

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

**Shatrughan Sinha says daughter's marriage not 'illegal & unconstitutional'**



NATIONAL | 7

**Elected minister should hoist tricolour on Independence Day, politics over it unfortunate: Manish Sisodia**

INTERNATIONAL | 8

**Murder case filed against Bangladesh's ousted PM Sheikh Hasina**



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-15 Issue-223 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

## BRIEFLY

### Devotees pray at Peer Budhan Ali Shah Mazaar

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 13: Large number of devotees visited the Peer Budhan Ali Shah Mazaar at Satwari and prayed for the well being of all.

While paying obeisance, R.L.Kaith said, Peer Budhan Ali Shah was such personality that his impression was there extremely and widely on human beings. He was firm a believer in the unity and oneness of Allah. He was all the time in deep meditation with Almighty. He had no relation with both of the worlds.

Adding further Kaith said Dargah which is next to the airport was very small at one time. It obstructed the runway. Airport authority ordered the demolition of the shrine. To everyone's surprise, difficulties began to surface and they failed to demolish this place. The planes that took off from the runway developed some or the other problems for which there was no specific reason. Later, the idea was dropped.

Imam sitting over there said that on every Thursday thousands of visitors come at the Ziarat and pray to Peer to get their problems solved.

### APSCC to field Sikh Candidates in upcoming JK Assembly Elections

SRINAGAR, Aug 13 (Agencies): The All-Parties Sikh Coordination Committee (APSCC) on Tuesday said that it will field independent candidates in the upcoming Assembly Elections in the Union Territory of J&K.

The APSCC said that the failure brought upon them by the successive political parties in the region has compelled them to make this move, which they said would "teach them (political parties) a lesson."

Condemning the reservation policy issued by the government, the APSCC said that it is unfortunate that the seats have been reserved for scheduled caste, scheduled tribe, and Kashmir Pandits while the Sikhs have been left out.

A statement by the APSCC said that they have met the retired judge Ranjana Desai who is heading the Delimitation Commission and that they are hoping to get representation in some seats.

Terming the reservation as discrimination, the APSCC said that

Turn to page 9

## Security tightened on Jammu-Srinagar Highway ahead of Independence Day

UDHAMPUR, Aug 13 (Agencies): Authorities have tightened security, including checking of vehicles on the Jammu-Srinagar Highway, ahead of the 78th Independence Day.

Security personnel were seen carrying out security checks for the safe and smooth conduct of the celebrations.

Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Udhampur Prehlad Kumar appealed to the public to report any suspicious activity to the police.



"The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and other security forces are conducting the security

checks apart from the normal security checks conducted by the Jammu and Kashmir police," DSP Kumar said. He added, "We are

checking different vehicles commuting on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway. We advise everyone to inform the police if they witness anything suspicious...."

Meanwhile, the Head Post Office in Udhampur took out a 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign on Tuesday. The post office staff and its customers participated in the campaign.

Assistant Superintendent of Post, Udhampur Postal Division, Mahesh

Turn to page 9

## Junior doctors, others summoned for questioning in Kolkata doctor rape-murder case

KOLKATA, Aug 13 (Agencies): Four junior doctors are among those summoned by Kolkata police for questioning on Tuesday in connection with the murder and alleged sexual assault case of a second year postgraduate student at a government-run hospital in the city last week.

The junior doctors of the RG Kar Medical College in the city have been summoned today at the Kolkata police headquarters in Lalbazar.

The doctors who had dinner with the deceased



are not accused but have been summoned for questioning according to police sources. "Four junior doctors who had dinner with her have been

summoned again," they said. "Kolkata police also summoned the Head of Department, Assistant

Turn to page 9

## Pakistani intruder shot dead by BSF along Punjab Border

JALANDHAR (Punjab), Aug 13 (Agencies): A suspected Pakistani intruder trying to infiltrate into India from the Punjab border was shot dead by the BSF amid an ongoing "high alert" ahead of Independence Day.

A Border Security Force (BSF) spokesperson said the man was spotted "surreptitiously" crossing the

international boundary in the Dal village of Tarn Taran district around 8:30 pm on Monday and approaching the border fence.

The BSF personnel on duty challenged the intruder but he did not stop and continued to advance towards the border security fence, the spokesperson said.

Turn to page 9

## Cong holds meeting of State Chiefs, General Secretaries ahead of key State polls

NEW DELHI, Aug 13 (Agencies): Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday held a meeting with all general secretaries, state unit chiefs and AICC state in-charges here as the party gets battle-ready for the upcoming round of assembly polls.

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi, gen-



eral secretaries Jairam Ramesh and KC Venugopal, among others, were

part of the meeting at the AICC headquarters here.

Turn to page 9

## Amarnath Yatra suspended due to inclement weather

SRINAGAR, Aug 13 (Agencies): The Amarnath Yatra was suspended on Tuesday on both the Pahalgam and Baltal routes in Jammu and Kashmir due to inclement weather following heavy rains earlier in the week.

Ashish, a pilgrim from Bihar who had arrived in Srinagar on Monday

evening, expressed hope about the Yatra resuming very soon.

"We got to know that the Yatra has been shut down for some reasons. We received the input that Yatra would be resuming today. We will pay the obeisance for sure," he said.

Turn to page 9

## Policeman injured in Gurez road accident dies

SRINAGAR, Aug 13 (Agencies): A Special Police Officer (SPO), who was injured in a road accident on August 3, succumbed to his injuries in the hospital last night, reports said Tuesday.

Quoting officials, news agency KNC reported that the SPO identified

Turn to page 9

## JK Police say they arrested nine after busting major terror module

JAMMU, Aug 13 (Agencies): In a significant counter-insurgency operation, the Jammu and Kashmir Police said they have successfully dismantled a terror module operating in the Samba-Kathua sector, leading to the arrest of nine individuals accused of aiding Pakistani infil-

trators. The group was allegedly responsible for facilitating the movement of militants from the International Border to the upper reaches of Udhampur, Kathua, and Doda districts.

The kingpin of the module, Mohammad Lateef alias Haji Lateef, a resident of Ambe Naal

in Kathua, was identified as the key facilitator, according to the details published in major newspapers. He is accused of providing shelter to infiltrators in remote dhoks (temporary shelters) after they infiltrated from Pakistan. Lateef's activities came under scrutiny

Turn to page 9

## Army Commander reviews Anti-Terror Operations in Chenab Valley

JAMMU, Aug 13 (Agencies): Northern Army Commander Lt Gen M V Suchindra Kumar on Tuesday reviewed the ongoing anti-terrorist operations in the Chenab valley region of Jammu and Kashmir.

Lt Gen Kumar visited the forward locations of counter-insurgency

Delta force in Doda and Kishtwar and exhorted all ranks to maintain a high tempo of operations, ensuring security and safety for ongoing and upcoming events, the Army's Northern Command posted on X.

The Army shared four pictures of the General Officer Commanding-

in-chief, northern command's interaction with the troops on the ground.

"He (Lt Gen Kumar) assessed the options for deployment of additional forces being inducted into the area and emphasised on synergy with Jammu and Kashmir police and paramilitary forces," the

Turn to page 9

# MBA MOTORS

## MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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

NAGROTA, JAMMU (J&K) +91-9086207123

## Search operation continues in Kokernag four days after gunfight

SRINAGAR, Aug 13 (Agencies): Search operation continued in the Kokernag area of J&K's Anantnag district on Tuesday, four days after the encounter in which two soldiers and a civilian were killed.

Officials said that more reinforcements had already been rushed to the Gandole Ahlan area of Kokernag where the encounter with the terrorists took place four days ago.

"Massive searches are on in the area to hunt down the terrorists. The encounter broke out between the security forces and the terrorists in the Gandole Ahlan area of Kokernag in which two army soldiers and one civilian were killed. Search operation has been extended to the Kishtwar-Doda axis which is connected with Kokernag through mountain passes," officials said.

Turn to page 9





## EDITORIAL

## Full Dress Rehearsal

A full dress rehearsal for Independence Day is a significant event in India, serving as a comprehensive practice session before the actual celebrations on August 15th.

This rehearsal, typically held a few days before Independence Day, involves a meticulous run-through of the various components of the official ceremony. Here's a detailed overview of what a full dress rehearsal on Independence Day entails:

The primary purpose of the full dress rehearsal is to ensure that every aspect of the Independence Day celebrations runs smoothly. It allows the organizers, participants, and security personnel to identify and rectify any potential issues. This rehearsal is crucial for the success of the event, as it helps in synchronizing the various elements of the ceremony, including the parade, cultural performances, and security arrangements.

