a crucial decision that has promoted national integration while transforming the development and security landscape of Jammu & Kashmir. It brings out how the political calculations and personal proclivities of an earlier era were finally countered by national sentiment."

Kharge criticises BJP's JK Policy, Demands elections as per SC deadline

attacks have occurred in the Jammu region since PM Narendra Modi's third oath, claiming the lives of 15 soldiers and injuring 27, he said.

Kharge also claimed that targeted killings of Kashmiri Pandits have become a norm in the past few years.

A staggering 65 per cent of government department posts in Jammu and Kashmir remain vacant since 2019, he said.

The unemployment rate in Jammu and Kashmir stands at 10 per cent, with an alarming 18.3 per cent youth unemployment rate, he said.

Despite the introduction of the New Industrial Policy in 2021, a mere 3 per cent of investments have materialised on the ground, Kharge said.

He further claimed that 40 per cent of projects under the PM's Development Package, 2015, remain pending.

"Jammu and Kashmir's net state domestic product (NSDP) growth rate has declined from 13.28% (April 2015-March 2019) to 8.73% post-2019," he said.

The people of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh yearn for normalcy, a sentiment they conveyed to Rahul Gandhi during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, Kharge said.

"We demand that elections are held according to the Supreme Court set deadline so that people can elect their own representatives, secure Constitutional rights and put a full stop to this mechanism of being 'ruled by bureaucracy,'" Kharge asserted.

The Indian National Congress stands firmly with the people of these regions, which are an integral part of India, he added.

Whenever assembly elections are held in Jammu and Kashmir, they will be the first since provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution were abrogated and the erstwhile state divided into two Union Territories in 2019.

Last December, the Supreme Court directed the poll panel to hold assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir by September 30.

Govt preparing to 'Gag' Digital Media, Social Media through broadcast bill: Priyanka

are the great legacy of our martyrs and freedom fighters," she said.

In the history of independent India, no Government could ever think of crushing the freedom of the citizens, Priyanka Gandhi said.

"Today, on one side by the use of power, the entire media has been turned into a government mouthpiece, and on the other hand, the BJP government is preparing to gag digital media, social media, OTT platforms and even those who write and speak in private capacity by bringing the broadcast bill," she said.

"This is completely unacceptable. The country will not tolerate such actions," she asserted.

The Congress on Friday had alleged that the Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill was a direct threat to freedom of speech and the independent media and claimed that it would pave the way for "excessive surveillance" online.

Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khara had urged people to raise their voice against what he termed as "Government's tyranny".

While several people on social media have also been voicing their concern about certain reported provisions in the proposed law, the government has said the bill was still in the drafting stage and the stakeholders' consultation was underway.

In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on Friday, Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting L Murugan said, "The draft Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill, seeking to replace the existing Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, and guidelines regulating the broadcasting sector was placed in public domain for comments of stakeholders, including domain experts and the general public, on 10.11.2023."

"The stakeholders' consultation is currently underway. The bill is still at the drafting stage," he had said.

Security tightened in Jammu on 5th anniversary of abrogation of Article 370

everybody that we are not leaving any stone unturned when it comes to security," said South Jammu Superintendent of Police, Ajay Sharma.

In recent months, there has been a spike in terror attacks in the Jammu region, including an attack on an army convoy in Kathua and encounters in Doda and

Udhampur.

In July, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) informed the Lok Sabha that a total of 28 people, including civilians and security personnel, were killed in 11 terror-related incidents and 24 encounters or counterterror operations up to July 21 this year.

Last month, one Pakistani intruder was killed as Indian Army troops foiled an attack by the Pakistan Border Action Team (BAT) along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Machchal sector of Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district.

One Indian Army soldier lost his life, while four others, including a major-rank officer, sustained injuries in the attack.

Article 370 Abrogation | Amarnath Yatra suspended for a day from Jammu

halted for the day as a precautionary measure. No fresh batch was allowed from Jammu to Kashmir today," an officer told agency.

This step has been taken by the administration in view of the fifth anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370. Security has been beefed up in the city, the officials said.

On August 5, 2019, the Centre abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution, which accorded a special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, and divided it into two union territories — Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

The Amarnath Yatra commenced on June 29 and will conclude on August 19.

Army opens fire on suspected infiltrators along LoC in J&K

movement in a forward area in the Sunderbani-Nowshera sector in Rajouri district around 12:30 am. A search of the area along the LoC is also underway, they added.

Security has been beefed up across Jammu and Kashmir in view of the fifth anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370, which granted a special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, on Monday.

MeT warns of cloudbursts, heavy rains over parts of J&K for next 3-days

J&K, besides heavy rainfall at few places during next three-days.

A MeT in a communication predicted intense showers for a brief period with possibility of flashfloods, cloudbursts, landslides, mudslides, and shooting stones over vulnerable places of Jammu & Kashmir. It also predicted heavy rainfall at few places of the region during next three-days.

From August 5th to 7th there is a possibility of brief spells of rain & thundershower at few places during daytime with spells of light to moderate rain & thundershower at many places of J&K towards night/early morning, the communication said.

It also said that from August 8th to 10th, scattered places of Kashmir division likely to receive brief showers during daytime with a spell of rain & thundershower, while many places of Jammu division to receive the same mainly during late night/early morning.

From August 11th to 13th there is a possibility of a brief spell of rain & thundershower at scattered places of Kashmir division and fairly widespread places of Jammu division, it added.

MeT also added that a spell of rain & thundershower over parts of Kupwara, Baramulla, Bandipora, Gulmarg, hilly areas of Budgam, Tral, Pahalgam, Shopian, and Kulgam districts during next 2-3 hour.

