

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

Kerala actor-politician Mukesh booked for rape on actress' plaint



NATIONAL | 7

Mallikarjun Kharge slams Modi government over issue of women's safety

SPORTS | 11

"Let's make India a...": New ICC Chairman Jay Shah's statement on National Sports Day



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-15 Issue-238

Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Earthquake of magnitude 5.7 recorded from Afghanistan; tremors felt in Kashmir too

SRINAGAR, Aug 29 (Agencies): An earthquake of magnitude 5.7 was recorded on Thursday, with its epicenter being Afghanistan even as the tremors were felt in Kashmir too.

As per the National Centre for Seismology (NCS), it had a depth of 255 Kilometers, occurring on 29/08/2024 11:26:38 IST, Lat: 36.51 N, Long: 71.12 E, Afghanistan.

The tremors of this earthquake were felt over 710kms across in the valley of Kashmir. The people in Kashmir said they felt mild vibrations which lasted for over 4-seconds.

However, no report of loss of life or property was reported till now.

"Earthquake of Magnitude: 5.7, Occurred on: 29/08/2024 11:26:38 IST, Lat: 36.51 N, Long: 71.12 E, Depth: 255 Km, Region: Afghanistan," the NCS said.

Light snowfall likely over higher reaches of J&K tonight: MeT

SRINAGAR, Aug 29 (Agencies): Meteorological Department on Thursday predicted fall in day temperature with possibility of light snowfall over isolated higher reaches during tonight.

"On August 29 the day temperature will likely fall with possibility of light snowfall over isolated higher reaches," the MeT officials said.

They said keeping the intermittent light to moderate rains and thundershowers in parts of J&K into account, there is a possibility of flash floods, landslides, mudslides and shooting stones over few vulnerable places in Jammu and Kashmir.

"There is a possibility of intense showers for a brief period at few places with heavy rain at isolated places during tonight/early morning," the officials said.

On August 29 the weather will likely be cloudy with light to moderate

Turn to page 9

3 terrorists believed to have been killed in operations along LoC in Kupwara: Army



SRINAGAR, Aug 29 (Agencies): Three terrorists are believed to have been killed in two separate anti-infiltration operations along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's

Kupwara district, the army said on Thursday. Operations in the Machhal and Tangdhar areas were launched on Wednesday following intelligence inputs, it said.

In a post on X, the army's Srinagar-based Chinara Corps said, "Based on intelligence inputs with respect to likely infiltration bids, a joint operation was launched by the Indian

Army and the Jammu and Kashmir Police on the intervening night of August 28 and 29 in the general area Machhal, Kupwara."

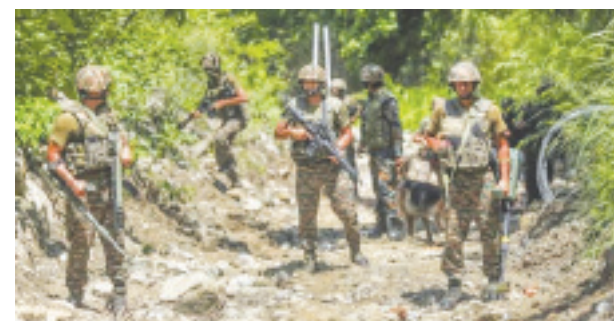
"Suspicious movement was observed in bad weather and was engaged with effective firing by troops; two terrorists are likely to have been neutralised," it said.

The army said another terrorist is believed to have been killed in an operation along the LoC in the Tangdhar area.

"Based on intelligence inputs regarding likely infiltration bids, a joint anti-infiltration operation was launched by the Indian Army and the

Turn to page 9

Encounter breaks out following search operation in Rajouri



RAJOURI/JAMMU, Aug 29 (Agencies): An encounter broke out between security forces and terrorists on the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district after troops launched a cordon and search operation in response to suspected

militant movement, officials said.

"A search operation was launched by security forces in the general area of village Kheri Mohra Lathi and Danthal in Rajouri district at 2130 hours on Wednesday night (following suspected terrorist movement)," a police spokesperson

Turn to page 9

300 additional Paramilitary Companies to be deployed for J&K Assembly Polls



JAMMU, Aug 29 (Agencies): Over 300 additional companies of paramilitary forces will be deployed in Jammu and Kashmir ahead of the three-phase assembly elections commencing from September 18 in the union territory, officials said on Thursday.

According to the officials, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of the Jammu-Kathua range, Shiv Kumar Sharma arrived at the Police Reception Centre (PRC) at Bari Brahmana Railway Station on Wednesday night to welcome the arriving forces.

DIG Sharma assessed the accommodation facilities for the paramilitary forces and briefed the officers on the sensitivity and importance of their duties, emphasising full cooperation with local police forces, the officials said.

Accompanied by senior officers, the DIG also addressed concerns raised by the security personnel, assuring them of prompt resolution, they added.

These paramilitary forces will be stationed across Jammu, Kathua and Samba districts to maintain security during the assembly elections in the union territory.

One killed, 8 others injured in accident on Mughal Road

JAMMU, Aug 29 (Agencies): One person died and eight others were injured in an accident on Mughal Road, connecting Kashmir Valley's Shopian district with twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch, on Thursday, officials said.

They said that a vehicle—Eeco (JK12D-1910) met with the accident near Chandimarh this morning, resulting in the death of one person and injuries to eight others. The injured were shifted to Sub District Hospital Surankote and wherefrom, three seriously wounded were referred to GMC Rajouri for advanced treatment.

Turn to page 9

Tarun Chugh dares Omar, Mehbooba for 'open debate' on J&K situation post Aug 5, 2019



SRINAGAR, Aug 29 (Agencies): Senior BJP leader and party's General Secretary Tarun Chugh Thursday dared Abdullah's, Mufti's and Gandhi's to have an open debate with BJP on the situation J&K witnessed post August

5, 2019. "I am ready for an open debate with Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti and those from the Gandhi family. Let the media decide time and venue," Chugh said while addressing a press conference in Jammu,

as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO)

He said let Omar and Mehbooba debate with us on what has changed post abrogation of article 370. "We have the official figures on terror incidents, civilian killings, security forces' killings and stone pelting incidents before August 5, 2019 and post August 5, 2019," said Chugh who was flanked by Union Minister GK Reddy, BJP MPs Jugal Kishore and Dr Jitendera Singh.

He said in 2018, 55 civilian killings took place and there were

Turn to page 9

Northern Army Commander visits Sunderbani Sector



JAMMU, Aug 29 (Agencies): Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General M V Suchindra Kumar visited the troops along the Line of Control (LoC) and hinterland in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri sector on Thursday and asked them to maintain comprehensive operational

readiness.

The Army commander is undertaking visits to the border areas to review the security measures in place ahead of the three-phase assembly elections in the Union territory commencing on September 18.

"Lt Gen M V SuchindraKumar, Army Com-

mander Northern Command accompanied by WhiteKnight Corps Commander visited forward areas along the line of control in Sunderbani Sector to review the prevalent security situation," the Army's Northern Command said on X. It said he was briefed on the synergy between security forces and operational preparedness in the region.

The Army commander also visited supporting units of the formation and exhorted all ranks to maintain comprehensive operational readiness.

The general officer commanding-in-chief also visited troops in

Turn to page 9

MBA MOTORS

MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

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

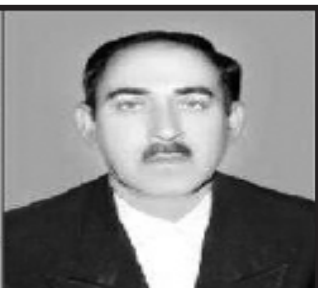
📍 NAGROTA, JAMMU (J&K) ☎ +91-9086207123

Turn to page 9

Turn to page 9

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform about the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh. Shadi Lal Pandita (Bhaisahab) S/o Late Sh Sarvendra Pandita...



Sh. Shadi Lal Pandita (Bhaisahab)

REST IN PEACE

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SMT PRAKASH SHARMA (RETD. LEC.) WIFE OF LATE SH SHIV DASS KHAJURIA...