The rehearsal involves a wide range of participants, including members of the armed forces, police personnel, school children, and cultural troupes. Each participant is required to follow a strict schedule to ensure that everything is in place for the final event.

The armed forces and police personnel play a critical role in the Independence Day celebrations. They participate in the parade, showcasing the country's military strength and discipline. The rehearsal allows them to practice their formations, timings, and coordination, ensuring that everything is executed perfectly on the day.

School children and cultural troupes participate in various performances that showcase India's rich cultural heritage. These performances are an integral part of the Independence Day celebrations, and the rehearsal helps in fine-tuning their presentations.

Dignitaries, including the Prime Minister, the President, and other prominent officials, also participate in the rehearsal. This helps in coordinating their movements and ensuring that the ceremony proceeds smoothly.

The full dress rehearsal is a comprehensive run-through of the entire Independence Day ceremony. Here are some of the key components of the rehearsal:

The rehearsal begins with a mock flag hoisting ceremony, where the flag is hoisted in the same manner as it will be on Independence Day. This is followed by the national anthem, which is sung by the participants and attendees.

The parade is a major highlight of the Independence Day celebrations. The rehearsal involves a detailed run-through of the parade, with participants practicing their formations, timings, and movements. This includes marching contingents from the army, navy, air force, and police, as well as bands and other performers.

Cultural performances are an important part of the Independence Day celebrations. The rehearsal allows the performers to practice their routines and ensure that they are synchronized with the overall flow of the ceremony.

Security is a top priority during the Independence Day celebrations. The rehearsal provides an opportunity for the security personnel to practice their drills and ensure that all security measures are in place.

The full dress rehearsal is crucial for the success of the Independence Day celebrations. It helps in ensuring that all participants are well-prepared and that any potential issues are identified and addressed. This includes checking the sound systems, rehearsing the timings of the various segments, and ensuring that all logistical arrangements are in place.

The full dress rehearsal for Independence Day is a vital part of the preparations for the celebrations. It ensures that every aspect of the ceremony is meticulously planned and executed, allowing the nation to come together to celebrate its independence with pride and joy. The rehearsal not only highlights the discipline and coordination of the participants but also showcases the rich cultural heritage of India.

## Tech-driven initiatives are redefining judiciary

By: Justice DY Chandrachud  
(Chief Justice of India)

I AM delighted to deliver the inaugural address at this national conference, which aims to explore the transformative impact of technology on India's courts and map our future trajectory. The convening of this conference underscores the significant progress we have made in harnessing technology to enhance justice delivery. Even before I assumed the office of Chief Justice of India, I had the privilege of serving as the chairperson of the Supreme Court's e-committee. I have closely observed the remarkable evolution in our discourse on the subject over the last four years, progressing from discussing the need for technology to delving into its intricacies and best practices. Today, technology is acknowledged as an indispensable catalyst for accessible justice.

There is no better evidence of the depth of our discourse than the agenda of this conference, carefully curated by our colleagues from the High Court of Punjab and Haryana. The discussions on themes ranging from technical strategies to critical issues like artificial intelligence (AI) and data security highlight how we are no longer debating whether to adopt technology but rather how best to harness it. When I was a young judge of the Bombay High Court, most judges didn't even know how to operate a desktop. Yet, look at how much we have transformed as an institution and as individuals. People often remark when I approach the desk, "Oh Chief, are you going to talk about technology once again?" But what they may not realise is that technology, as a tool to access justice,

is deeply intertwined with the very foundations of our republic. It enhances transparency, democracy and equitable access to justice — values that are the cornerstone of our republic.

One quintessential example of technology augmenting transparency in our judicial system is the live-streaming of cases and the facility of hybrid hearings. Virtual hearings are now a normative practice across the country, from the Supreme Court to tribunals, and have been used to hear over eight lakh cases. This shift amplifies transparency and accountability for litigants, lawyers and the public. With hybrid hearings, lawyers can appear before courts across the country, ensuring that the best legal representation is accessible to our citizens. Even litigants can log into their hearings and witness proceedings firsthand, holding us judges accountable for our words and actions.

Innovative initiatives like the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) have revolutionised transparency in our judicial system. The NJDG provides real-time data on case pendency and disposal rates, empowering citizens to monitor court efficiency. I invite the chief justices to encourage all administrative judges of the high courts to use the NJDG. The virtual justice clock installed in courts across the country takes this a step further, offering a visual representation of key parameters. AI-generated transcripts of arguments before the Supreme Court's Constitution Benches have created a valuable, freely available resource for researchers, legal practitioners and academics. These transcripts offer a reliable record of deliberations, and I find them extremely helpful when crafting judgments on complex questions of law.

Transparency not only makes our institution more accountable but also enhances the quality of our jurisprudence. When I was invited to become a judge of the high court in 1998, I consulted many learned people. One of them, Justice AP Sen, told me that a judge always leaves footprints in the sand — the written word. Today, with the benefit of modern technology, the transcripts of legal arguments presented would be an eternal resource for future generations to understand the legal minds that shaped our decisions.

The facility of hybrid hearings also plays a vital role in increasing access to justice. A classic example is a special Lok Adalat organised by the Supreme Court recently, which successfully disposed of over a thousand pending cases. This lok adalat would not have been possible without technology. Members of District Legal Services Authorities, litigants and lawyers from across the country participated effortlessly, enhancing efficiency and promoting equity and accessibility.

For democracy to flourish, every citizen must feel connected to our institutions. One significant barrier preventing citizens from engaging with the judiciary, especially the high courts and the Supreme Court, is language. Our higher judiciary predominantly carries out its official work in English. However, with the help of the Supreme Court Vidic Anuvad Software (SUVAS), we are actively translating judgments into regional languages. To date, 69,841 judgments have been translated and uploaded, including 36,280 in Hindi, 20,119 in Punjabi, and others in languages like Malayalam, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu and Gujarati.

Democratising the judicial

system requires more than just installing world-class technological infrastructure. We must ensure that this technology reaches and benefits every corner of the country. The establishment of e-seva kendras nationwide is essential to complementing our virtual infrastructure. These centres empower litigants to access case information, facilitate e-filing and bridge the access-to-justice gap for citizens who may not have access or need support to utilise our virtual facilities.

As part of our mission of inclusion, we have been holding training programmes for differently abled staff across high courts in India, making them aware of the technological tools available for effective work. This address would be incomplete without discussing the role of AI in the judicial process and the legal profession. While AI can augment tasks that can be automated, it cannot replace the innovative spark, emotional intelligence and nuanced judgments that define our humanity.

The Supreme Court has opened up its web portal for a second hackathon focusing on AI, with themes like using AI to lift metadata from case files and developing intelligent chatbots for litigants. The world is moving at an enormous pace and we must be open to absorbing ideas from beyond the judiciary. The legal profession can deeply benefit from AI and automation for routine tasks, leaving lawyers with more time for high-value activities like legal strategy and innovative argumentation. While we must welcome AI and technology, we must ensure they serve to augment our human capabilities and not replace them.

Excerpted from CJI's address held at the Chandigarh Judicial Academy on Saturday

## Too early for India to intervene in Bangladesh

By: K. P. Nayar

THE best option for India in dealing with Bangladesh after the exit of Sheikh Hasina into exile is not to do anything now. With a torrent of advice, suggestions, tips and hypothetical expertise flowing from the humble teashops of Siliguri in West Bengal to think tanks in New Delhi brimming with erudition, it is not easy for policymakers in the national capital to sit tight while an important neighbouring country is in turmoil.

The government was particularly vulnerable to criticism by the political class because Parliament was in session when Hasina left her country and arrived in India. Ministers and senior officials had to be seen as being responsive to the situation across the eastern border or face flak. Besides, the evolving national mood in India in the last decade has been one of assertion, be it in foreign policy or sports, to mention two spheres of activity that are currently dominating the 24-hour news cycle.

Beyond urging restraint and perhaps making an issue of Hinduphobia at the UN, can India do anything to stop the attacks on minorities in Bangladesh?

To borrow from the memorable phraseology of then US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld in the run-up to the invasion of Iraq two decades ago, there is little point in discussing the 'known knowns' about Bangladesh. That has been the essence of public discourse in this country since student protests erupted in Bangladesh. What is important are the 'unknown unknowns' about Bangladesh. Rumsfeld had said in 2002 that

these are "the ones we don't know that we don't know. And if one looks throughout the history of our country and other free countries, it is the latter category that tends to be the difficult ones."