Intense showers may generate flashfloods over hilly areas of Baramulla, Kupwara and Budgam districts, it added.

Black Bear kills man, injures another in Ramban

He said that the incident occurred in the upper reaches Autootop of Ramban and Pogal Paristan borders at around 7 pm on Sunday.

Singh said that the compensation under rules will be provided to the both dead and injured after preparing the case file from wildlife department.

Government likely to amend Waqf Law

Top News Report

NEW DELHI, Aug 5 (Agencies): The Government is all set to bring a Bill in Parliament to amend the 1995 law governing Waqf boards to ensure more accountability and transparency in their functioning and mandatory inclusion of women in these bodies, sources said.

They claimed that the move comes in the backdrop of demands from within the Muslim community.

The Bill to amend the Waqf Act, 1995, will make it mandatory for Waqf boards to register their properties with District Collectors to ensure their actual valuation. There are 30 Waqf boards in the country.

The sources on Sunday pointed out that the revenue generated by all Waqf properties is estimated at Rs 200 crore per annum. This is not in

sync with the number of properties such bodies have, they said.

Originally, Waqf boards had around 52,000 properties throughout India. By 2009, there were 3,00,000 registered Waqf properties covering four lakh acres of land, and as on date, there are 8,72,292 such properties in more than eight lakh acres of land.

While referring to the revenue generated by such bodies, the sources underlined that the money can only be used for the welfare of the Muslim community and for no other purpose.

The amendment Bill with as many as 40 changes in the current law could be brought in the ongoing Parliament session. The Government, as of now, does not plan to leave the Bill pending in Parliament after introduction, the sources said.

The key changes proposed in the law include

ensuring verification of land before a board announces it as a Waqf property.

Fresh verification of disputed lands claimed by various state boards will also be sought, according to the proposed bill. The changes with regard to the composition of the Waqf boards will ensure inclusion of women in these bodies.

The sources cited the recommendations of the Justice Sachar Commission and the joint committee of Parliament headed by K Rahman Khan as few of the reasons for amending the law.

"There have been demands from within the community to amend the law to bring transparency and accountability... Some Muslim high court judges had flagged that the decision taken by Waqf boards cannot be challenged in courts. Now, the amendment bill seeks to set that right," a

person familiar with the government's decision said.

Reacting to the move to amend the law, senior BJP leader Dinesh Sharma said Bohra and other members of the Muslim community have raised the issue of anomalies by Waqf boards. The main reason behind this is that there have been complaints against Waqf boards, made for benefiting the minorities, being involved in other works, he claimed.

All India Muslim Personal Law Board spokesperson SQR Ilyas said, "The BJP government always wanted to do this. Following the conclusion of the 2024 (Lok Sabha) elections, we thought that there will be a change in the BJP's attitude, but that's not the case. I, however, feel that this is not the right move."

Advocate Raees Ahmad said there is a "false narrative" that a Waqf board

can claim any property. Waqf board was introduced for the benefit of Muslims, he said, reacting to the move to amend the law.

Hitting out at the proposed amendments, AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi said, "BJP has been against the Waqf Board and Waqf properties since the beginning and there is a 'Hindutva agenda' of the RSS. They have continued to put efforts to end the Waqf Board and properties from the start."

"Demand for improvement in Waqf board is not new, it has been going on for the past 30-40 years. Those who are raising this demand and affected by it are Muslims themselves. There is a need for betterment in the Waqf board and I hope Samajwadi Party, Congress and TMC will support it (the Bill), whenever it is introduced," said BJP leader Ajay.

Mehbooba Mufti, Omar Abdullah slam BJP on Article 370 Anniversary restrictions

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 5 (Agencies): PDP president Mehbooba Mufti and several other regional party leaders on Monday claimed that they have been placed under house arrest on the fifth anniversary of the reading down of Article 370 of the Constitution that provided special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

"I have been placed under house arrest while the PDP office has been locked," Mehbooba told PTI.

The former chief minister later took to social media, saying "5th August 2019 will go down in history not just as a dark day for JK but a blot on Indian democracy".

"The day when a semi autonomous state was disempowered, dismembered & robbed of everything special & sacrosanct to us. Since then the state has been threatened into silence which is touted as 'peace and normalcy' to the rest of the country. Five years on the siege continues but so does the unyielding defiance & resistance. We Kashmiris refuse to be erased & unpeopled," she posted on X.

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah said while BJP leaders were allowed to celebrate the day while those who are against the abrogation have been locked up in their homes.

"This is what passes for democracy & free speech in J&K. A handful of BJP leaders are encouraged to celebrate today while those who would have registered their protest against what was done to J&K are locked up in homes across the valley," he said in a post on X.

Official sources said the office of Apni Party, headed by Altaf Bukhari, was also closed for the day as a precautionary measure.

National Conference chief spokesman Tanvir Sadiq claimed that he has been placed under house arrest.

"I have been detained at home, which was completely unnecessary. I needed to leave for some work, but policemen outside my gate prevented me from doing so. This is unwarranted and illegal," Sadiq said in a post on X.

He also posted a picture showing police personnel outside the gate to his residence in Hassanabad area of the city.

"August 5 is and will always remain unconstitutional and illegal. On August 5, 2019, the BJP betrayed the people of Jammu and Kashmir. By ignoring the Constitution, the BJP undermined the constitutional, moral, ethical, and legal relationship with the J&K," the NC spokesman added.

The Centre on August 5, 2019 revoked Article 370 of the Constitution which provided special status to Jammu and Kashmir within the Indian Union.