SMT PRAKASH SHARMA

LOVING GREAT GRAND SON: SARANG KHAJURIA 9419160573, 9419992777 ALLIED AGENCIES

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

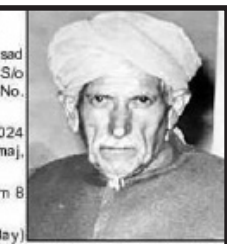
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad & untimely demise of Surinder Singh Rissam (Mintu) S/o Late Harbans Singh...



Surinder Singh Rissam (Mintu)

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our father Sh. Sansar Chand Arora Ji S/o Sh. Sundar Dass Arora Ji...



TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Gauri Shankar Bangwathia (GALAK WALE) son of late Sh. Anant Ram, resident of House No. 247, Mast Carh, Jammu on 20th August 2024.



Sh. Gauri Shankar Bangwathia (GALAK WALE)

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sdn. Kamaljeet Kour W/o S. Nirpal Singh...



Sdn. Kamaljeet Kour

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you the sad demise of our beloved Sh Ram Lal Sharma (Retd. Accountant) S/o Lt. Sh Munshi Ram Sharma...



Sh Ram Lal Sharma (Retd. Accountant)

Grand Children: Kavish, Lavnik, Saksham, Bhoomi, Riyansh, Mahya, Divyanshi Contact No. 9149445640

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we hereby inform premature departure of our beloved Sh. Surinder Kumar Bhat (Retd. Accounts Officer) originally from Rohmoh, Pulwama on 23rd August 2024...



Sh. Surinder Kumar Bhat (Retd. Accounts Officer)

10TH DAY AND UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the untimely and sad demise of our beloved Sh Puran Chand Sharma on 19-08-2024.



Sh Puran Chand Sharma

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to convey that our beloved Smt. Asha Bhat (W/o Bhushan Lal Bhat), originally from Gund Gushi, Kupwara...



Smt. Asha Bhat

OBITUARY & TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we announce the sad demise of our beloved Shri Suresh Koul S/o Late Shri Madusudan Koul R/o Dewan Bagh Baramulla Kashmir, at present Uninav Heights, F-405 Raj Nagar Extension.



Shri Suresh Koul

MOB : 9419115018 9419113850

TENTH DAY

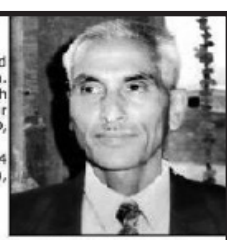
With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Smt Neelam Dhar W/o Sh S K Dhar erstwhile from Satriyar, Habba-Kadal, Srinagar who left for heavenly abode on 21-08-2024 at Jammu.



Smt Neelam Dhar

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. H. K. Koul S/o Lt. Sh. Narayan Koul, original resident of 279, Narsingh Garh, Srinagar & resident of H. No. 681, Janipur Housing Colony, Jammu...



Sh. H. K. Koul

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh. RAMESH KUMAR BHAT S/o Lt Sh. Mohan Lal Bhat, who left us for heavenly abode on 24th August, 2024...



Sh. RAMESH KUMAR BHAT

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved Sh. Chuni Lal Ji Makroo S/o Lt. Sh. Tota Ram Makroo R/o Chhanapora, Srinagar, Kashmir A/p TRT D-12, Parkhoo Camp, Jammu. He left for his heavenly abode on 25th of August, 2024 at Pune.



SH. CHUNI LAL JI MAKROO

10TH DAY KRIYA

We are deeply saddened to inform you the passing of our beloved Sh Mohan Krishan Bhan S/o Late Sh Bagwan Dass Bhan originally resident of Bana Mohalla Srinagar at present H No. 22, Lane No. 3, Sec B1, Lavipuram, Ginnore Jammu attained Moksha on 23.8.2024.



Sh Mohan Krishan Bhan

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MR. SURESH KOTWAL (SR. EX OFFICER - J&K BANK) S/O LATE SH. PRITAM CHAND KOTWAL R/O LOWER KARAN NAGAR JAMMU.



MR. SURESH KOTWAL (SR. EX OFFICER - J&K BANK)

OBITUARY / 10TH DAY KRIYA

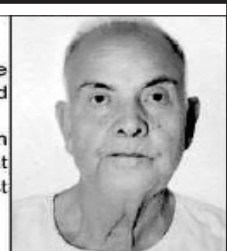
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you about the sad demise of our beloved Mother Smt Chuni Kak W/o Late Shri K L Kak, at 1248, Sector 15, Panchkula on Wednesday August 21, 2024.



Smt Chuni Kak

10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Ram Prashad S/o Shiv Ram. TENTH DAY will be performed on Friday, 30th August 2024, at 11 AM at H.No. 23 Lane No. 1, 1/C East Extension, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.



SH. RAM PRASHAD

DISCLAIMER

"Top News of J&K" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."

SPF expresses deep concern over Hockey J&K's dismal performance & management: Balvinder

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: Sikh Progressive Front (SPF) under the chairmanship of its President S Balvinder Singh where strong exception was conveyed to the Hockey lovers regarding the pitiable condition of the Hockey being represented by Hockey J&K, who were holding its affairs for the last more than twenty five years. Despite being declared defunct body by the sports council of JKUT they are also debarred to use K.K Hakku Hockey Astro turf Stadium for their routine activities, because of their dismal performance in the previously held National level Hockey tournament and because of the mass resignation of most of their office bearers, they are still managing it privately without the concurrence of Sports Council of JKUT selecting the team at their own which resulted in the most humiliating defeats in both the categories of Men & Women in the



recently held national Tournament at Jhansi under the ages of Hockey India.

Recently in the sub junior Men and Women North Zone Hockey Championship held at Jhansi from 15 July to 22 July 2024, Hockey J&K failed to ds=send his women team and in Men category Delhi defeated Hockey J&K 6-1, UP defeated HJKK 18-0 & Punjab drubbed HJK by margin of 15-0 and thus conceded 39 goals and could manage to score only 1 goal in three matches.

Recently sub Junior Women hockey team from JKUT participated in Hockey India Junior Women North Zone

Championship 2024 held from 1 August to 8th Aug. in which Hockey J&K lost to Delhi With the margin of 39-0, HUT (Hockey Uttrakhand) 25-0 and lost to Haryana with the margin of 30-0. in all the three matches conceded 94 goals and Hockey JK could't score a single goal.

In the 2nd Hockey India Men Category of the same Championship held at Jhansi CHD defeated Hockey J&K 13-1, HUT defeated HJK 11-0 & Punjab defeated HJK by margin of 21-0, thus conceded 45 goals & scored a solitary goal in the tournament, this is the result of partial and corrupt practices adopted

by Hockey J&K in managing the Hockey affairs and especially in partial selection of players.

Members of SPF along with number of other former National and International players welcomed the bold decision of Sports Council for declaring Hockey J&K a defunct body on the basis of its performance and corrupt practice adopted by them for the last so many years especially in the time of selection process. All present over in the PC stated that Hockey J&K is using all means to deceive the budding players by indulging in nefarious actions.

All are surprised how the body declared as defunct by Sports Council initiates selection process for the Junior Men Inter Zone Championship going to be held at Jallundhar Punjab from 9 Sep to 19 Sep 2024, the selection for which has already been initiated by Sports Council and is still under process under the supervision of Sports Council expert

Committee, but three is a huge confusion which team would be treated as genuine and which players shall get participation certificate this is the main query which parents of each player is seeking from the authorities.

So all present in the PC appealed Hockey India to intervene in the matter and take immediate action to avoid exploitations of the Hockey players resulting in utter chaos. All present also demands that for the betterment and promotion of hockey in JKUT Hockey India should declare adhoc body by involving former national and International players from J&K in consultation with J&K sports council. Other member of Sikh Progressive Front and former National Players who were present in the Press Conference are Manjitt Singh, Janak Singh, Rajinder Singh Sudan, Ravinder Singh, Jaswinder Singh Kuku, MS Reen International Empire, P P Singh, T.P Singh.

ECI issues notification for 2nd phase of elections

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 29: The Election Commission of India (ECI) today issued election notification for the 2nd phase of the General Elections to the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir.

26 Assembly Constituencies (ACs) in the districts of Ganderbal, Srinagar, Budgam, Reasi, Rajouri and Poonch shall go to polls in the second phase.