That being the case, India must pause until the unknown unknowns about Bangladesh — the domestic evolution there, its external dimensions, the fallout on India, etc — translate into the first category, that is, the known knowns. As a rule, governments and their image-makers are loath to accept inaction as policy. Former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao was an exception to this. He once famously remarked that "even not taking a decision is a decision." Rao practised this dictum in many spheres when he was the head of government in a fluid political environment, often with remarkable success. India's best recourse now is to follow this truism in dealing with the uncertain situation that has unfolded in Bangladesh. In any case, the stark reality is that India is currently in no position to influence the events there. Beyond urging restraint and perhaps making an issue of Hinduphobia at the United Nations, can India do anything to stop the attacks on minorities and prevent further destruction of Hindu temples in Bangladesh? Surely, the Indian Army is not going to march across the border to provide security to temples and preserve them! At television studios across this country, panellists who seek their 15 minutes of fame are not going to accept that India is helpless in this matter. Even if it were feasible, the Indian government is not foolhardy enough to resort to any such course. If there is a fundamental threat to India's national security, the Cabinet Com-

mittee on Security will surely act, as it has done many times before. But we are not there yet. Incendiary rhetoric, a sadly familiar feature of Indian society now, must stop.

If India is to have a realistic Bangladesh policy once things settle down in Dhaka, it must not fall for fanciful depictions of how good things were in the neighbouring country during Hasina's rule. It is a safe assumption based on extended conversations and the fallout of public opinion from Kolkata to Kochi and from Gurugram to Gandhinagar that most Indians have come to believe that the best is behind for Bangladesh. And that it is now staring into an abyss of regressive forces and Islamic nationalists whose agenda is to destroy the friendship that Hasina struggled to create with successive Indian leaders. There is, of course, no polling or any scientific evidence to support this assertion.

No one will dispute that Bangladesh's performance in many sectors was worthy of emulation by other similarly placed nations. After all, how many other countries in our time have pulled themselves up by their bootstraps and graduated out of the Least Developed Country rankings by global parameters? Dhaka would have done just that in two more years, but that outcome is now in doubt — unless its new, interim leader, Muhammad Yunus, can perform a miracle of creating national cohesion and sustaining human development alongside.

Even those who have only dabbled in foreign policy — though for decades — know that India has gone through this before. When the Shah of Iran had to flee his country in 1979, much like Hasina now, Indians were similarly sorry because he had tried to be friends with India

in his later years as a monarch. He had downgraded relations with Pakistan in a zero-sum game. Most Indians failed to grasp the meaning of Iran's historic Islamic revolution. New Delhi had a tough time building bridges with Qom, and relations did not stabilise until Rao visited Tehran in 1993.

A serious mistake that Indians are making in forming their opinions about Hasina's troubles and Yunus' challenge is to conclude that Bangladesh was a peaceful country during the now-exiled Prime Minister's rule. Bangladesh was created because the blood of East Bengalis was being shed before Partition and after it became East Pakistan. Its bloodletting has continued throughout. If Hasina had not fled, she would have likely met the same tragic fate as her father.

Counting mutinies, revolts and coups d'état — all with fatalities — Bangladesh has encountered 15 attempts to change its governments by force. Two of its Presidents have been assassinated. In addition, the army has intervened to change governments peacefully. No other country in South Asia has experienced such violent transfers of power. By comparison, Pakistan has had only five successful coups. 'Wait and watch' is one of the more popular clichés in diplomacy, although in reality it has no meaning. It is to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's credit that he did not use this worn-out cliché when he briefed Parliament on August 6 about developments in India's eastern neighbourhood. With formidable resources, both overt and covert, India will hopefully be in a position to act if the situation demands in a few months. Now is not the time to act.

# "Yeh Science Hai": Amitabh, Manoj Pahwa partner with GSK for new shingles awareness, prevention campaign

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 13: GSK today launched a new campaign on Shingles awareness, featuring veteran actors Amitabh Bachchan and Manoj Pahwa, explaining the scientific link between chickenpox and Shingles. The campaign films use everyday conversations between two friends to talk about shingles and the increased susceptibility of shingles in people with diabetes.

Commenting on the campaign, Manoj Pahwa said, "I am in an age group that is susceptible to shingles, and through GSK's shingles awareness campaigns I have understood more about this painful disease and its associated risk factors. I have faced multiple health problems and know how difficult

it is to lead an active and fulfilling life when affected by infectious diseases. I am proud to be a part of this initiative to educate people about the cause of shingles and the importance of prevention. I encourage adults over 50 years, to talk to their doctors about shingles and its prevention."

Shingles is caused by the re-activation of the virus that lies dormant in the nerves if a person has had chickenpox. [iv] People with a history of chickenpox who also have diabetes face a 40% higher risk of developing shingles. [v] High blood sugar levels can weaken the immune system, [vi] and when that happens it can increase the risk of reactivation of the chickenpox virus and emergence of shingles.

Vigyeta Agrawal,

Patient Empowerment Head, GSK said, "The 2023 API-Ipsos survey showed that even those who had shingles did not know the cause of this painful disease. [viii] It is essential that all people above the age of 50 years know about shingles and its prevention. We wanted to explain the science behind the cause of shingles and the link between chickenpox and shingles in a simple manner. Amitabh Bachchan has an unparalleled ability to connect with people across all demographics. We are confident that having him as the face of the campaign will help us reach and encourage more people, especially ageing adults, to talk to their doctor about shingles and its prevention."

Harikrishnan Pillai, co-founder and CEO,

Blitzkraig, an arm of TheSmallBigIdea Network, said, "The campaign comprises of two campaign films. One film shows two ageing friends reminiscing about school days and establishes the link between chickenpox and shingles, while the other depicts a caring bond between two friends and focuses on increased vulnerability of people with diabetes to shingles. The 'Yeh Science Hai' campaign urges adults above the age of 50 to talk to their doctor about shingles and its prevention. The messages that come through are clear and memorable."

R. Balki, the Director, commenting on the creative insight for the film said "Shingles is a disease that is misunderstood by many people. The challenge was to talk

about the link between shingles and chickenpox in an easy-to-understand and engaging manner. I was instantly aligned with how TheSmallBigIdea crafted a simple and strong message. In this case, clarity, not creativity, was the need of the hour."

The campaign films will be released across multiple platforms, including YouTube (mobile and connected TV), Google Display, Meta, select OTT platforms, Paytm, Google Pay, and various TV channels spanning multiple genres such as general entertainment channels (GEC), movies, and news in both Hindi and regional languages. Additionally, a partnership has been established with the popular television quiz show Kaun Banega Crorepati (KBC) for this campaign.

# Muslim Rashtriya Manch J&K carries out plantation drive

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 13: Muslim Rashtriya Manch (MRM) Jammu and Kashmir organized a plantation drive under the "Ek Paid Maa Ke Naam" campaign at Ranbir Canal pathway Akhnoor road here on Tuesday.

Office bearers of MRM actively participated in the drive. On this occasion, the MRM legal advisor J&K, Ladakh UTs Adv. Malikzada Mohd Shahzad led the initiative by planting a sapling, symbolizing the commitment to a cleaner and greener environment.

"The event was aimed at raising the awareness about the significance of tree plantation in promoting environmental sustainability and enhancing air quality and the activity was also to involve civil society members to create sense of belonging towards the delicate environment," Adv Malik asserted.

He further stated that the "Ek Paid Maa Ke Naam"



campaign is dedicated to fostering cleanliness and hygiene in communities.

It worthwhile that the plantation drive at Akhnoor road park not only contributed to the beautification of the area but also emphasized the importance of tree plantation in combating climate change and providing a healthier living environment. "Such initiatives are crucial in instilling a sense of responsibility towards nature and encouraging collective efforts to maintain cleanliness and greenery," he maintained.

Prominent among those who were present on the occasion included, Gulshan Kumar (Organiser J&K, Ladakh UT's), Amir Iqbal Khan Spokesperson and Media/IT J&K, Ladakh UT's, Adv. Prithvi Raj Darora, Jagdish Choudhary, Yash Pal, Rayees Ahmed Sheikh State Secretary Jammu province, Fayaz Ahmed Wani Co-Convenor Jammu province, Anwar Khan, Jeet Kumar Sharma and others.