The Centre also brought the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act that bifurcated the erstwhile state into two union territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir.

People's Conference president Sajad Gani Lone said August 5 will be a reminder of "complete disempowerment of Kashmiri people".

"August 5 will always be an ugly reminder of the complete disempowerment of the Kashmiri people. Five years on there is no elected Assembly and the locals

have no say in running their own affairs. And sadly there aren't enough powerful voices in the country to seek questions as to why J and K has been selectively targeted for such humiliating existence," Lone posted on X.

In a statement, the National Conference alleged that the Government has "unjustly placed our leaders under house arrest, effectively isolating the party headquarters Nawa-e-Subha in Srinagar".

"This blatant suppression of mainstream democratic activities only serves to showcase the administration's underlying fear and exposes the hollowness of their claims of progress over the past five years.

"August 5, 2019, remains a stark reminder of the disempowerment of the people of J&K, a process that continues unchecked with the absence of a democratically elected government in the region. The unilateral and undemocratic decisions made on August 5, 2019, are a betrayal of the promises made to the people of Jammu and Kashmir by New Delhi," the party said.

It said these decisions are unacceptable to the people of J&K, as demonstrated by the recent parliamentary election results in the region.

"As far as JKNC is concerned, we will persist in our fight for the restoration of our abridged rights through democratic, legal, and peaceful means. The unjust actions of the government will not deter us from our mission to uphold the rights and freedoms of the people of Jammu and Kashmir," it added.

Bimla Luthra criticizes Govt's neglect of women's welfare in remote area of Reasi

Top News Report

REASI, Aug 5: A significant meeting of Jammu & Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) Women Wing was convened today in Katra, under the chairmanship of Sunita Rajput, District President JKNC women wing Reasi.

The event was graced by the presence of Bimla Luthra, State Vice President of JKNC and former MLA, who attended as the chief guest and Jagjeevan Lal, District President Reasi and former Minister Guest of Honor.

Sunita Rajput commenced the meeting by briefing the senior functionaries of the party about the severe hard-

ships faced by the women in entire district Reasi.

She highlighted especially the remote area of Reasi the glaring absence of women-centric welfare policies and the lack of basic amenities in the district, which have exacerbated the struggles of women, particularly in the rural and far-flung areas.

Jagjeevan Lal highlighted the government's failure to develop the remote regions of Reasi district.

He pointed out the acute shortage of essential services, particularly affecting the pilgrims in the holy town of Katra. "Pilgrims are facing an acute shortage of water and other necessary amenities in Katra," he stated, calling for immediate attention

to the infrastructural deficiencies.

In her address, Bimla Luthra delivered a scathing critique of the government's incompetence in addressing the pressing issues faced by the women and residents of Reasi.

"The government has utterly failed to implement effective policies for women's welfare and development. The lack of basic facilities and infrastructure in Reasi is a testament to their neglect," she said and stressed the need for comprehensive strategies to uplift the marginalized sections, particularly women, and ensure their access to basic amenities and opportunities for growth.

The former MLA urged the women of the district Reasi to take a pledge to support the National Conference in the upcoming Assembly polls.

Emphasizing the crucial role women play in shaping the future of the community, she highlighted the party's commitment to women's empowerment and their active participation in the political process.

She called on the women to unite and ensure a strong representation of the National Conference, promising that their support would lead to significant positive changes in the region.

Bimla Luthra stressed that the National Conference has always stood for

the upliftment and rights of women, and their collective effort is essential for the party's success and the overall progress of district Reasi.

The meeting concluded with a pledge from the JKNC Women Wing to continue their fight for the rights and welfare of women in Reasi, vowing to hold the government accountable for their promises and responsibilities.

Among others who were present include Pinky Khalsa District President Jammu Urban women wing, Joginder Kour District Vice President Jammu Urban Women wing, Ram Parkash Suri, Ashok Mehta and Kousha Devi.

Sargam Society & Aryans Group of Colleges organise "Ghazal ki ek Shaam"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: Sargam Society of Indian Music & Arts (Regd), Mohali & Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh in collaboration with Department of Cultural Affairs, UT Chandigarh organized a Musical Program in Randhawa Auditorium, Sec 16, Chandigarh. The event commenced with the lamp lighting ceremony & mementos were presented to Singers during felicitation ceremony.

The event was graced by Sh. Vinod Kumar, Lokpal Punjab as Chief Guest & Shashi Prabha Dwivedi, IPS, DGP Punjab preside over this evening. Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman Aryans Group of Colleges, RD Kailey, Chairman, Sargam Society were also present.

Harish Gupta, MD Trishla city, Sh. M.P Gupta Music connoisseur, Sh. Sudesh Sharma, Chairman Chandigarh Sangeet Natak academy were special guests in the event.

Lokpal Punjab, Justice Vinod Kumar Sharma said that Ghazal singers have the power to move their audience emotionally and influence them to explore their intense feelings. He congratulated all artists on the occasion.

DGP Punjab, Shashi Prabha Dwivedi, IPS said that the popularity of ghazal singing has grown immensely in countries across the globe. The impact of ghazal on film, western and jazz music has been enormous and integral in the creation of new and amusing songs.

Dr. Anshu Kataria, President, Sargam Society & Chairman, Aryans Group while addressing all said



Ghazal has achieved global prominence, and Indian artists have played a key role in its growth. More than music, the ghazal is a part of our rich and diverse cultural heritage and has shaped several new forms of music as well as enhancing the existing one.

RD Kailey, a trained singer mentioned that Ghazal Gayaki, is an ancient form of singing with its origin in Arabia. Ghazal singers have the power to move their audience emotionally and influence them to explore their intense feelings.