In Kashmir Division 15 Assembly Constituencies comprising 17-Kangan (ST); 18-Ganderbal; 19-Hazratbal; 20-Khan-

yar; 21-Habbakadal; 22-Lal Chowk; 23-Chanapora; 24-Zadibal; 25-Eidgah; 26-Central Shalteng; 27-Budgam; 28-Beerwah; 29-Khansahib; 30-Chrar-I-Sharief; 31-Chadoora; and in Jammu Division 11 Assembly Constituencies comprising 56-Gulabgarh (ST); 57-Reasi; 58-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi; 83-Kalakote-Sunderbani; 84-Nowshera; 85-Rajouri (ST); 86-Budhal (ST); 87-Thannamandi (ST); 88-Surankote (ST); 89-Poonch Haveli and 90-Mehdhar (ST) are scheduled to go to polls

in the second phase of the electoral process.

As per the Notification, the last date for filing nominations is September 05, 2024 (Thursday). Scrutiny of the nomination papers shall take place on September 06, 2024 (Friday) and last date of withdrawal of candidature is September 09, 2024 (Monday).

The polling day for these Assembly constituencies is scheduled for September 25, 2024, (Wednesday) and the Polling will be conducted from 07:00 AM to 06:00 PM, the notification reads.

BJP reeling under pressure as NC-Cong Alliance gains momentum in J&K: Rattan Lal Gupta



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), reaffirmed the Party's commitment to the welfare of the EWS by ensuring the provision of basic necessities such as Roti, Kapda Aur Makaan.

Speaking at the joining programme held at Sher e Kashmir Bhawan Jammu, Rattan Lal emphasized that National Conference, through its vision and manifesto, is dedicated to the overall development and upliftment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, especially the underprivileged. The programme was organized by Mrs Bimla Luthra former MLA and State Vice President women wing JKNC.

The Senior NC leader lambasted the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for its "utter frustration" in the face of the strong Alliance between the National Conference and Congress in the upcoming Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. He highlighted that the BJP's declining popularity was evident during the recent Lok Sabha elections, where the INDIA Alliance, of which NC and Congress are key constituents, gave a major setback to the saffron party. He predicted that the same outcome would be witnessed in the forthcoming Assembly elections, with the

INDIA Alliance emerging victorious.

The Provincial President emphasized that the National Conference in its poll manifesto has committed to implement the National Food Security Act, ensuring food security for all citizens. Additionally, the party's manifesto includes significant promises such as provide Rs 5,000 per month to female heads of households to EWS, Provide One Lac Jobs to J&K youths, offering 12 LPG cylinders per family per year to EWS and provision of free 200 power units for every household.

While welcoming the newly joined members into Party fold, Rattan Lal Gupta said that their decision to join the National Conference reflects the growing trust people have in the party's vision. He assured them that their contributions would strengthen the party's efforts to restore peace, development, and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir, especially in the face of current challenges. He also asked the newly joined members to remain active in their respective areas and ensure victory of NC in the upcoming Assembly polls.

The senior NC leader urged the people to support and vote for National Conference candidates in the upcoming Assembly elections, with an aim to bring positive change and ensure that the par-

ty's pro-people policies are implemented.

Bimla Luthra said that the National Conference has always stood for inclusivity and empowerment, particularly for women. Women play a vital role in shaping the future of our society, and their empowerment remains one of our top priorities. Our party is committed to ensuring equal opportunities, social justice, and economic independence for women across Jammu and Kashmir, she said.

Among those who joined the party fold included: Kanta Devi, Usha Mahajan, Ajeet Kour, Sanita Devi, Anju and others.

Those who were present include : Sheikh Bashir Ahmad, Pardeep Bali Provincial Secretaries Jammu, Satwant Kour Dogra Provincial President women wing, Vijay Laxami Datta Senior leader, Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone, Rita Gupta Vice President Central Zone, S. Tejinder Singh Aman District President Jammu Urban YNC, Joginder Kour District Vice President Jammu Urban women wing, Jatinder Singh Lucky, Mohinder Kumar Rana, Ashanand District Joint Secretary Jammu Urban, Som Raj Taroch Joint Secretary Central Zone, Dharampal Kundal Secretary Central Zone, S. Charanpreet Singh Dimpu, Sohan Singh and others.

BJP candidate Mohan Lal receives grand welcome at election office

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Aug 29: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate for the Akhnoor Assembly, Retd SSP Mohan Lal Bhagat, was given a grand and enthusiastic welcome by party supporters at the Election Office today. The event witnessed the presence of several prominent BJP leaders and workers who gathered to express their unwavering support.



Among those present were BJP District President Rajeev Sharma, Pravasi Incharge MLA Laala Ram Bairwa (Rajasthan), Akhnoor Assembly Election Incharge Suraj Singh, Convenor Capt. Sobha Ram, Co-Convenor Surinder Singh, Mandal Akhnoor President Sham Singh, Mandal Jourian President Manga Ram, Mandal Pargwal President Bhopinder Singh, DDC Sharda Bhau, as well as all BDC's, Sarpanches, Panches, Shakti Kendra Pramukhs, Booth Pramukhs, Morcha Teams, and other party workers.

District President Rajeev Sharma welcomed Retd SSP Mohan Lal Bhagat and lauded his candidacy, emphasizing that the people of Akhnoor are fortunate to have an educated, honest, and public-friendly leader as their candidate. He urged everyone to work tirelessly to ensure Mohan Lal Bhagat's victory in the upcoming elections.

In his address, Retd SSP Mohan Lal Bhagat expressed his deep gratitude to the party's central and state leadership for placing their trust in him. He shared that after voluntarily retiring from the Jammu and Kashmir Police Services, he has fully dedicated himself to serving the BJP. Mohan Lal Bhagat assured the public that he will be available 24/7 to serve their needs. He emphasized that the BJP is the only party with a nationalist ideology, committed to maintaining the integrity and security of the nation. He stated that his top priorities will include addressing the local issues of the constituency, such as the channelization of the Chenab River, securing compensation for land acquired by the defense sector, tackling unemployment, promoting and uplifting local businesses, increasing recruitment opportunities in border areas, transforming Akhnoor into a tourism destination, providing relief from exorbitant electricity bills, and ensuring the regularization of daily wagers.

Furthermore, he stressed the critical role of booth presidents, Shakti Kendra Pramukhs, Morchas, Mandals, and district teams in securing a resounding victory for the BJP in Akhnoor, and across Jammu & Kashmir. He called on all party workers and leaders to pledge their dedication and work tirelessly until the results are announced.

During the event, DDC VC Suraj Singh introduced all the Shakti Kendra heads, Booth Pramukhs, Morcha leaders, and office bearers to the candidate, solidifying the party's collective resolve.

Pravasi Incharge MLA Laala Ram Bairwa expressed confidence that the BJP will surpass the 50-seat mark in the upcoming assembly elections. He affirmed that the BJP will form the government, with the next Chief Minister hailing from the party.

The event concluded with a strong message of unity and determination from the BJP cadre, as they gear up for a decisive victory in the Akhnoor Assembly.

I will resign if daily wagers not regularised in 10 days of Govt formation: Rana

JAMMU, Aug 29 (Agencies): Stating that he never makes false promises and is a 'man of words', BJP candidate from Nagrota Assembly Constituency Devender Singh Rana on Thursday said that he will resign if the daily wagers are not regularised within ten days of the government formation.

"If the daily wagers were not regularised within ten days of the Government formation, I will resign," Rana said addressing a rally in his assembly constituency.

Nagrota Assembly Constituency is in Jammu district that will go to polls in the third and last phase of the Assembly election to be held on October 1.

He said, "I promise to the youth of Nagrota con-



stituency that after Government formation, in six months, from every panchayat, a minimum of 10 youth will get jobs and in one year, from each panchayat, 30 youth will be employed."

The BJP Candidate said, "Devender Rana never makes false promises. I am the only person who got 100 youth recruited in the police from the Dansal block of the constituency."