# 'Operation Lotus not working for AAP'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 13: In a press statement, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, Senior AAP leader in Jammu and Kashmir, expressed that "Operation Lotus" has failed to make an impact on AAP leaders like Manish Sisodia, Satinder Jain, Sanjay Singh, and other AAP councilors in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) as well as the ministers and MLAs in the Delhi and Punjab governments.

He claimed that the BJP-led government has been exposed for making what he termed as "white lies."

He also questioned the government's promises regarding transferring Rs 15 lakh to every



household, doubling farmers' income by the end of 2022, ensuring Minimum Support Price (MSP) benefits, generating 2 crore jobs annually, reducing corruption, and various other promises.

Rao criticized the perception of progress following the abrogation of Article 370, stating that the expectations of reducing corruption

in key departments like Rural Development, Health, Education, and Roads & Buildings, and ensuring transparency, remain unmet. He highlighted the lack of change in the contractual system of appointing lecturers in higher education, and criticized the ongoing issue of appointing corrupt bureaucrats.

Furthermore, Rao pointed out the ongoing unemployment issues, particularly among the educated youth in J&K, leading to delays in marriages, depression, and even pushing them towards drug addiction and militancy.

He asserted that the existing political system, which he perceives as corrupt, commission-

based, and caste-based, does not ensure safety for any community, including Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists, Sikhs, and Christians.

He called for those disillusioned with the current political system in J&K, regardless of their caste, creed, or color, to support the Aam Aadmi Party. Rao advocated for the Kejriwal model of development, which emphasizes world-class education and healthcare, as well as affordable electricity and water, similar to the initiatives implemented in Delhi. He dismissed the formation of new political outfits in J&K as merely repackaging old ideas without genuine change, labeling it as "old wine in new bottles."

# GDC R S Pura attends sensitization programme

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 13: Department of Botany, GDC RS Pura, attended one day sensitization programme on agri-entrepreneurship, its scope and various schemes related to RKVY RAFTAAR at SKUAST.

A total of 22 students along with HOD Botany Dr. Rajinder Sharma, Dr. Neeti Chibber and Dr. Renu



Sharma participated enthusiastically in the programme.

The students were informed about the various schemes for the new innovation and start ups.

They were also informed about the use and benefits of nanofertilizers over traditional fertilizers.

Principal of the college Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour appreciated the event and impressed upon the students to attend such programmes on regular basis and derive benefit out of it.

# SSP Kishtwar chairs SMAC meeting to ensure security ahead of forthcoming I-Day

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Aug 13: In a concerted effort to bolster security and intelligence collaboration, SSP Kishtwar, Abdul Qayoom chaired a pivotal Subsidiary Multi-Agency Centre (SMAC) meeting at the District Police Headquarters Kishtwar on Tuesday.

The session saw the attendance of officers from the Police, Army, CAPF, and various intelligence agencies operating within the district.

The meeting involved a comprehensive discussion on the current security landscape, particularly in view of recent terrorist activities. Participants exchanged critical insights, suggestions, and assessments, with a



primary focus on formulating joint strategies for efficient ground monitoring. This included plans for effective area domination, surveillance on anti-social elements, real-time intelligence sharing, and social media monitoring in preparation for Independence Day-2024. Specific instructions were issued to ensure robust security measures during these significant occasions.

SSP Kishtwar emphasized the necessity of a unified approach to maintain the district's peaceful atmosphere. Strategies were carefully devised to preempt disruptive activities and counter rumor dissemination, particularly during the Independence Day celebrations and other festivals. Officers were encouraged to work in unison to ensure

a coordinated response to potential challenges, with special attention to the unique security needs of these events.

Stressing the importance of coordination and high-level synergy, SSP Kishtwar advised that all security forces share any potential information promptly for real-time action.

The meeting concluded positively, with a strong commitment to enhanced cooperation among all agencies. SSP Kishtwar expressed optimism that these collective efforts would significantly contribute to maintaining security and tranquility in the district during the upcoming Independence Day and associated festivities.

# Anti-Ragging Day observed at GCoE

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 13: The Government College of Education (GCoE) commenced its Anti-Ragging Week with the observation of Anti-Ragging Day.

The event began with an Orientation and Sensitization Programme specifically organized for the newly admitted students of the B.Ed course, which will be followed by a series of activities and awareness programs throughout the Anti-Ragging Week, running from 12th August to 18th August 2024.

Principal Dr. Jyoti Parihar addressed the students during the event, emphasizing the critical importance of main-



taining a ragging-free campus.

She highlighted the college's firm stance against any form of ragging, encouraging students to contribute to a culture of respect and harmony within the institution.

Dr. Parihar also underscored the legal and ethical responsibilities of students in creating a safe and inclusive educational environment.

Dr. Rakesh Bharti, Con-

attended by esteemed faculty members, including Prof. Satish Kumar, Dr. Rajinder Kour, Prof. Sunanda Rani, Prof. Priyanka Mahajan, and Prof. Rupa Kumari, who collectively expressed their support for the college's anti-ragging initiatives.

The Anti-Ragging Week will feature various activities, including anti-ragging video messages, slogan writing, poster making, social media posts and interactive sessions, all aimed at raising awareness and educating students about the consequences of ragging and the importance of maintaining a respectful and supportive academic environment.

**JALSHAKTIDEPARTMENT, JAMMU**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) CITY DIVISION NO-1, JAMMU**

0191-2543654 (Fax) E-Mail: xenphec1@gmail.com

**NOTICE INVITING SHORT TERM E-TENDER**  
**E-NIT0.JS/PHECD-1/16 of 2024-25**

For and on behalf of The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, of J&K Union Territory, E-Tender (Item Rate Based) is invited by the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No-1, Jammu, from approved and eligible contractor of appropriate class registered with UT of Jammu and Kashmir/ other UT's or State Govt./CPWD/MES registered firms/contractors under two cover system, Cover 1 comprising of technical bid and cover 2 comprising of financial bid for the following work:-

S. No.	Name of work	Cost of Tender (In Rs)	Cost of Tender document Fees (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit	Class of Contractor	Time of Completion
1	Improvement & upgradation of water supply of Kunda wali Gali and Gamla Wali Gali W.No 34 under UT Capex (Financial Assistance to JMC).	Rs.9.13 lacs	Rs.500/-	Rs. 18260/-	A to D	90 days
2	Improvement of water supply Moh. Gurah Chablian (under WSS Bakshi Nagar) in Bakshi Nagar section. under UT Capex (Financial Assistance to JMC).	Rs.2.35 lacs	Rs.200/-	Rs.4700/-	A to D	30 days
3	Providing of water supply to newly developed Kaliveer Colony W.No 59. under UT Capex (Financial Assistance to JMC).	Rs.4.51 lacs	Rs.200/-	Rs.9020/-	A to D	45 days
4	Improvement of water supply near Jeasus Convent School Khajuria Mohalla at Thather Paloura. under UT Capex (Financial Assistance to JMC).	Rs.1.92 lacs	Rs.200/-	Rs.3840/-	A to D	30 days
5	Improvement of water supply Ward no.40 Durga Nagar (Pocket H Sector 11) under UT Capex (Financial Assistance to JMC).	Rs.1.10 lacs	Rs.200/-	Rs.2200/-	A to D	15 days
6	Improvement and upgradation of water supply of Dhok Paloura near the house of Anil Kumar Chouhan under UT Capex (Financial Assistance to JMC).	Rs.1.57 lacs	Rs.200/-	Rs.3140/-	A to D	30 days
7	Improvement of water supply to Poonchi Mohalla at Thather under UT Capex (Financial Assistance to JMC).	Rs.0.75 lacs	Rs.200/-	Rs.1500/-	A to D	30 days
8	Improvement of water supply of lane no.8 Rajpura mangotrian ward no.29 under UT Capex (Financial Assistance to JMC).	Rs.334500/-	Rs.200/-	Rs.6690/-	A to D	45 days
9	Improvement of water supply of lane no.23 Rajpura mangotrian ward no.29 under UT Capex (Financial Assistance to JMC).	Rs.326200/-	Rs.200/-	Rs.6530/-	A to D	45 days

**Position of funds : Partially Available for the Year 2024-25**

- Date of publishing:-10/08/2024 (1800Hrs)
- Biddocumentscanbeseenanddownloadedfromthewebsite [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) from 10/08/2024 (1800Hrs) onwards.
- The bids shall be uploaded on the website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) from 10/08/2024 (1800Hrs) to 24/08/2024 upto (1200Hrs).
- The complete bidding process shall be online.