On the occasion, Sucheta Mukhopadhyaya sang "Dil hi to haina sang", Sumit, "Jara si der", Kulbhushan Bhatt, "Wahi Palon ka Jhapkana", Poonam Dogra, "Dil Dhardkane ka Sabab", Vikram Sandhu, "Tumko Dekha to ye Khyaal", Sushil Nagpal "Mai Hosh me tha", Priyanka Singh, "wo tere mare ishq ka", Ananya Ganguly "Chupke Chupke Raat din, Gurtaan" US Bewafa Sajjan ka", Gurdeep Singh "Ye kon aa gayi", Riaan Singh, the youngest from singing team showed that the future belongs to such talented budding artists.

He sang "Itna toota hu ki". Another attraction was Nancy who was superb in her performance of "Salona sa sajan hai", Sushil Nagpal & Priyanka

Singh "Naina tose lage" RD Kailey sang "Hamara dil savere ka" and mesmerized all present. The Musicians were Keyboard Gurvinder Singh Lovely; Tabla, Rajneesh Dhiman, Ramesh; Octopad Guitar, Jaswant Singh Jassa & Anchoring by Bhupinder Singh Malik.

CBC organises awareness program on New Criminal Laws at Shopian

Top News Report

SHOPIAN, Aug 5: The Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Field Office Anantnag on Monday organised an Integrated Communication and Outreach Program (ICOP) at Government Higher Secondary School, Heerpora in Shopian district.

The day-long program was organised to educate the masses, especially students, about the newly implemented criminal laws viz the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita and Bharatiya Shakshya Adhiniyam -2023 and to spread awareness about important legal reforms for an informed and

empowered citizenry.

Information about different aspects of the new criminal justice framework was provided using an integrated communication strategy involving expert lectures, informative standees, handbills, interactive student activities and theme based cultural programmes.

Resource persons from the police, prosecution, and education departments delivered speeches on various aspects of the new criminal laws.

The event was presided over by Imtiaz Ahmad Bhat, Station House Officer, Police Station, Heerpora.

Addressing a gathering of students, teachers and prominent citizens, Inspector Imtiaz detailed



out the salient features of the three new criminal laws and explained how the laws differ from the existing laws emphasising that the new laws prioritise justice over punishment.

He informed that the new laws have been conceptualised to make justice delivery convenient, faster and transparent.

Imtiaz provided live demonstration of recording the evidence at crime scenes using the e-Sakshya mobile application used by the investigating

officers.

He also asked the people to download the Sankalan mobile application developed by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for detailed information about the new laws and comparisons with the earlier laws.

Field Publicity Officer, CBC Anantnag, Shahid Mohammad Lone, outlined several government schemes aimed at youth empowerment. He highlighted the programme's focus on various facets of the new criminal laws and advised the younger generation to become responsible citizens.

Field Publicity Officer CBC Srinagar, Naseer Ahmad Rather, reiterated the bureau's commitment to spreading awareness

about the Central government's developmental initiatives and flagship schemes. He outlined several government schemes aimed at youth empowerment and urged students to harness the power of education for a brighter future.

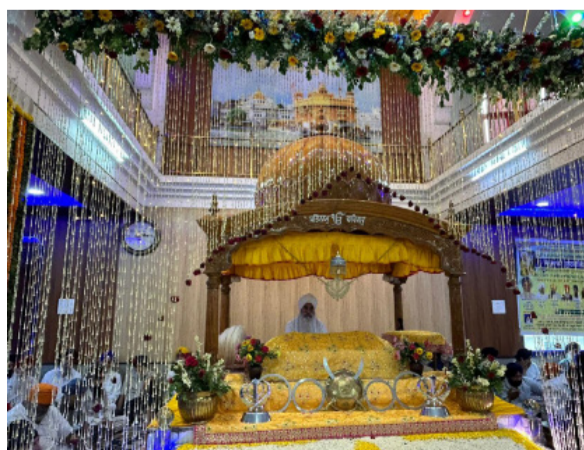
Other speakers elaborated on the new laws and the justice system in India, underscoring the importance of adhering to these laws for the nation's progress.

The artists empanelled with the CBC presented theme based musical programmes celebrating justice, citizens' rights and responsibilities. An open quiz competition was also held, with winners receiving certificates and mementoes.

Guru Harkrishan Maharaj's Parkash Purab celebrated at Gurudwara Kalgidhar

Top News Report

JAMMU Aug 5: Sikh Naujwan Sewadar Sabha Gurudwara Kalgidhar BC Road Rehari Chungi Jammu along with Gurudwara Prabhandak Committee Kalgidhar BC Road Rehari Chungi Jammu are Celebrating Parkash Purab of 8th Guru, Guru Harkrishan Maharaj at Gurudwara Kalgidhar BC Road Rehari Jammu, in which Ragi Jatha and Par-charak and Dhadi Jatha from Shri Darbar Sahib Amritsar and Local Jatha of Jammu are participating in the programme, also large numbers of Devotees from all the part of Jammu participates in the said Parkash Purab.



The Parcharak and Ragi Jatha had thrown the light on life of 8th Guru Maharaj ji.

Guru Harkrishan Maharaj that was the eighth Guru of the Sikhs. He is also known as the Bal Guru (Child Guru). He was the youngest of all

Gurus having attained that status at the tender age of five. His span of guru ship was also the shortest. Guru Harkrishan Maharaj ji is indeed an example that spirituality as an experience is independent of age. His personality can be sum-

marized in the words of Guru Gobind Singh who later wrote that he is one "whose sight dispels all discomforts" (Jis Dithe Sab Dukh Jaye).