Sant Hare Ram Dass Public School Mandal celebrates Sports Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: The Sports Day and investiture ceremony was held in Sant Hare Ram Dass Public School, Mandal with a great zeal and enthusiasm. The event featured various track and field events, team sports and team work. Promoting a healthy life on the birth anniversary of Major Dhyani Chand, the pioneer of hockey. The school organized games and sports for junior students as well as senior wing in spite of challenging weather. Investiture ceremony marked the investiture of new student's council members. The chairman of the school Sant Hare Ram Dass ji Maharaj and Principal Prof. Aekta Gupta encouraged students by presenting the sash and badges.

Later on, the prize distribution took place where the winners were awarded with medals. Taking to the media principal Prof. Aekta Gupta encouraged students for their active participation in academics and co-curricular activities.

Study visit of students of GCW Udhampur organised by JKSTIC Udhampur at SKUAST-J

Top News Report

JAMMU Aug 29: Students of Govt. College for women, Udhampur during their study visit to SKUAST-Jammu got exposed to the latest scientific advancements in mushroom biology. The visit was organized by JKSTIC, Udhampur in collaboration with IIC, GCW Udhampur and held under the guidance of Dr. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu and Dr. Anil Kumar Sharma, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture.



In his address to the students, Dr. Ravinder Singh, Coordinator, Campus visit committee, Faculty of Agriculture briefed the students about various activities and academic programmes of the university and motivated them to become future agripreneurs.

The students visited Mushroom and Apiculture units of the University in the mushroom unit, the students learnt about vari-

ous types of mushrooms including the medicinal mushrooms, their round the year cultivation and nutritional importance.

Dr. Moni Gupta gave a detailed presentation about the benefits of mushroom consumption and the biochemical compounds present in them.

During their visit to the Apiculture Unit, the students got exposure about the benefits of beekeeping as a source of income

generation and about the various products besides honey that are produced by honeybees.

Additionally, the cadets explored the Department of Sericulture, gaining insights into silk production and the importance of this industry in rural development, described by Dr. Kamlesh Bali, from division of Sericulture.

It was first time eye opening exposure of the students to the latest

advancements in entrepreneurship opportunities in Agriculture and allied fields.

The scientists, who interacted with students, included Dr. Ravinder Singh Sudan, Dr. Moni Gupta and Dr. Kamlesh Bali.

The students were accompanied by Dr. Kamal Deep and Prof. Rukhsana Kousar of Govt. College for Women, Udhampur. The students showed great enthusiasm during their interactions with the faculty of the University Meeting was also held among the authorities of SKUAST-Jammu and JKSTIC to explore the possibilities of arranging more such visits and collaborations in the near future.

विशेष रेलगाडी के परिचालन अवधि में विस्तार

बीम्बकाल-2024 के दौरान यात्रियों की अधिक संख्या को देखते हुए रेलवे द्वारा निम्नलिखित विशेष रेलगाडी की परिचालन अवधि को बढ़ाने का निर्णय लिया गया है, जिनका विवरण निम्नानुसार है:-

रेलगाडी संख्या	से	तक	प्रस्थान के दिन	पूर्व अधिसूचित अवधि	विस्तारित अवधि
05193	छपरा	शहीद कप्तान तुषार महाजन	सोमवार	31.08.24	28.09.24 तक
05194	शहीद कप्तान तुषार महाजन	छपरा	सोमवार	02.09.24	30.09.24 तक

* अन्य विवरण पूर्व रहेगे।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए कृपया रेलमदद हेल्पलाइन नं. 139 टायल करे अथवा रेलगाडी सूचनाएं वेबसाइट www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in देखें।

रेलमदद वेबसाइट : www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in देखें एवं रेलमदद ऐप डाउनलोड करें।

उत्तर रेलवे

हमें www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in पर मिले

माहर्गने की सेवा में मुस्कान के साथ

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Notice Inviting Tender

Sr. DEE/TRJ/AT acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the works as under. Bidders will be able to submit their original/sealed bids upto closing date 19.09.2024 at 15:00 Hrs. Only Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall not be considered.

Tender No.	Name of work	App Cost (Rs.)	Cost of Tender form (Rs.)	Date & Time for submission of tender	Earnest Money # (Rs.)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
604C-TRD	TRD work in old Extension and Re-laying of Passenger PF No. 1 at MN-224, V.I. & SNCR and Re-laying of PF No. 1 & 2 and POC of 2.66 kms. at Bajjala on J&K-DELHI section under ACEN/LS/P	₹ 11,02,912.85	NIL	Upto 19.09.2024 15:00 Hrs	1,02,100/-	Six (06) Months	19.09.2024 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.nrpsa.gov.in

Note:-# Tenderer (s) may please note that offers received without Bid Security either in cash through e-payment gateway or as Bank Guarantee bond from a scheduled commercial bank of India or as mentioned in tender documents (as per Annexure-21) valid for a period of 90 days beyond the bid validity period, will be considered as incomplete & invalid offer and for which contractor shall have no claim on Railway.

No.-604C-TRD-F2R-2024-25 Dated: 27.08.2024

Serving Customers With A Smile

EDITORIAL

NATIONAL
SPORTS DAY

National Sports Day, celebrated annually on August 29th, commemorates the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand, one of India's greatest hockey players. The day serves as a reminder of the significant role sports play in building a healthy and disciplined society. It is a tribute to athletes who have brought laurels to the nation and a call to action for nurturing the next generation of sporting talent.

Major Dhyan Chand, often referred to as the "Wizard of Hockey," was born on August 29, 1905. His exceptional skills on the hockey field made him a global icon. Dhyan Chand's contributions to Indian hockey were monumental; he led India to three Olympic gold medals in 1928, 1932, and 1936. His ability to control the ball and score goals with precision earned him accolades worldwide, and he remains an enduring symbol of India's rich sporting heritage.

In honor of his legacy, the Indian government declared his birthday as National Sports Day in 2012. The day serves not only to celebrate his achievements but also to inspire young athletes across the country.

Sports have always been a vital part of human society, transcending barriers of language, culture, and geography. They teach valuable life lessons such as teamwork, perseverance, discipline, and leadership. In India, a country known for its diversity, sports serve as a unifying force, bringing people together regardless of their backgrounds.

National Sports Day emphasizes the importance of physical fitness and the role of sports in promoting a healthy lifestyle. It encourages people of all ages to engage in physical activities, recognizing the benefits of sports in reducing stress, improving mental health, and preventing lifestyle-related diseases.

Over the years, the Indian government has launched various initiatives to promote sports and physical education. National Sports Day is often marked by the announcement of new policies and programs aimed at nurturing talent and improving sports infrastructure across the country.

One of the key programs is the Khelo India initiative, launched in 2018. This program aims to revive the sports culture in India at the grassroots level by building a strong framework for all sports played in the country. It also provides talented athletes with the support they need to compete at the international level.

Additionally, on National Sports Day, the President of India presents the National Sports Awards, including the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, Arjuna Award, Dronacharya Award, and Dhyan Chand Award, to recognize and honor outstanding achievements in sports.

Schools and communities play a crucial role in promoting sports and physical activity. National Sports Day is often celebrated with various events and activities organized in schools, colleges, and local communities. These include inter-school competitions, marathons, sports quizzes, and fitness workshops, all aimed at encouraging participation in sports from a young age.

Physical education is increasingly being recognized as a critical component of the school curriculum, ensuring that students develop an interest in sports and understand the importance of maintaining physical fitness throughout their lives.

India's sporting landscape has evolved significantly over the past few decades. While cricket remains the most popular sport, there has been a growing interest in other sports such as badminton, wrestling, boxing, and athletics. Indian athletes have made their mark on the global stage, winning medals in events like the Olympics, Commonwealth Games, and Asian Games.

The success of athletes like P.V. Sindhu, Neeraj Chopra, and Mary Kom has inspired millions of young Indians to pursue careers in sports. National Sports Day serves as a platform to celebrate these achievements and to encourage more young people to take up sports professionally.

National Sports Day is more than just a tribute to Major Dhyan Chand; it is a celebration of the spirit of sportsmanship that runs through the veins of every Indian. It is a day to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of athletes who strive to bring glory to the nation. As India continues to develop its sports infrastructure and nurture talent, National Sports Day stands as a reminder of the potential that sports hold in shaping a healthier, more united, and prosperous nation.