Sd/-  
**Executive Engineer**  
Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No-1  
Jammu

No:PHECD-1/2256-61 DIP/J-4315/24  
Dated:- 10-08-2024

## Truth behind Abhishek Bachchan 'denying divorce rumours' with Aishwarya Rai

Abhishek Bachchan and Aishwarya Rai married in 2007, and welcomed their daughter Aaradhya Bachchan in 2011. Over the last few months, rumours of the actors' divorce have resurfaced. Recent reports raised a hullabaloo when they claimed that Abhishek had finally broken his silence on divorce rumours with Aishwarya. However, it turns Abhishek's statement was from an old interview and not a recent one as was widely reported by many news portals.

What Abhishek Bachchan said and when

Contradictory to fresh reports, Abhishek made a statement about his marriage days after attending the premiere of Aishwarya's 2016 film, *Sarbjit*. While speaking with media, when asked by a reporter if 'things were not good' between him and Aishwarya based on their recent public appearances together, Abhishek had said, "I don't have to say anything to you all about



that."

He also showed off his wedding ring and confirmed that he was 'still married' to Aishwarya. Abhishek said, "I think, you all have blown the entire thing out of proportion, sadly. But I understand why you do it. You all have to file some stories. It's okay, we're celebrities, we have

to take it. Still married, sorry."

Divorce rumours

Abhishek and Aishwarya once again sparked divorce rumours when they arrived separately for Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's star-studded wedding in Mumbai on July 12. Abhishek made a grand entry with Amitabh Bachchan,

Jaya Bachchan, Shweta Bachchan, Navya Naveli Nanda and Agastya Nanda. Meanwhile, Aishwarya arrived separately with daughter Aaradhya Bachchan.

Around the same time, last month, Abhishek also made headlines after he 'liked' an Instagram post on divorce amid separation rumours from Aishwarya. The text on the post read, "When love stops being easy."

The caption read, "Divorce is never easy for anyone. Who doesn't dream of a happily ever after or envision recreating those heartwarming videos of elderly couples holding hands as they cross the street? Yet, sometimes life doesn't unfold as we hoped. But how do people cope when they separate after decades together, after spending a significant portion of their lives relying on each other for both big and small things?"

## Shatrughan Sinha says daughter's marriage not 'illegal & unconstitutional'



Politician and veteran actor Shatrughan Sinha has spoken about his actress-daughter Son-

akshi Sinha's wedding with Zaheer Iqbal and said it is not "illegal and unconstitutional".

Shatrughan said, "This is a matter of marriage... Secondly, if the kids got married, it is not illegal and unconstitutional. They did it with their own wishes and our blessings. So, I appreciate it."

"Who will stand with my daughter if I don't... My wife Poonam Sinha and I, got together to celebrate her wedding. This is about their happiness. Tagging them as "made for each other", Shatrughan said, "Parents will always stand for their children's happiness and I feel that our children are happy. I call them made for each other and we are very happy for them." On June 23 Sonakshi married her long-time beau Zaheer.

## Siddhant joins Shaitani Rasmein

Siddhant Issar, son of renowned actor and villain Puneet Issar, is set to portray the character of Maalikin in Star Bharat's show *Shaitani Rasmein*. Says Siddhant, "I manifested this opportunity for years. I have a wardrobe filled with long black clothes and silver jewelry because I've always been drawn to devilish characters. I am a fan of series like *Lucifer* and *The Witcher*, and had been waiting for something like this. When I got the call, I couldn't believe it fell into my lap. It's a never-before-seen portrayal on Indian television. My father, Puneet Issar, was the first Duryodhan on Indian TV, and I will be the first Shaitaan. My dad always told me that playing a negative role would unexpectedly polish my skills."

He adds, "Life comes a full circle. If the universe has given me the chance to live my dream, then with Maalik, I aim to present audiences with the most



charismatic, charming, smart, stylish, and suave villain Indian screens have ever

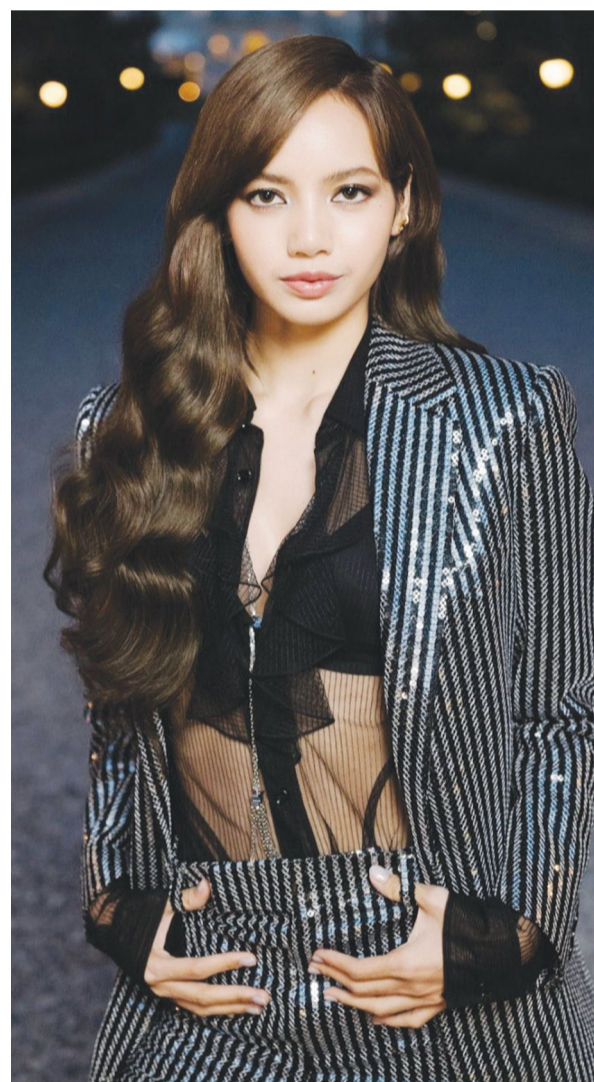
seen. *Shaitani Rasmein* is a blessing for me, and working with Nikhil sir is literally a dream."

## 'Rockstar' Lisa sets the record straight on Blackpink's group status amid members' solo careers

In case you missed it, Blackpink is here to stay. However, if there's even the slimmest sliver of doubt about the K-pop girl group's future, Lisa Manobal just spilled the beans, AGAIN, for your peace of mind.

Almost a month after YG Entertainment's founder Yang Hyun Suk laid out the artistic plans for all groups under the agency's banner, the Thai rapper has addressed the status of group activities for the quartet. Given the music act's current chapter, rife with group silence, as all four members chart out their separate courses in different directions as soloists, fans have been severely concerned about Blackpink projects.

Dealing with a K-pop group's radio silence era is no job for the faint-hearted, and the same scenario was fleshing out in Blackpink's backyard until YG announced a cohesive schedule brimming with



world tours all around.

In June 2024, Lisa released her first solo single - *Rockstar* - in three years, which also marked her first release since departing YG Entertainment and launching her own label, LLOUD. The hip-hop track's cyberpunk visuals paid homage to Lisa's Thai roots, revealing a new side to the beloved artist. Soon after that, YG confirmed that Blackpink members would soon be reuniting for a new comeback and world tour series, ready to kick-off in 2025.

The simple and straightforward answer is yes. Although all four members - Jisoo, Jennie, Rosé, and Lisa - declined renewing their solo contracts with the label, their group still remains signed to YG as an entity - hence the world tour announcement.

Further dispelling any fears of a potential disbandment, Lisa came clean in an August

interview with ELLE. "Of course we're continuing, for sure," the Thai "Rockstar" confirmed.

"We're so proud of Blackpink, and I love Blackpink. It is not just because of our fans, it's for ourselves," she added before switching to Korean to say, "There was no doubt. This is our life."

However, that's not to say that her solo endeavours will be taking a back seat in the meantime.

The 27-year-old rapper is set to take on her first acting role in the Thailand-set *The White Lotus* Season 3. Filmed in Bangkok, and the islands of Phuket and Koh Samui, the HBO hit sensation is expected to arrive sometime in 2025.

In the meantime, Lisa's brand-new collaborative track, *New Woman*, featuring Spanish star Rosalia is almost here. The exciting music release will officially roll out on streaming platforms on August 15.