This event was held under the patronage of Mahant Manjit Singh Digiana Ashram, in which Ranjit Singh Tohra President D G PC Jammu, Karan Singh Bali Member DGPC Jammu, Ranbir Singh Joint Secretary Jammu, Avtar Singh Member DGPC Jammu, Jagpal Singh Cashier DGPC Jammu, Gurmeet Singh Member DGPC Jammu, Harjinder Singh Raina Chairman Panthak Ekta Morcha, Surinder Singh Kala President Narwal Mandi Jammu personalities were present.

DC Kishtwar cancels all sorts of attachments issued by education department

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Aug 5: In a decisive move, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Kishtwar Dr Devansh Yadav has taken strict action regarding the education system in district Kishtwar.

The DC has directed the Chief Education Officer (CEO) of Kishtwar to cancel all sorts of attachments with immediate effect attachment/ deployment/ utilization of services issued by the Chief Education Officer w.e.f. 25-07-2024 to 30-07-2024 of teachers in the district.

This action comes in response to concerns over the impact of such attachments on the quality of education in the district. Attachments, where teachers are assigned duties outside their primary teaching roles, have been criticized for causing disruptions in regular classroom activities and negatively affecting student learning.

The DC emphasized the need for teachers to focus on their primary responsibilities of imparting education and ensuring the academic growth of students. By canceling these attachments, the administration aims to streamline the education system and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of teaching in Kishtwar.

The directive is expected to bring a positive change in the district's education sector, ensuring that teachers are present in their respective schools and contributing to the overall development of students. The move has been welcomed by many who believe that it will help in improving the quality of education and addressing the long-standing issues of teacher absenteeism and administrative inefficiencies.

Rohit Sharma first Indian, second overall batter to hit 300 sixes in ODI cricket

Rohit Sharma has achieved a significant milestone by becoming the first Indian and second overall batter to hit 300 sixes in One-Day Internationals. Despite India's 32-run defeat against Sri Lanka, Rohit's accomplishment was a standout moment.

COLOMBO, Aug 5 (Agencies): Indian captain Rohit Sharma etched his name into the record books again, becoming the first Indian and second overall batter to hit 300 sixes in One-Day Internationals (ODIs). Rohit achieved this remarkable feat during India's 32-run defeat against Sri Lanka in the second ODI in Colombo on Sunday. Rohit's blistering knock of 64 runs from just 44 balls included four towering sixes and five elegant fours. Despite the team's loss, his milestone was a stand-out achievement in the match. This innings brought his career tally of sixes as an opener to an impressive 302 from 177 matches, making him the second opener in history to cross the 300-sixes mark in ODIs. He trails only the legendary Chris



Gayle, who has smashed 328 sixes in 280 games.

Sanath Jayasuriya, the current Sri Lankan coach and a former explosive opener, ranks third on the list with 263 sixes from 388 ODIs. Rohit Sharma's career as an opener has been nothing short of phenomenal. With

8,801 runs from 177 matches, he has amassed 29 centuries and 55 fifties, maintaining a stellar average of 55. These statistics highlight his consistency and dominance at the top of the order.

In the overall list of most sixes in ODIs, Rohit stands third with

330 sixes in 264 matches. He is surpassed only by Pakistan's Shahid Afridi, who tops the list with 351 sixes from 398 games, and Chris Gayle, who is just one six ahead with 331 sixes from 301 matches. Rohit also holds the record for the most sixes by an Indian in ODIs, surpassing notable names like Mahendra Singh Dhoni (229 sixes from 297 matches) and Sachin Tendulkar (195 sixes from 463 games).

Moreover, across all three formats in international cricket—Tests, ODIs, and T20Is—Rohit Sharma leads the charts for the most sixes with a staggering 619 sixes from 482 matches. This incredible record underscores his ability to clear the boundary with ease and his status as one of the most destructive batters in the modern game.

Manu Bhaker to be India's flag-bearer in the closing ceremony of Paris Olympics



PARIS, Aug 5 (Agencies): Star shooter Manu Bhaker has been chosen as India's flag-bearer at the Paris Olympics 2024. The 22-year-old created history by clinching two Olympic medals in single edition of the Games at Paris. Manu opened India's medal tally by winning a bronze medal in the women's 10m air pistol event. She went on to win another bronze in

the 10m air pistol mixed team event alongside Sarabjot Singh. She was on the cusp of creating history by becoming the only Indian to have won three Olympic medals, but missed out by a whisker in the women's 25m pistol event.

An official from the India's Olympic Association revealed about Manu being India's flag-bearer and praised her for doing exceptionally

well in the Paris Olympics 2024. Manu also expressed her gratitude and said she was honoured to be given the responsibility. The closing ceremony of the Paris Olympics 2024 will be held on August 11, Sunday. The 22-year-old joined an elite list including PV Sindhu and Norman Pritchard to have won two medals in the Olympics.

"Yes, Manu has been chosen to be the flag bearer. She has done exceptionally well and deserves the honour," an IOA official told agency.

"There are many in the contingent who are more deserving but it will be a real honour, if I am asked to," Manu had told agency.

Amit Rohidas gets one-match ban, set to miss India's Olympic hockey semi-final; Hockey India lodges appeal

PARIS, Aug 5 (Agencies): India's key defender and first rusher Amit Rohidas will miss Tuesday's Olympic men's hockey semifinal against Germany after he was handed a one-match suspension following his red card against Great Britain in the quarterfinal.

This means India will have only 15 players available for the key clash, which is big setback for the eight-time Olympic champions.