Thinking straight, not laterally, the way forward

By: ASHOK LAVASA

THERE are many ways to kill a good idea; implementing it shoddily is the simplest.

The manner in which the recruitment of 45 officers of the Joint Secretary/Director level laterally was requisitioned and withdrawn suddenly is a good example. The withdrawal was surprising on three counts. One, lateral induction had been resorted to in the past, including by this government without getting mired in debilitating controversies. Second, as the Opposition fired its precision-guided 'reservation' missile, some ministers launched a counterattack, not aware of the swift, embarrassing retreat being planned. Third, a government known to be tough buckled under a smoking gun. The irony was that ministers who should have known better were brandishing their swords even as the retreat was being sounded.

Before coming to the issues involved in the non-political endeavour of lateral recruitment, one cannot help but pity the language of the 'instrument of surrender', which could have been a straightforward official communication instead of a demi-official letter from the minister giving the impression that his ministry made a mistake, which the Prime Minister (who is in charge of the ministry) stepped in to correct. He even traduced the Opposition for overlooking the principle of 'social justice' it advocated while making lateral recruitment when in power.

Much has been written about previous governments inducting experts from the market into the bureaucratic system, the recommendations of the Administrative Reform Commission and the Group of Secretaries, the examination of

the proposal by the Department of Personnel from various angles, and the peaceful induction earlier. This was not the first attempt by the government, and hopefully it will not be the last, to draft outside talent to shore up its skill set.

It would be unfair to endorse lateral entry or dismiss it without understanding the context and the motivation for such a move. Let us look at some fundamental issues.

The Government of India (GOI) runs the affairs of the Central Government and other national-level bodies by recruiting officers to services such as income tax, Railways and Posts through the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), following the reservation policy. It also takes on deputation All India Services (AIS) officers borne on state cadres recruited through the same process. The GOI has no cadre of AIS officers; the states maintain a deputation reserve as part of their sanctioned cadre strength. The GOI draws upon this reserve to fill positions at different levels in the ministries and other apex organisations through an empanelment process for joint secretaries and above.

Many GOI ministries have their specialised services to deal with their allotted subjects, as in the case of agriculture, commerce, civil and cost accounts, etc. In addition, the government has fruitfully drawn upon the expertise of outside talent occasionally without being bound by its reservation policy. While earlier governments selected eminent experts through an informal system, this government tried to institutionalise the selection through the UPSC. Also, there has never been an attempt at such large-scale lateral induction.

It would be interesting to understand how effectively is the expertise of the existing specialised

cadres utilised by the government, especially when professional advice conflicts with short-term objectives of the government or the political interests of the ruling party.

If the government wishes a sprinkling of external experts in the bureaucratic system and treat it as quasi deputation, it must identify ministries needing such 'market borrowing' and simultaneously rationalise and redraw existing cadres. Further, it should be clear whether such induction is routine recruitment or contextual. In case it is contextual and need-based, experts could be hired as consultants who can give their opinion and make recommendations freely without being burdened with bureaucratic decision-making. It is one thing to give a professional view and quite another to be responsible for navigating through the system, especially if one is unfamiliar with the ropes and the eddies. Of course, being in the system, their advice could be either tempered or hindered by practical considerations. It would be useful to evaluate the contribution of the lateral entrants thus far in injecting 'fresh' ideas and approaches they were expected to bring and to assess whether the system utilised their expertise when it countered political judgment or allowed it to dissipate in the bureaucratic sea without making waves. Even if useful, sadly they have to leave after their contract or deputation ends.

The Indian Administrative Service is accused of being a 'generalist' service lacking in specialised knowledge of any discipline, a concern off-repeated without any serious attempt at reforming its character. In 2004, I had written to the then Cabinet Secretary, suggesting that the existing system of empanelment be revamped. The proposed

system envisaged the departments of GOI divided into broad sectoral groups such as rural development, economic administration, social services and energy. AIS officers can be asked to opt for two or three sectors after completing 16 years of service, which entitles them to be considered as joint secretaries. Based on an examination, the UPSC can determine the suitability of the officers to be allocated to a specialised sector cadre. Selected officers can then serve the GOI in the area they have qualified for till retirement, acquiring experience in a special area of governance. Those officers that do not opt for serving the Centre continue to work in their original cadres. This system will not create a separate class of 'empanelled' officers serving the Centre for a limited period and returning to their cadres for 'cooling off'. It will also remove allegations of subjectivity in the current empanelment process and hopefully identify officers with special aptitude and governance experience.

It is at this stage of creating sectoral streams of officers that the government could consider inducting lateral entrants, depending on the shortfall of selected officers, the special needs of a ministry or for a unique priority area for the government.

To my mind, the government should keep a window for lateral entry and open it selectively for delivering a certain project or handling a specific assignment. However, a door for lateral entrants should remain open as part of building specialist cadres, as suggested above. Otherwise, the survival of outsiders in the inhospitable terrain of the civil services could be as difficult as for the cheetahs to roam free in the unfamiliar environs of Kuno National Park.

50 years of India's steady outperformance

By: TN NINAN

IT may not have seemed so at the time, but 50 years ago India reached a turning point. There was an economic crisis and political turmoil. The decisive action a year later was the imposition of Emergency rule by Indira Gandhi. But that was overturned in less than two years. What proved more long-lasting was something barely noticed at the time: A new direction in economic policy, away from Mrs Gandhi's overtly Leftist phase. There followed in due course an end to India's long-term under-performance as an economy, and over time the birth of a new 'India story'.

International mention of India is now more likely to refer to it as a rising power rather than as a country of poor people.

Until the mid-1970s, India had been growing more slowly than the world economy. The transition in the second half of the 1970s followed some 15 years of crises in the form of wars, failed harvests and even famine, a traumatic rupee devaluation and two oil shocks. Many of these events had contributed to a loss of national self-belief after the early optimism under Jawaharlal Nehru.

But once the economy stabilised, what followed was a half century of steady outperformance. Growth outpaced both low-income and middle-income countries, as well as the world economy. The country consequently has an international heft today that it never enjoyed before. Yet, it has not been a 'shining' record, because of continuing poor socioeconomic metrics and rising inequality.

Prior to the transition, India's share of the global economy had been on the decline — from 2.7 per cent in 1960 to 1.9 per cent in 1975 before the decline slowed, stabilised and eventually improved. Even in 2013, India's share of the world GDP was slightly smaller than in 1960. Now, in 2024, it is 3.5 per cent of the global GDP. And since the economy is growing at twice the global average, India is the third-largest contributor to global growth.

Per capita income similarly improved. From 8.4 per cent of the global average in 1960, India's per capita income dipped to 6.4 per cent in 1974. The numbers improved to 13.5 per cent in 2011, and further to 18.1 per cent in 2023. That is a near-trebling over five decades. Yet people in most countries enjoy a much better standard of living. Indeed, there are hardly any countries outside of Africa and in India's own South Asian neighbourhood where per capita incomes are lower. A long road lies ahead.

What transforms the India story is the size of its population. Per capita income is modest, but when multiplied 1,400 million times it makes the Indian economy the fifth largest. Already, India is the second-largest market for mobile phones and motorcycles/scooters, and the third- or fourth-largest for aviation and cars. Growth in these product and service markets has been underpinned by a burgeoning middle class. Businesses catering to it have generated great wealth for investors, leading to the rise of dollar-billionaires (at 200, the world's third-largest tally), while the stock

market ranks fourth by market capitalisation.

Up to the mid-1970s, close to half the population lived below a bare-bones poverty line. Today, less than 10 per cent of the people are officially poor. International mention of India is now more likely to refer to it as a rising power rather than as a country of poor people. Yet, India continues to feature as only a 'medium development' country in its human development, while countries like Vietnam have attained 'high development' status. India is unlikely to make it to the 'high development' category for another decade or more — beyond which lies the 'very high development' category comprising the developed economies, to which the country aspires.

Even here, though, the numbers are improving. The mean years of schooling have improved from 4.4 years in 2010 to 6.57 years now. India also has more than the WHO-prescribed ratio of a doctor per 1,000 population, and life expectancy has finally crossed the 70 threshold.