## Keerthy Suresh was supposed to play a 'human' role in Kalki 2898 AD



Keerthy Suresh, who shares a close association with director Nag Ashwin due to their hit film *Mahanati* (2018), revealed that she turned down playing a 'human' role in his sci-fi film *Kalki 2898 AD*. In an interview with *Galatta Plus*, the actor shared that she was offered another role before the AI bot Bujji.

"I wasn't sure of it" Keerthy shared during the interview that she turned down a role because she wasn't sure of it but knew she wanted to be a part of the film somehow. She said, "Nagi offered

me another role in the film, which I wasn't sure of. It was a human role, I'm glad I said no to it now. He later messaged me one day and said, do you want to peep through the wall at least? I said I would love to do it." Keerthy also clarified that she wasn't talking about the role Anna Ben played in the film, a rebel named Kyra, which she called 'really nice'.

"I didn't understand initially when he said he wanted me to voice an AI bot. I dubbed for Bujji & Bhairava (on Amazon Prime) before I worked on the film. I had a ball

dubbing for the role in multiple languages, giving 5-6 modulations in each language to see which would suit it best. Dubbing for a film is normally easier," she added.

About *Kalki 2898 AD* In the film, Keerthy played BU-JZ-1, aka Bujji, an AI droid for whom Bhairava (Prabhas) builds a 'body'. Bujji & Bhairava was an animated prelude released ahead of the film, setting up the world of *Kalki 2898 AD*, apart from the characters. Deepika Padukone played SU-M80, aka Sumathi, in the film, Kamal Haasan played Supreme Yaskin, and Amitabh Bachchan played Ashwatthama. Disha Patani played Bhairava's on-again, off-again girlfriend Roxie.

Upcoming work Keerthy will soon be seen in the Tamil films *Raghu Thatha*, *Revolver Rita* and *Kannivedi*. She is also debuting in Bollywood with *Baby John*, starring Varun Dhawan. The film is a remake of the Tamil film *Theri*, directed by Atlee and starring Vijay.

## Taapsee in a happy space



Bollywood actress Taapsee Pannu is happy with the response her latest film *Phir Aayi Hasseen Dillrub* is getting and said she is already looking forward to what all can be done in the next part. Taapsee said, "Doing a sequel is always tricky because the first one comes with no expectations and if people like it, it becomes a hit. But with sequels come expectations, which are always tricky to meet."

The actress said she is glad people have loved her character of Rani and the film more than the first one. "I knew how much people loved Rani from part one, so I kept those expectations in mind when I approached the next part," she said.

Looking forward, the actress said, "This response has been so validating that I'm already looking forward to what all we can possibly do in the next part."

The first part, which was titled *Hasseen Dillrub*, is a romantic thriller directed by Vinil Mathew and written by Kanika Dhillon. It stars Taapsee, Vikrant Massey and Harshvardhan Rane.

*Phir Aayi Hasseen Dillrub* has been directed by Jayprad Desai. Taapsee and Vikrant reprise their characters, and Sunny Kaushal joins the cast.

## From a loving sister, Seerat becomes a scheming antagonist

Every character in a show has a journey, an arc, which allows the actor to explore and develop their role ceaselessly. This progression not only keeps the storyline engaging, but also enables the actor to showcase their versatility. Seerat Kapoor's portrayal of Mannat in *Rabb Se Hai Dua* is a perfect example of this dynamic evolution. From her initial appearance as a loving sister to her current role as a scheming antagonist, Seerat's character has grown and transformed, captivating audiences along the way.

Seerat said, "Portraying Mannat has been an incredible journey. Her evolution from a loving sister to a character filled with jealousy has been challenging, yet rewarding. It is difficult to portray her on screen every day because she is the opposite of me. But at the same time, it is fascinating to delve into the complexities of her emotions. Often, I would sit with my director, who would guide



me through Mannat's intricate layers, offering insights into her motivations and helping me tap into her darker side. His guidance has been instrumental in shap-

ing my portrayal. This role has pushed me to explore different facets of my acting abilities, and I am grateful for the opportunity to bring such a character to life."











# ‘Rohit Sharma can play for 2 more years, Virat Kohli...’: Harbhajan Singh makes big prediction

**Harbhajan believes that Test cricket is one format where you need both of them**

NEW DELHI, Aug 13 (Agencies): Former India great Harbhajan Singh believes that Virat Kohli with his supreme fitness can easily survive the rigours of international cricket for another five years while Test and ODI captain Rohit Sharma will last at least another couple of years. “Rohit can easily play for two more years. You never know with Virat Kohli’s fitness, you can see him competing for five years. He is probably the fit-test guy in the team,” Harbhajan told agency in an exclusive interview. “You ask any 19-year-old competing with Virat (on fitness). Virat will beat him. He is that fit. I believe Virat and Rohit have a lot of cricket left in them and it is entirely up to them. If they are fit enough, they are performing and the team is winning, they should continue to play. As simple as that,” the man with 700 plus international wickets said.



Harbhajan believes that Test cricket is one format where you need both of them. “Red ball cricket, you really need these two guys to play a little bit more than what people are asking. You need experience in all formats whether its limited overs cricket and Test cricket. You need experienced cricketers to nurture the talent that is coming up. “Selectors need to see, that if someone is not performing well, they should be dropped. Whether they are senior player or juniors. But as long as everyone is fit, they should be able to get selected in the team.” He further said: “And if they are not contributing in any manner, whether its fitness or number of runs, then the time has come. They should be making way for the youngsters. “At the end of the day, it’s an individual decision and selectors are there to watch these steps as to who are capable to perform at what age. Obviously, they are considering all those factors before picking them.” Harbhajan does believe that youngsters have more hunger than senior players as they are yet to establish themselves.

“I always believe that youngsters have much more hunger than the seniors. If you play for 15 years your hunger a little bit comes down. Great to see Riyan Parag getting the opportunities and the way Yashasvi Jaiswal is coming up and Shubman Gill is playing.” Harbhajan played down India’s 0-2 loss to Sri Lanka in the ODIs. “It was one of those things. Sometimes you win it, sometimes you lose it. It’s sports after all. All teams go through these periods. You play well but you still don’t win. I will give credit to Sri Lanka. They played well. They played better than India.”

# Para shuttler Pramod Bhagat suspended for 18 months, to miss Paris Paralympics



NEW DELHI, Aug 13 (Agencies): Tokyo gold medallist Indian para shuttler Pramod Bhagat will not be able to defend his title at the Paris Paralympics after he was handed a 18-month suspension for breaching BWF’s anti-doping whereabouts clause. “The Badminton World Federation can confirm India’s Tokyo 2020 Paralympic champion Pramod Bhagat has been suspended for a period of 18 months and will miss the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games,” the governing body said in a statement on Tuesday. “In 1 March 2024, the Court of Arbitration of Sport (CAS) Anti-Doping Division found Bhagat in breach of the BWF anti-doping regulations for committing three whereabouts failures within 12 months.” The 36-year-old, an SL3 athlete, had appealed this decision to the CAS

Appeals Division but it was rejected last month. “On 29 July 2024, the CAS Appeals Division dismissed the Bhagat’s appeal and confirmed the CAS Anti-Doping Division decision of 1 March 2024. His period of ineligibility is now in effect,” the statement added. His suspension is effective till September 1, 2025. Bhagat had won a gold medal at the Tokyo Paralympics in men’s singles SL3 category, beating Daniel Bethell of Great Britain in the final. The 36-year-old Bihar-born shuttler had equalled the legendary Lin Dan of China by winning a fifth World Championships title in February last year at Pattaya, Thailand. “It is extremely sad and unfortunate. He was a sure shot medal for India at the Paralympics but he is a fighter and I am sure he will come back stronger,” Indian para-badminton head coach Gaurav Khanna told agency. Bhagat, who had contracted polio, resulting in a disability affecting his left leg at the age of five, is also a two-time Asian Games gold-medallist and is the current world No 3 in his category.

# “Received rs 1.50 Crore from whom?": Badminton star ashwini ponnappa refutes olympics funding report

NEW DELHI, Aug 13 (Agencies): Following Indian badminton stars’ dismal campaign at the Paris Olympics, many shuttlers have been criticised for their performance in the quadrennial event, especially considering the support they have received from authorities and the government. Even Prakash Padukone, former All-England winner and Lakshya Sen’s coach, tore into the athletes for their failure to step up and deliver a medal. Reflecting on India’s poor badminton show in the Paris Games, a report in agency highlighted the sort of money that badminton stars received from the TOPS scheme. However, shuttler Ashwini Ponnappa has called the report ‘a lie’. A report in agency stated that HS Prannoy, a bronze-medallist at the 2023 World Championships and Asian Games, received Rs 1.8 crore for training. His performance in the Paris Olympics was hindered by Chikungunya, leading to a loss in the pre-quarterfinals.