"Amit Rohidas was suspended for one match for a breach of the FIH Code of Conduct which occurred during the India vs Great Britain match on August 4," an FIH statement read.

"The suspension affects match No. 35 (India's semi-final match against Germany), where Amit Rohidas will not participate and India will play with a squad of 15 players only."

Rohidas was given the marching order against Great Britain almost 40 minutes from the final hooter after his stick unintentionally hit a rival player on Sunday.

In the second quarter of the match against Great Britain, the 31-year-old Rohidas was engaged in a midfield slug fest against Will Calnan.

Rohidas swung his stick and hit Calnan's face in an attempt to flee the British forward.

The on-field umpire initially did not rule the challenge to be a serious offence, but TV umpire changed the decision



and changed it to a red card following a video referral.

Down to 10 men, the Indians, however, fought tenaciously for the remaining time of the match and defended stoutly to hold Great Britain to a 1-1 draw at the end of regulation time.

In the subsequent shoot-out, veteran goalkeeper PR Sreejesh's heroics handed India a 4-2 win to seal a second consecutive Olympic semifinal berth.

Hockey India lodges appeal against Rohidas' suspension

A miffed Hockey India has already lodged an appeal against Rohidas' suspension and a decision on the matter will be taken by the International Hockey Federation (FIH) Jury Bench later in the day.

"Amit has been banned/suspended for one match by the tournament director. Hockey India has now appealed against this ruling and the appeal will be put forth before the FIH Jury Bench," a source told agency.

MIND GAMES: Lakshya Sen loses it in the mind, cracks after 20-17 in first game | To play for bronze today

PARIS, Aug 5 (Agencies): Viktor Axelsen, man mountain, leaps up and smashes down the shuttle from 10 feet high; yet that's not the reason he won the semifinal against India's Lakshya Sen today. Denmark's Axelsen, the defending Olympics champion, tapped the side of his head and said: "I won the match up here today!"

Sen, leading 20-17 in the first game, three game points in hand, cracked under pressure — hope and expectation made his heart pound, his mind race. Serving, he wanted to keep the shuttle close to the net, place it short of the reach of the 6ft 4in Dane, but it was too short and Axelsen roared. The crowd, most of them Danes, roared "Viktor! Viktor! Viktor!", drowning out the "India, India!" from Sen's supporters in the stands. Sen, 22, then simply fell apart: He hit long twice,



and then smashed out — 21-20 for Axelsen, and then game for Axelsen as Sen failed to put his drop shot on the other side of the net. Was that the turning point, then? Axelsen, two-time Olympics medallist, two-time world champion, thought so. "I could definitely feel that he was tense," said the 30-year-old. "He maybe started to think about what he was doing. The pressure was there. That was my chance to grab the game. It wasn't easy, and I did it."

To win today against the formidable Dane, Sen's best chance was to win the first game —

he did unsettle Axelsen, but he didn't stay in the moment and became impatient and edgy.

Second game, Sen started strongly, Axelsen surprisingly error-prone: he smashed into the net, hit long, hit wide, and in no time Sen was up 7-0. He was moving like a dream, floating across the court, but Axelsen started clawing his way back — a smash on the line, an error by Sen, and another, and the scoreline was 9-7. Axelsen wasn't perfect, perhaps overeager in parts, smashing into the net and wide and long. But when he's smashing well, he's almost

unreturnable — when Sen did pick up the shuttle, as at 11-11 or 13-16 or 14-19, he was left scrambling and out of position, leaving the court empty.

In no time, Axelsen had overturned the 10-11 deficit and gone 19-14 up, winning nine of the previous 12 points. Sen's agony ended at 12:54pm sharp, after 54 minutes of intense hope, intense thought, intense despair; Axelsen pranced about, sank to his knees, saluted the Danes in all four stands and sent his racquet flying into them for a lucky catcher.

Sen, never the most verbose of men, despaired, lamenting the errors he made late in the first game. "If I had closed the first set, I would have better chances in the third," he said. 20-17, 7-0... "I had to be more patient at that time," said Sen. "Overall, in that moment, I did whatever came to

my mind."

At the elite level they operate, players being near equals, it boils down to the mind. "If you start to think, you have problems," said Axelsen about being 17-20 down in the first game. "I think Lakshya, he thought a lot about it. He was probably thinking 'I have a big chance'. I think he got nervous. And when he gets nervous, I know I have to strike."

And strike Axelsen did, winning 26 of the next 40 points, handing Sen an eighth defeat in the nine matches they've played.

Sen will fight for bronze tomorrow, against Zii Jia Lee of Malaysia.

"I'd look at things I can improve upon tomorrow," he said. "Forget this match, give my best tomorrow."

"He could easily have won today," said Axelsen. "I think in four years, Lakshya would be a stronger bet for gold."

Germany wins Olympic team relay triathlon

The relay is a four-person sprint triathlon, with two men and two women completing a 300-metre swim, a seven-kilometre (4.3-mile) bike ride and a 1.8km run.



PARIS, Aug 5 (Agencies): Germany won gold in the mixed triathlon relay on Monday at the Paris Olympics, with the build-up to the event marred by news that a Belgian athlete had fallen sick after swimming in the Seine last week.

Germany's Laura Lindemann won a sprint finish in the final leg, narrowly edging out Beth Potter from Britain in silver and Taylor Knibb from the United States in bronze who were separated in a

photo finish.

The relay is a four-person sprint triathlon, with two men and two women completing a 300-metre swim, a seven-kilometre (4.3-mile) bike ride and a 1.8km run.

The Seine was used for the swim on Monday, as it was for the men's and women's individual triathlon last Wednesday.