Higher incomes find reflection in a more varied and richer diet. Milk consumption has multiplied 10-fold. So has fish consumption, while the consumption of eggs has increased more than 20-fold. Add to this the rapid growth of horticulture — fruits and vegetables. Meanwhile, household savings as a share of the income have gone up 70 per cent, even as average incomes have multiplied six-fold in real terms.

More important than all these may be a change in mindset. India in the mid-1970s was still committed to socialist rhetoric.

Apart from large-scale nationalisation of several industries, there was also price and production control on everything, from paper to steel, and sugar to cement, even bathing soaps and cars! The inevitable result was shortages and black markets. State governments routinely sided with trade unions in industrial disputes. But things have changed. Indian politics is now more populist than socialist, the Communist parties are in the ICU, and governments want to change labour laws to facilitate business. Tax rates have become reasonable.

Indians have become enthusiastic share-market capitalists. In 1974, the biggest public issue of shares totalled all of

Rs 12 crore (about Rs 350 crore in today's money). In comparison, in the last couple of years, several companies have done public issues of Rs 15,000-21,000 crore (LIC, Adani, Vodafone, etc). As recently as a decade ago, mutual fund companies managed sums equal to less than an eighth of bank deposits; that share has doubled to more than a quarter. The next five years could see India add more to its GDP, in absolute numbers, than it has done in the last 10.

And yet, there is no story in India without a counter-story. The production of consumer durables has not increased at all compared to seven years earlier, and has gone up by an annual average of just 2.8 per cent for non-durables. Clearly, consumers are financially stressed, especially in the lower rungs of the income ladder — probably reflecting the lack of enough work on good wages. Only when that changes will the economy be able to get to the 7-plus per cent rate that once marked out the truly high-growth economies.

Ten days Aryans Scholarship Mela kick starts in Baramulla

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: Chandigarh based Aryans Group of Colleges started 10 days scholarship mela from JK today. The first day the mela was organized in Baramulla, Today in SRM Walkin Education Trust, Sopore. Dr. Anshu Katraia, Chairman, Aryans Group was Chief Guest while Inayat Aijaz, Chairman; Baseema Aijaz, Vice chairman, Walkin Trust were Guests of Honour. Tahseen & Amir became first two students to get admitted in Aryans in B. Pharma Course and got the letter.

Amir thanked Dr. Anshu Katraia, Chairman, Aryans Group of Colleges,



and while addressing students, said that Believe in yourself, your abilities, and your dreams. Surround yourself with positive influences and keep moving forward. You'll overcome any obstacle and achieve greatness.

Dr. Anshu Katraia said that Amir is inspiring millions not only in India

but abroad too. Despite not having arms, he has not let his passion for cricket. For that Sachin Tendulkar & Adani Group has also honored him. For all his hard work and Aryans Group decided and announced him Brand Ambassador of Aryans.

Er. Shahid Lone, Faculty, Aryans College of

Engineering added that in Aryans Scholarship mela the selected students would get 10%-100% scholarship on merit cum mean basis. For any admission related queries, students can contact Er. Mudasar Ahmad (8427022288), Er. Rayees Ahmad (8054899888), Er. Jahan-gir Rashid (8054699888),

Er. Shahid Lone (8054499888).

It is to be mentioned that, established in 2007, Aryans campus is located on Chandigarh-Patala highway, near Chandigarh and has lush green 20 acres pollution free campus and has become the destination for JK students. Aryans Group has been serving the educational and intellectual interests of the youth in a commendable manner. The Group is running Engineering College, Law College, Pharmacy College, Management College, Business School, Education College, and Nursing College, Faculty of Physiotherapy & Paramedical etc.

HDFC Bank launches Edtech platform for students planning to study abroad at Global Fintech Fest in Mumbai

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: HDFC Bank, India's leading private sector bank, today announced the launch of its Edtech platform at the Global Fintech Fest 2024 in Mumbai which will serve as a payment gateway for students pursuing education overseas.

This will assist in digitizing overseas Education remittance payments flow from existing offline modes of funding overseas transfers.

HDFC Bank will partner with educational consultants/aggregators, to enable students to send money abroad to universities.

The solution will assist in

smoothly enabling these partners/consultants offer the convenience of digital payments and ensure compliance with extant RBI guidelines via the HDFC Bank Edtech platform connection, thereby providing convenience to students and reduce payment drop-offs.

As per an estimate by the Ministry of External Affairs, over 13 lakh Indian students are expected to go abroad for educational purposes. Together all the Indian Banks handle transactions worth about \$ 3.5 billion which is 11 per cent of total Liberalised Remittance Services. This segment of Education consultants and aggregators

holds immense growth potential as they offer a complete suite of services and handhold a large number of students seeking to study overseas.

Speaking on the occasion, Jatinder Gupta, Business Head and EVP - Retail Trade and Forex, HDFC Bank said, "We are excited to launch our new Edtech platform - a payments solution for students aspiring to pursue their education dreams abroad. This will help make the journey quicker and smoother. The offering from HDFC Bank is a part of our focus on customer centricity and our commitment to evolve alongside changing customer expectations".

GDC R S Pura organizes career counseling session



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: Career Counseling and Placement Cell, Govt. Degree College, R.S.Pura in collaboration with District Employment and Counseling Centre Jammu, organized a career counseling session on Thursday under the guidance of Dr. Preetpal Kour, Principal of the college.

The speakers of this event were Mamta Sharma, Career Counseling Officer, DECC Jammu and Shivali Choudhary, Employment Officer,

DECC Jammu.

The event started with welcome address by Prof. Meeshu Pandita.

The speakers in this counseling session made students aware about the various services provided by the department. The focus was on the registration of job seekers on the portal of Employment department. They also guided about the various career and counseling activities and start-ups. The main focus was on the self-employment schemes of government and about the short term

skill development courses. More than 60 students participated enthusiastically in the program and were made aware of the services provided by the department.

The entire program was successfully organized by Dr. Neeru Sawhney, Convener, Career Counseling and Placement cell, Prof. Anju Kumari, Prof. Shelly Kalsi, Prof. Meeshu Pandita, Dr. Hari Singh, Prof. Geetika Goswami and Prof. Vijeeta Anand. The program ended nicely with a formal vote of thanks by Prof. Vijeeta Anand.

Akshita Gupta qualifies Ph.D

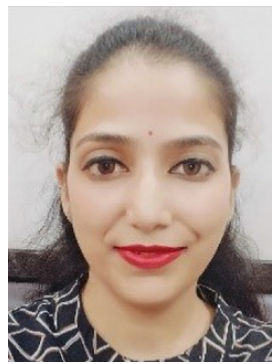
Top News Report

KATRA, Aug 29: Akshita Gupta, daughter of Ashok Kumar and Rajni Kumari, and wife of Anmol Gupta, has been declared qualified for the award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the School of Electronics and Communication Engineering at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra.

She carried out her research under the guidance of Dr. Sachin Kumar Gupta, Assistant Professor, SMVDU (currently on EOL).

Her scientific research work entitled "Collaboration of UAVs and Fog Computing for Better QoS" has been acknowledged through publications in reputed international journals ranked by SCIE, and SCOPUS.

She has published three SCI /SCIES indexed in peer-reviewed International Journals, one Scopus journal, one book chapter in a reputed book house, and several conference papers in international and national conferences. Additionally,



she has been granted a patent by the German Patent and Trademark Office.

She would like to express her sincere thanks to her supervisor, Dr. Sachin Kumar Gupta, and to the School of ECE, SMVDU for all their support and resources during her research.

Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, Dr. Kumud Ranjan Jha (Dean, Faculty of Engineering), Dr. Anil Bhardwaj, (Head, School of ECE), Dr. Sachin Kumar Gupta (Supervisor), Dr. Manish Sabraj (Administrative Supervisor) and other committee members congratulate Akshita and wished her a bright future ahead.

Farmers protest in Kishtwar over unpaid land compensation

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Aug 29: Farmers, who lost their land for the construction of a road in the Dugga Diwaru area of Kishtwar, on Thursday staged a protest.

The land, which was historically used for cultivating the famous saffron crop, was acquired by the government in 2018 to build a link road. This road was intended to bypass Kishtwar and connect to the National Highway.