The report also said that Ashwini and Taniha, women’s doubles partners at the Paris Olympics, on the other hand, received Rs 1.5 crore each in support. They were eliminated in the group stage itself. Reacting to the report, however, Ashwini fumed, saying she didn’t receive any money at all. “How can an article be written without getting facts right? How can this lie be written? Received 1.5 CR each? From whom? For what? I haven’t received this money. I was not even part of any organisation or TOPS for funding,” she wrote on X (formerly Twitter). The government also reportedly spent a total of Rs 5.62 crores on men’s doubles duo of Satwik-Sairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty but they were upset by Malaysia’s Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik in the quarter-finals, prompting their Danish coach Mathias Boe to quit coaching. The government had also reportedly spent Rs 26.60 lakh and Rs 9.33 lakh sanctioned for Sindhu and Lakshya’s training in Germany and France, respectively. PV Sindhu, India’s marquee women’s singles Player, is said to have received Rs 3.13 crore in support from the government. She was unable to progress beyond the pre-quarterfinals. As a whole, the Sports Authority of India’s (SAI) Mission Olympic Cell reportedly allocated Rs 72.03 crore on the badminton contingent alone, from the total pool of nearly Rs 470 crore spent on India’s Olympic preparations across 16 disciplines.

# R Ashwin embraces fearlessness over safety in life, cricket

NEW DELHI, Aug 13 (Agencies): Engineer, cricketer, popular YouTuber, and now author—Ravichandran Ashwin embodies the art of parallel processing, seamlessly juggling multiple roles. The 37-year-old off-spinner, renowned for his sharp mind and candid views, has embraced a philosophy that transcends both life and cricket: he would rather fail than play it safe. Ashwin, who has taken 516 Test wickets, is currently basking in the critical success of his book, “I Have The Streets: A Kutti Cricket Story,” co-authored by Sidharth Monga and published by Penguin Random House. The book chronicles his life up until 2011 and offers a glimpse into the mind of a man who enjoys probability analysis as much as decoding a difficult batter. “I am living my life, that’s it. I am not thinking about accomplishing ‘A,’ ‘B,’ or ‘C’ (targets). I am staying in the moment. I am a creative person in general, and if I feel I want to do something, I will go ahead and do it. Whether it’s right or wrong is something that I will assimilate later,” Ashwin told agency in an exclusive interview. He wasn’t always this fearless, though. As a child, Ashwin had an insecure side, but over time, he realized



that these fears were paralyzing him. Once he dealt with them, he became more unflappable—a quality that has been evident in his growth as a cricketer. From bowling carrom balls on Chennai’s streets as a kid to becoming India’s premier spinner, Ashwin’s journey has been marked by resilience. He has taken criticism on the chin, responding with a bagful of wickets, refusing to let “outside noise” disturb the equilibrium of his mind. “I’m not insecure at all. I would rather fail in life than be absolutely safe. That’s my character. I don’t have the common insecurities that people have,” he asserts, with the same clarity he uses to decode complex cricket laws on social media—a platform where his views quickly become viral trends. Breaking away from childhood insecurities, Ashwin says, gave him insight into exploiting others’ insecurities—a skill that he applies both in cricket and life.

the last four years to be able to express myself, expand my creativity zones, and so on and so forth,” he says, referencing his emergence as a rare outspoken voice in Indian cricket. For Ashwin, it all comes down to being fearless and seeing the fun side of risks—something he learned during a visit to a casino in 2009. “If you go to the casino thinking of how much money you will make, you will pretty much end up without a rupee. But when you go with the intention of having fun and wanting to lose the money that you have, you always go back a much richer person. It was actually a big learning experience,” he explains. Ashwin draws life lessons from various sources, whether movies, web series, or books. Speaking of books, he acknowledges the risk involved in sharing one’s story with the world, including the potential to hurt others. “I think hurting someone is an immensely painful journey. But if tomorrow I do write about hurtful instances of mine, it’s because people who are on the other side will have hurt me. They are obviously gonna feel bad about it, because nobody intentionally hurts you,” he says, underscoring his belief in the inherent goodness of individuals. He prefers to view painful episodes as necessary life lessons, vital for personal growth. One such instance, detailed in his book, occurred during his time with Chennai Super Kings when a team official refused to provide him with a good IPL ticket in 2010, despite his significant contributions to the team’s success that season. “Look, people who give you an opportunity to learn harsh lessons in life are Gurus in my book. I didn’t want to confront the guy. But for me, it is an incident; it happened, and it fueled the fire in me. I wanted to become a better person. I wanted to become a better cricketer. I am thankful for the person who did that to me because I think in some way or the other, he fueled my desire to do well,” he says. That incident also taught Ashwin an important lesson about the world: it’s not always fair. “See, a lot of people come to me and say, ‘What goes around comes around. The world is a very fair place.’ It’s not. It can be very unfair to a lot of people. When you win, somebody else loses,” he points out, his clarity of thought shining through once again—much like his eyes when they light up at the first sign of a batter’s vulnerability.

# Neeraj Chopra to miss PM’s felicitation ceremony for Diamond League

NEW DELHI, Aug 13 (Agencies): Neeraj Chopra, the star of India’s Olympics contingent, will not take part in the Independence Day celebrations as well as the felicitation of the Indian Olympians being hosted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Neeraj, who finished second behind Arshad Nadeem in the javelin competition at the Paris Games, has already shifted base to Lausanne, Switzerland, to take part in the Diamond League. The competition is scheduled to happen on August 22 and he was keen to reach early to train. The Indian contingent—those returning from Paris after the closing ceremony and those

who are already in the country—will be trooping in the capital on Tuesday. As per the schedule shared with the athletes, they would first meet President Droupadi Murmu on August 14 and then are to take part in the flag hoisting ceremony at Red Fort and then will head for the PM’s function. “Yes, Neeraj is in Switzerland and he has prior commitments. He is taking part in the Diamond League. He is not the only one, (Avinash) Sable and Priyanka (Goswami) are also there,” said a source with the Athletics Federation of India (AFI). “The season is not over because the Olympics are over.



There are two more meets to take part in for him and others

if I am not mistaken,” he added. Neeraj’s uncle Bhim Chopra said that the javelin star is unlikely to be back in the country before September. “I can confirm he is not coming back anytime soon. He is already in Switzerland as he has to take part in a competition,” Chopra told agency. Chopra also added that his nephew wants to return without hype or any celebrations. “I really do not know when he is coming back home. It will be sometime in September. He has also told me that he wants to quietly come back and doesn’t want the swagat ceremony as was being planned by a few of our friends,” he added.

# Shooter Manu Bhaker may skip New Delhi World Cup in October



NEW DELHI, Aug 13 (Agencies): Paris Olympic double medallist Manu Bhaker may skip October’s World Cup in New Delhi as the ace pistol shooter has decided to take a three-month break, her coach Jaspal Rana said. The 22-year-old Bhaker scripted Olympic history for India in Paris as she won a bronze each in the women’s 10m air pistol and 10m air pistol mixed team event, in which she had paired with Sarabjot Singh. After the feat, the

ace pistol shooter, who returned from Paris in the wee hours on Tuesday, is set to take a three-month break from the sport. “I am not sure whether she will be at the Shooting World Cup in October because she is taking a three-month break. “It’s a normal break, she has been training for a long time.” Rana told agency. The shooting World Cup is scheduled to take place in New Delhi from October 13 to 18. Rana, who played a pivotal role in Bhaker’s twin bronze medals after the agony of returning empty-handed from Tokyo Games three years back, said they will work to peak at the 2026 Asian Games and Commonwealth Games after her break.

# Vikrant furious over Farooq's statement on Indian Army, calls allegation very unfortunate

**'Farooq Abdullah is plotting to defame Indian Army'**

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 13: Hindustan Shiv Sena State President Vikrant Kapoor has slammed National Conference president and former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Dr. Farooq Abdullah over his controversial statement on the army and said that the allegation leveled by him on the Indian army is very unfortunate.

Vikrant Kapoor said that Farooq Abdullah is plotting to defame the Indian Army.

Vikrant said this while addressing a press conference in Jammu here on Tuesday.

"Let us tell you that amid the ongoing operation in Jammu and Kashmir against terrorism, Farooq Abdullah spewed venom against the army and said that the country's army is in cahoots



with the enemies," he said.