But the river has been dogged by pollution problems despite a 1.4 billion euros (USD 1.5 billion) upgrade to improve the Paris sew-

erage and water treatment system.

No athletes' training in the Seine has been possible since the start of Games after the water repeatedly failed water tests, with bacteria levels above authorised limits.

On the eve of the mixed relay, the Belgian National Olympic Committee (COIB) revealed that Claire Michel had fallen sick after the women's triathlon last week.

"The COIB and Belgian Triathlon hope

that the lessons will be learned for future triathlon competitions at the Olympics," the committee said in a statement.

The Belgian team withdrew from Monday's relay event as a result.

The Paris 2024 organising committee said in a statement that testing on the day of the individual triathlon last week had shown that the quality of the water was "very good" based on World Triathlon's criteria.

"The decision on whether to proceed with an event is taken by the international federation, World Triathlon, in coordination with Paris 2024, and based on the test results and a range of (notably health) criteria," it said.

"Paris 2024 wishes to remind everyone that the health and wellbeing of athletes is our top priority," it added.

Former England cricketer Graham Thorpe dies aged 55



LONDON, Aug 5 (Agencies): Former England cricketer Graham Thorpe has passed away at the age of 55, the England and Wales cricket board confirmed on Monday, August 5. Thorpe played 100 Tests for England from 1993 to 2005 and also was a part of 82 ODIs during that time. Thorpe scored 6,744 runs for England in Tests, and hit 16 centuries during his time with the team at an average of 44.66.

On Monday, ECB released a statement on their website confirming the demise of Thorpe.

"It is with great sadness that the ECB shares the news that Graham Thorpe, MBE, has passed away."

"There seem to be no appropriate words to describe the deep shock we feel at Graham's death."

"More than one of England's finest-ever batters, he was a beloved member of the cricket family and revered by fans all over the world. His skill was unquestioned, and his abilities and achievements across a 13-year international career brought so much happiness to his teammates and England and Surrey CCC supporters alike. Later, as a coach, he guided the best England Men's talent to some incredible victories across all formats of the game."

"The cricket world is in mourning today. Our hearts go out to his wife

Amanda, his children, father Geoff, and all of his family and friends during this unimaginably difficult time. We will always remember Graham for his extraordinary contributions to the sport," read the statement from ECB.

Remembering Graham Thorpe
Graham Thorpe made his first-class debut for Surrey in the summer of 1988 and became a regular player in the 1989 season. He made his England debut in 1993 at age 24, scoring an impressive 114 runs against Australia at Trent Bridge.

Thorpe became a key player in England's middle order, with his unbeaten double-century against New Zealand in Christchurch in 2002 standing out as a career highlight. This innings included 28 fours and four sixes.

Though his international career was marked by intermittent appearances, he retired from England duty in 2005. Thorpe then transitioned into coaching, initially in Australia, where he mentored players like Steve Smith and David Warner at New South Wales. He later joined the England and Wales Cricket Board as a batting coach.

In March 2022, Thorpe was appointed head coach of Afghanistan's cricket team, but he could not assume the role due to ill health.

Poor infrastructure in Kyur Panchayat is threat to lives of people: Satish Sharma

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: Senior Congress leader Satish Sharma held a public meeting in Kyur Panchayat of Chhamb Constituency and interacted with the locals.

During his visit, Satish Sharma held a Nukkad meeting with the residents of the Panchayat and had a discussion with them over the burning issues of the area.

During the interaction people said that they had been facing troubles for the last 10 years, the condition of the roads have worsened and BJP is not paying attention to the demand of the public despite the fact that the issue has been raised several times in front of BJP leadership and local administration.



People added that the Government School of the panchayat is in poor condition and the old building may fall apart any time and can cause loss of lives of innocent students, they added that the school is also suffering from a huge shortage of teaching staff and the present staff is inadequate to cater to the needs of the students.

People also brought the attention of Satish Sharma on the issue of non availability of required Doctors on all days of the weeks and said that only one doctor is available in the hospital each day.

Satish Sharma said that he is astonished to see that the area which was once the top priority of his father and congress party

has completely been left aside by BJP.

He said that BJP has taken people for Chhamb constituency for granted and used them only as a vote bank and has not paid any attention to their developmental works.

He said that people have to unite in order to throw bjp out of power and he assured that if congress comes to power he will

make sure that stalled developmental works will be restarted in one go.

He thanked people for the support he has been receiving from them and promised them that once he is elected by the people he will work on the foot prints of his late father Madan Lal Sharma and people will feel proud about their choice.

Other prominent persons present during meeting were Manjeet Singh Jatt, ex BDC chairman Parveen Kumar, Block President Prem Singh, Retired Dyps Ashok Sharma, ex sarpanch Om Parkash, Ex Panch Govind Ram Sharma, ex Naib Sarpanch Madan Lal, capt. Jamaludin, capt. Diwan Singh, Sumit Sharma, Sanjay Sharma, Ashok Kumar and Tilak Raj.

NDA, IWC Jammu Sampark, IWC New Gen organize Plantation Drive



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: In a collective effort to promote environmental awareness and encourage citizens to take action towards a greener future, Nations Development Association (NDA), Inner Wheel Club (IWC) Jammu Sampark, and IWC New Gen jointly organized a Plantation Drive at Ranjit College of Education, Kunjwani, Jammu.

The event aimed to bring together individuals from various backgrounds to plant trees and inspire others to join the movement towards environmental conservation.

Sushil Singh Charak, Founder cum General Secretary of NDA, emphasized the importance of collective action in making Jammu & Kashmir a greener and

happier place.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from members of NDA, IWC Jammu Sampark, IWC New Gen, and students of Ranjit College of Education.