At the time of acquisition, government officials assured the landowners, who are primarily farmers, that they would



receive compensation. However, despite six years of repeated appeals, expressing their anger and frustration with the administration's inaction.

The protesters warned that if their demands are not met, they will escalate their protests to a larger scale.

Shakir Giri, and Saroop Krishan. The farmers blocked roads at several points, expressing their anger and frustration with the administration's inaction.

Dr. Maruti conducts session on Master Your Mind for Success, Happiness, and Harmony at SMVDU



Top News Report

KATRA, Aug 29: Dr. Maruti Sharma, a distinguished professional in the field of mental health and wellness conducted an interactive session on Master Your Mind for Success, Happiness and Harmony for newly admitted students under the Student Induction Program-2024 at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University.

During the lecture, Dr. Sharma emphasized the importance of mental clarity, emotional bal-

ance, and mindfulness as essential tools for achieving success and maintaining happiness and harmony.

Prof. Balbir Singh, Dean of Academic Affairs, thanked Dr. Sharma for his valuable contribution to the SIP-2024. Dr. Sharma's lecture was not only enlightening but also empowering. It provided students with the tools they need to navigate their academic journey with a positive and proactive mindset said Dr. Bharat Bhushan Jindal, Associate Dean of

Academics (Engg.) and Coordinator of the Student Induction Program.

The event was well coordinated by faculty members Dr. Varun Dutta, Dr. Kamaldeep, Dr. Anil Bhardwaj, Dr. Rajiv, and Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi.

The event was concluded with a dynamic Q&A session, where Dr. Sharma answered questions from students, offering further guidance on topics such as stress management, mindfulness practices, and achieving life balance.

IHRSC skaters shine at inter-school skating competition, bag 11 medals

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: Indian Hawks Roller Skating Club skaters yet again delivered an outstanding performance at the inter-school roller skating competition held at JK Public School, Kunjwani Jammu.

The event, which saw participation from numerous schools across the region, witnessed a fierce yet sportsmanlike display of talent and determination. The IHRSC skaters clinched 11 medals in various categories, reaffirming their reputation as one of the finest skating clubs in Jammu. Competing in different age groups, the club's skaters excelled in speed and inline skating, showcasing their well-rounded skills. IHRSC skaters who gave out-

standing performances in different speed skating events include Sanvi Grover two gold medals (Champion), Puneesh Puri two gold medals (Champion), Rudra Arora one bronze, Viraj Gandotra one silver and one bronze, Shambhav Dev Singh Jamwal one bronze, Avikam Ashok Gupta two silver and Anaysha Gupta one bronze. The dedication and training of Indian Hawks were evident as they navigated the rink with precision and agility, earning well-deserved praise from both coaches and spectators. Ashok Gandotra (Retd Chief Engineer) President IHRSC expressed immense pride in the achievements of the club's skaters. "The hard work these kids put in is paying off. This victory

is not just about medals but about the spirit of the sport. I am confident that these skaters will have a bright future in the game at both national and international arenas," he said. Parents, teachers, and skating enthusiasts who attended the event were thrilled by the skaters' performance and lauded the efforts of Jammu and Kashmir Roller Skating Association and JK Public School for hosting such a well-organized competition giving a promising platform to budding sportspersons to hone their skills and gain competitive experience. The success of the Indian Hawks skaters in this inter-school competition marks yet another milestone for the club, which continues to nurture and promote young skating talent in the region.

7.74 lakh voters to exercise their franchise in Srinagar District

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 29: With the issuance of notification for the second phase of elections in J&K, the capital city of Srinagar is all set to go for polls on September 25.

As per the final Electoral Rolls, Srinagar District has a total of 7,74,462 electorate, among which 3,86,654 are male voters, 3,87,778 are female voters while 30 belong to the third gender.

Srinagar District comprises 08 Assembly Constituencies viz. 19-Hazratbal, 20- Khanyar, 21-Habbakadal, 22-Lalchowk, 23-Chanapora, 24-Zadibal, 25-Eidgah and 26-Central Shalteng.

To facilitate the voters for smooth and hassle free electoral participation, the Election Commission of India (ECI)

has established 932 polling stations, of which 885 are urban polling stations while 47 are rural polling stations.

Continuing from its past experience of inclusive and participative elections, the ECI has established special polling stations and these include 8-Pink polling stations, 8-Youth polling stations, 8-PWD polling stations, 5-Unique polling stations and 8-Green polling stations.

The last date of filing of nominations is September 05, while date of scrutiny of nominations shall be September 06 and last date for withdrawal of candidature is 09 September, 2024.

The District will go to polls on September, 25 while counting of votes and results shall be declared on October 04, 2024.

Voter Awareness Rally organised at GHSS Bagga

Top News Report

MAHORE, Aug 29: In light of the imminent Assembly Elections in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the Nodal Officer SVEEP for Assembly Constituency 56-Gulabgarh (ST), in collaboration with the Govt. Higher Secondary School Bagga, Electoral Literacy Club and NSS Unit of GDC Sarh Bagga Mahore, conducted a



comprehensive voter awareness rally on 29th August 2024. The event was flagged off by Dr. Ashok Kumar, Principal of the College, and Prof. Ajaz Ahmad, Nodal Officer SVEEP. Students

from GHSS Bagga and GDC Sarh Bagga took part in the rally with great enthusiasm.

The rally traversed through Bagga Market and other key areas of the locality, where partici-

pants actively engaged with the public, imparting crucial information about the importance of voting and the civic responsibility of every citizen to participate in the electoral process. They emphasized the significance of voter registration, ethical voting, and the role of each vote in shaping the future of the community. BLO Mohd Iqbal from GHSS Bagga accompanied the students during

the rally.

At the conclusion of the rally, a slogan writing competition was organized at the college to further reinforce the message of voter awareness and participation. The competition encouraged students to creatively express the importance of voting, thus contributing to the broader mission of promoting democratic engagement within the region.

GGM Science College organizes Extension Lecture on CSAM

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: The CASH Committee of GGM Science College organized an Awareness program on the Protection of Rights of Childrem against Production, Distribution, and Consumption of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) under the aegis of the Principal Dr. Ramesh Kumar Gupta and under the guidance of Convener CASH Committee Dr. Jatinder Kour.

For this purpose Kunal Saini, Advocate J&K High Court Jammu was invited as Resource person.

His various experienc-

es as an LL M from Graduate School of Geneva and Law researcher at the Supreme Court of India made him an ideal person to interact with young students.

He made a very impactful presentation followed by an interactive session. Dr. Ramesh Kumar Gupta while extending formal welcome to the Resource person emphasized on the need to make students aware of the dire consequences of the seemingly innocuous acts which start off with chatting online and spiral into such obnoxious acts, difficult to extricate from.

The principal export-

ed students to create an atmosphere where sexual harassment is not tolerated, where victims are supported and where everyone is treated with the dignity they deserve.

Chakshu Sem V student presented the welcome address and Maithili extended vote of thanks. A self composed poem on the topic was recited by Sumit Kumar, also a Sem V student. The entire program was well coordinated by the CASH committee viz .

Dr. Balvinder kour, Dr. Shafiya, Dr. Mona, Dr. Davinder, Prof. Kiran Bala, Prof. Mehnaz, Dr. Sheetu Raina and Dr. Neha.

Sportsman's spirit

National Sports Day: Cricket to kabaddi to martial arts, these Bollywood stars have left their mark in the sports arena too

National Sports Day is celebrated every year on August 29. This day is dedicated not only to professional athletes but also to those whose lives have been touched by sports in meaningful ways. There are many Bollywood celebs, who pursued sports before they took to acting. Let's take a look at some of these stars who are known for their sports background.

Aditya Seal: Martial Arts

The Khel Khel Mein actor Aditya Seal has been a dedicated martial artist for many years, specialising in taekwondo. He began his training at the age of 15 and continues to practice the art to this day. Aditya holds a black belt and has taken part in numerous tournaments, both in India and South Korea, where won gold medals. Martial arts have become a way of life for him.