He also said that collusion is responsible for the increase in infiltration from across the border and drug smuggling in Jammu and Kashmir.

Farooq Abdullah had also alleged that this collusion has been done for our destruction.

Vikrant strongly criticized the veteran leader of the valley and said that his statement is condemnable.

He said that Abdullah

has made such controversial statements earlier also.

He objected to Farooq Abdullah's remarks and said that the allegations made by the NC supreme are very unfortunate.

Senior Hindustan Shiv Sena leaders Baba Ram Kaith, Rohan, Abhishek, Himanshu, Amit, women wing leader Jyoti Devi and others were also present during the press conference.

# Nat Manch presents stunning performance of Tarun's "Azadi" at Police Auditorium

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 13: Nat Manch recently delivered a mesmerizing performance of the musical play "Azadi," created by the renowned playwright Tarun Sharma, at the Police Auditorium in Jammu.

The play was masterfully directed by Tarun Sharma and choreographed by Ravi Sharma. "Azadi" came alive through the exceptional talent of its cast, whose performances were vividly enhanced by Sharma's



intricate choreography.

The play's evocative themes struck a deep chord with the audience, highlighting Nat Manch's dedication to presenting high-quality and impactful theatrical productions.

The event stood as a notable cultural achievement, showcasing the powerful synergy between Tarun Sharma's creative vision and Ravi Sharma's choreographic expertise.

# DPS Jammu students excel in international level physics examination



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 13: Students of Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu brought laurels to the school and their parents by excelling in International Level Annual Sir Isaac Newton (SIN) Physics Exam, a test of high school Physics, which was proctored online by the Department of Physics & Astronomy, University of Waterloo, Canada.

The contest which was held globally brought together students from diverse backgrounds and academic institutions, providing them a platform to exhibit their understanding of the fascinat-

ing world of Physics and aimed to foster a spirit of scientific curiosity, among the young Physicists.

The exam was a test of high school Physics meant to challenge the students to apply basic Physics in problem situations. Test, although challenging, was quite refreshing and fun.

Out of 19 students, four students performed exceptionally well at International level and showcased their problem-solving abilities and a deeper passion for Physics.

They are Pulkit Puri (XII-C), Aitzaz Hussain Zari (XII-C), Autika Hashmi (XII-C) and Aadhy Raina (XII-C). Students who excelled

at National level are Nabiba Fatima (XII C), Arindam Sharma (XII-B), Lakshay Gupta (XII-B), Harmehar Kour (XII-B), Avika Gandotra (XII-B), Kanishka Sood (XII-D).

Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chhabra congratulated all the students, their parents and teacher incharge, Manika Verma who encouraged them to set their goals high.

The management of DPS Jammu under the leadership of President-RC, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC, Dr. Ritu Singh and Director, S.S Sodhi congratulated the students and extended their best wishes for their future endeavours.

# GDC Boys Kathua conducts series of events under Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan

## Top News Report

KATHUA, Aug 13: The District Administration Kathua, in collaboration with the Government Degree College (Boys) Kathua, organized a series of events under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan to celebrate Independence Day. This initiative was aligned with the vision "Viksit Bharat ka Mantra, Bharat ho Nashe se Swatantra," emphasizing the goal of a drug-free India as a foundation for a developed nation.

The event also included an online webinar organized by NIC Jammu and Kashmir, which served as the opening session of the campaign. The webinar began with the Documentary depicting menace of drug abuse in the UT Jammu and Kashmir and various initiatives launched by the Social Welfare Department, Jammu and Kashmir to curb this serious social issue.

Commissioner Secretary Social Welfare



Department, Sheetal Nanda deliberated upon making conscious decisions by youth in ensuring that they don't fall prey to drug abuse. She highlighted the role of schools, colleges, local communities to bring awareness among the youth. Various colleges and schools of the UT participated in the online pledge against drug abuse.

Under this initiative, GDC, Kathua organised poster making, awareness rally and Nukad Natak to raise awareness among the students of the college. Kanika and Vishal Gupta, the students of Vth Semester

Mir addressed the students and ensured that a vigilance committee will be constituted by the college comprising of senior faculty members and students volunteer to assist the Social Welfare Department, Kathua to end this disease from society which in turn will help in attaining the vision of Viksit Bharat.

The event was attended by all the HOD's of various departments of the college, faculty members and students of the college. The event was hosted by Dr. Pinkey, NSS Coordinator.

# Social Forestry Department leads 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Drive at Budgam School

## Top News Report

BUDGAM, Aug 13: The Social Forestry Department, Budgam, in collaboration with the Private Schools Association of Jammu and Kashmir (PSAJK), on Tuesday successfully conducted a plantation drive under the theme "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" at Salsabeel Educational Institute, Humhama, Budgam. The event marked a significant step towards promoting environmental awareness and sustainable practices among the youth.

The plantation drive was graced by several esteemed guests, including G N Var, President of Private School's Association Jammu & Kashmir (PSAJK), who served as the Chief Guest, and Prof. Dr. Hussain Shah, Chief Agriculture Scientist and Environmentalist, who was the Guest of Honour.

The event also witnessed active participation from notable figures such as Mohd Maqbool Lone, Range Forest Officer, Budgam, Abdul Majeed Parray from the Social Forestry Department, Education Department Official Damesh Singh, Health Department Official Dr. Ravinder Singh, Vice Principal of JK Public School Iqbal Javid, Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat, Principal of Salsabeel Educational Institute, and others.



The occasion saw the enthusiastic involvement of the school's teachers and students, who together pledged to contribute towards creating a greener environment. An oath ceremony followed the plantation drive, where participants committed to continuing efforts in tree planting and environmental conservation.

PSAJK President G N Var, said, "Today's plantation drive under the theme 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' is not just about planting trees; it's about planting hope for a sustainable future. Every tree we plant today is a step towards a healthier environment for the generations to come. I am immensely proud of the collaboration between PSAJK and the Social Forestry Department, which has enabled this impactful initiative."

Range Officer, Budgam Mohammad Maqbool Lone said that "The Social Forestry Department is

dedicated to increasing green cover across Budgam. The collaboration with PSAJK for the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiative has strengthened our mission, and we are pleased with the active participation of the school community."

Chief Agriculture Scientist & Environmentalist Prof. Dr. Hussain Shah said that "As stewards of the earth, it is our responsibility to nurture and protect our environment. The 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiative beautifully encapsulates the essence of our duty towards Mother Nature. I commend the Social Forestry Department and PSAJK for this noble endeavor."

MSF Budgam Abdul Majeed Parray said that "This drive is a testament to the power of community involvement in environmental conservation. Each tree planted today represents our collective effort to combat climate

change and ensure a better world for our children."

Principal of Salsabeel Educational Institute Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat said that "We are honored to host this significant event at our institute. The participation of our students and staff in this plantation drive reflects our collective commitment to environmental stewardship. We hope to continue fostering a culture of sustainability in our educational practices."

Health Department Official Dr. Ravinder Singh said that "Planting trees is not just an environmental necessity, but also a health imperative. Green spaces are vital for physical and mental well-being, and I applaud this initiative for promoting a healthier future."

**GODOWN FOR RENT**  
**Corner Plot Size 100 ft x150 ft (3 Kanals) at Kirthali, Bari Brahamana Private Commercial Registered Land with 40 ft both side lane having 6000 Sq. ft Covered Shed Height 15 ft Opp. ITC Godown.**  
**94197-01575**

**PG FOR GIRLS**  
**Secure/ Peaceful/ Comfortable**  
**FACILITIES AVAILABLE**  
● AC & NON-AC ROOMS ● 24/7 ELECTRICITY  
● R.O. DRINKING WATER ● 24/7 WATER SUPPLY  
● Wi-Fi AVAILABLE ● HYGIENIC FOOD  
**FOR ANY QUERIES CALL US @ 9596236182**  
**LIBRARY FACILITIES ALSO AVAILABLE**

**CHESS LEARNING CENTRE**  
**Unlock Your Strategies: Join Our Chess Classes Today!**  
**Three Classes a Week**  
**TIMINGS**  
Morning: 11 am to 12 pm  
Afternoon: 3 pm to 4 pm  
Evening: 7 pm to 8 pm  
**Contact Us:**  
Phone/Whatsapp: 9103264178  
Email: learnchess.jammu@gmail.com  
**Location: Canal Road opposite Dr. Rajesh Gupta (Ortho) Clinic**