Together, they planted numerous trees and pledged to nurture them, symbolizing their commitment to protecting the environment and creating a sustainable future.

Anila Mengi President of Inner Wheel Club Jammu Sampark, emphasized the need for collective action in protecting the environment.

Manpreet Kaur Gandhi, President of Inner Wheel Club New Gen, highlighted the importance of environmental-related activities and appreciated the efforts of Sushil Singh Charak and his team.

Ranjit College of Education Chairman

Dr. Manmeet Singh and Ranjit Global School Principal Dr. Baljinder Kour appreciated the efforts of Nations Development Association (NDA), IWC Jammu Sampark and IWC New Gen for their good work in society and environmental conservation.

The event was attended by Er Surinder Devgouda Retd Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department J&K, Deepak Singh Charak Finance Secretary NDA, President IWC Sampark Anila Mengi, Secretary Ravinder Kour Past President Reva Raina and Member, IWC New Gen, President Manpreet Kaur Gandhi, Secretary Ritu Sharma, Past President Ambika Samotra, Member Kamlesh Kour Ranjit College of Education staff, Ranjit Global School and NDA members.

NGO Anti Crime Bureau starts plantation drive in GMS Langotia



Top News Report

BISHNAH, Aug 5: NGO, Anti Crime Bureau planted saplings in Govt Middle School (GMS) at Village Langotia.

Program was organized under Supervision of its Chairman Sham Lal Gupta.

Gupta told that more and more fruit trees should be planted in the rainy season. In this monsoon season, their organization

will go to different Wards, Parks, Panchayats and plant these saplings, these saplings of different Species are purchased from Private Nursery.

The object of the plantation drive is to eco-restore the unstable environment and to add Natural Beauty of Villages and its green cover, he added.

Plantation drive was carried by State President Sahil Gupta along with ASI Naresh Digra (JKP)

and NGO Members.

School Incharge GMS Langotia, Reeta Devi and Teacher Subash Kumar appreciated efforts of NGO, Anti Crime Bureau for working in Social Field and Creating a Beautiful Greenery Atmosphere in Schools.

Sahil Gupta was accompanied by team members Tushar Digra, Anshu Kumar, Rohit Kumar, Akshay Sharma, Sumit Rajput and others.

Taekwondo, Karate trials held in Kathua

Top News Report

KATHUA, Aug 5: On the second day of the Inter-School District Level Trials in district Kathua, trials in Taekwondo and Karate are being conducted for all

the total number of participants to 193.

Before the events commenced, all participants took a Swachhta pledge and cleaned the stadium ground.

The events are being conducted under the



age groups of boys and girls at Sports Stadium Kathua.

The karate event features 101 participants showcasing their talent, while 92 players are demonstrating their skills in Taekwondo, bringing

overall supervision of District Youth Services and Sports Officer Sunil Singh Sambyal. Activity In-charges Darminder Singh Shelly and Parveen Singh Lakhapuria are actively managing the competitions.

Journalist Danish Iqbal Shaker bereaved

Top News Report

DODA, Aug 5: The Doda's Civil Society has expressed its deep shock over the demise of Mohd Iqbal Shaker, the father of Journalist Danish Iqbal Shaker, associated with Daily Udaan, resident of Roti Padarna Doda who passed away few days ago, following prolonged illness, leaving behind a legacy of love and cherished memories.

In a statement issued to the media, the members of Doda Civil Society extended their heartfelt condolences and pray for peace to the departed soul. They also offer strength and support to Danish Iqbal and his family members during this difficult time.

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

While expressing condolences, the Civil Society members described the passing of the deceased as an irreplaceable loss which cannot be fulfilled.

The statement also read that the deceased was very noble and social personality of his area who with his public good have inspired many

and will be remembered for long.

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

GDC Darhal hosts "no to plastic use" drive on campus



Top News Report

DARHAL, Aug 5: GDC Darhal, a prominent educational institution in the region, held a successful "No to Plastic Use" drive on its campus today.

The inaugural speech was delivered by the college Principal, Prof. Zamir Ahmed Mirza, who emphasized the importance of reducing plastic consumption and its detrimental impact on the environment.

The event was coordinated jointly by Dr. Ghuam Abbas, Convenor Swachhta Pakhwada, and Dr. Mohd Akhlaq, coordinator NSS.

All the faculty members and students actively participated in the drive, demonstrating their commitment to creating a sustainable and eco-friendly campus. "We are proud to host this important initiative at GDC Darhal," said Prof. Zamir Ahmed Mirza. "As an educational insti-

tution, we have a responsibility to lead by example and instill the values of environmental stewardship in our students. This drive is a step towards a greener and cleaner campus, and we encourage the entire community to join us in this effort."

A large number of students and staff members participated in the Program. Prominent among others were Dr. Mohd Saleem, Dr. Taseem Ahmed and Prof. Anzar.

Batwal community grieves demise of its supercentenarian member

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 5: The Batwal community members at a condolence meet held here in Channi Kamala hetr today, mourned the demise of Veero Devi.

Strange are the ways of God. No body knows

what happens the next, said R.L. Kaith adding that Veero Devi was a supercentenarian lady.

In every step, she supported and encouraged her son Havildar Des Raj Kaith. Whether day or night she was always there for him no matter what the condition was.

Furthermore, her every work, persistence, devotion, dedication, conduct was an inspiration for him, added Kaith.

May God rest her noble soul in peace and give strength to her family to bear this immeasurable loss boldly, prayed all present in the condolence meet.

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