Saiyami Kher: Sprinting/cricket/badminton

Before stepping into the world of cinema, Saiyami Kher was active in sports. She played cricket, badminton and sprinting and took part in



zonal and district-level tournaments. Currently, she is preparing for an international sporting event known as Ironman. This triathlon race will see her compete in cycling, swimming, and sprinting, showcasing her versatile athletic skills and dedication to sports.

Nimrit Kaur Ahluwalia: Sprinter

The Khatron Ke Khiladi contestant Nimrit Kaur Ahluwalia was an avid sports enthusiast during her academic years in Delhi. Nimrit excelled as a sprinter, participating in various zonal tournaments and securing first place in the 100, 200, and 400-meter races.

Richa Chadha: Kabaddi

Richa Chadha, known for her versatility as an actor, was a dedicated kabaddi player during her school days in Delhi. The Fukrey actress, who recently became a mother, represented her school in zonal kabaddi tournaments. Her training in kabaddi proved invaluable when she was cast in the film Panga, in which she played a kabaddi player.

Anushka Ranjan: Swimming

Anushka Ranjan, an actor and humanitarian best known for her foundation for the girl child, Beti, once aspired to be a professional swimmer. During her school days, Anushka actively participated in various inter-school and zonal

swimming competitions, earning accolades for both herself and her school. Although she eventually pursued a career in acting, Anushka's passion for swimming remains strong. Whenever she finds the time, she returns to the pool, reconnecting with her first love.

Gulshan Devaiah: Javelin

Gulshan Devaiah, one of the most talented actors of recent times, was a sports enthusiast and excelled as a javelin thrower during his academic years. The Ulajh actor ranked number one at district-level sporting events, but he couldn't quite make it to the state level. This led

him to explore his other talents, eventually trying out fashion design and later acting.

Akshay Oberoi: Sprinting

Akshay Oberoi, the blue-eyed boy who recently garnered much love and success for his performance in Fighter, was a sports enthusiast long before making his mark in the film industry. Born and raised in New Jersey, Akshay was an avid cross-country marathon sprinter during his university days. He participated in various marathons across the US.

Ali Fazal: Basketball

Before Ali Fazal became an actor, he was a basketball player during his days in Doon School. Ali actively participated in various zonal and intercollegiate basketball tournaments and initially aspired to pursue a career in basketball. However, due to a serious injury, he was forced to step away from the sport and explore alternative career paths. This unexpected turn of events ultimately led him to the world of acting.

Kerala actor-politician Mukesh booked for rape on actress' plaint



A rape case has been registered against prominent Malayalam actor and ruling CPI(M) MLA M Mukesh following a female actor's allegation that he sexually assaulted her years ago, police said on Thursday.

An FIR under IPC 376 (rape) was registered against the actor at Maradu police station in Kochi city on Wednesday night, a police officer said.

The case was registered under the IPC as the offence allegedly occurred before the new Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita came to force, he said. This is the third FIR against a high profile

Malayalam film personality following allegations of sexual harassment against various directors and actors in the wake of revelations in the Justice K Hema Committee report.

On Wednesday, Thiruvananthapuram museum police had booked actor Sidhique for allegedly raping an actress in a hotel eight years ago.

The first case, under IPC Section 354 (assault or criminal force on woman with intent to outrage her modesty), was against director Ranjith on a complaint by a female actor from West Bengal regard-

ing an incident which occurred in 2009.

She had alleged that the director had touched her inappropriately with sexual intent after inviting her to act in the movie Paleri Manikyam.

Following the allegation by the actor, Ranjith had resigned from his post as chairman of the state-run Kerala Chalachitra Academy.

Sidhique had also resigned as general secretary of the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA) following the allegations against him.

The Justice Hema Committee was constituted by the Kerala government after the 2017 actress assault case and its report revealed instances of harassment and exploitation of women in the Malayalam cinema industry.

Amidst allegations of sexual harassment and exploitation cropping up against several actors and directors, the state government on August 25 announced the establishment of a seven-member special investigation team to probe them.

Subsequently, more complaints surfaced.

Al Pacino credits his success to his mother who died from overdose

Hollywood superstar Al Pacino has given the credit for his Oscar-winning success to his troubled mother.

His mother died from an overdose when he was 22. He also revealed that his mother didn't want him to act, reports 'Mirror.co.uk'.

The 'Godfather' star, 84, was brought up by Rose and his grandparents in The Bronx after his mom and dad divorced when he was two.

The actor said that she inadvertently shaped his career by taking him to the movies.

As per 'Mirror.co.uk', the actor recalled a suicide attempt by Rose when he was six and later her death from an overdose in 1962, in an excerpt from his new book 'Sonny Boy: A Memoir' published in The New Yorker this week.

The star also says he lost friends to drugs. Rose also saved him from a life of crime growing up in New York. He titled the book after the nickname his mom gave him, which came from the popular song by Al Jolson.

Al Pacino, whose other acclaimed movies include 'Scarface' and 'Dog Day Afternoon',



wrote, "My mother was a beautiful woman but she was emotionally fragile. She would occasionally visit a psychiatrist when Grandad had the money to pay. I wasn't aware that my mother was having problems until one day when I was six years old and getting ready to go out and play".

"I was sitting in a chair in the kitchen while my mother laced up my shoes and put a sweater on me, and I noticed that she was crying. I wondered what the matter was but I didn't know

how to ask. She was kissing me all over and right before I left she gave me a great big hug", he added.

He described how, from an early age, she would take him to the cinema and he began to run the characters' lines through his head. However, they eventually clashed over his desire to become an actor and he left home after dropping out of classes in favour of acting. He attended the High School of Performing Arts after getting in via an audition.

Chasing Godot

With Hollywood star Keanu Reeves making his Broadway debut with Samuel Beckett's famous play *Waiting for Godot*, we look into why the charm of this play refuses to die

There are a few classics whose lure refuses to die and Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* is surely a part of that club! Premiered during the early 1950s, *Godot* is still going strong. So much so that Neo of *Matrix*, Keanu Reeves (or if you know him as *John Wick*) is going to make his Broadway debut in the fall of 2025 with the play. Getting into the shoes of Estragon, joining him will be his Bill & Ted co-star Alex Winter as Vladimir. The show will be directed by Jamie Lloyd, who has to his credit *Romeo & Juliet* and *Sunset Blvd*, among others.

Just like the West cannot have enough of *Godot*, closer home eminent theatre director Kewal Dhaliwal too is working on his next production — an adaptation of Beckett's famous play. "We have adapted *Waiting for Godot* into the setting of Punjab and titled it *Intezar Hai*," shares Dhaliwal. "It's not a translation but adaptation," he clarifies. The play, which has been one of the most successful ever, has been staged in different languages and different contexts, but is still relevant. "We wanted to do something that speaks about farmers' plight in Punjab. What better than *Godot*? The play opened right after the Second World War ended, when humanity had lost its meaning, especially after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. "Isn't Punjab of today in a similar



listless state? Isn't the farmer eternally waiting for someone to turn up? What political party or government will value life is what we address in *Intezar Hai*," shares Dhaliwal. It bothers the theatre director that today we are in completely oblivious of social issues. "One doesn't think beyond their palatial house or big car. Punjab especially is in an absurd state and so we thought of doing this play," adds Dhaliwal.

Interestingly, during the early 2000s, another theatre veteran, MK Raina, did the same play in Kashmiri. "Do you know that this play, which has stood the test of time, was completely rejected by the French elite at its opening? Beckett then did it in a prison and there the 'hope in hopelessness' strand clicked with the prisoners. Since then, the

play hasn't looked back," shares Raina, speaking to us from Kolkata, where he is curating a special programme to celebrate the birth centenary of Habib Tanvir. He talks about his production of *Godot*. "Those were the most bizarre times, the state in social and political upheaval. When we did the play, the audience was moved to tears. I realised how people in that turmoil may not be able to articulate what they were going through but sure related to this drama of the absurd." For him, the play stands for God to arrive... who never does!

"For me, it's a play of hope and existence, of self-realisation and spirituality," shares Navdeep Kaur, chairperson, Department of Indian Theatre, Panjab University. Just like Vladimir and Estragon are waiting near the tree, Kaur believes we are still

waiting. "Even seven decades on, do we have answers to life and our existence? Yes, we have built homes that probably are the safe spaces where we hope to know what the ultimate journey of human life is. But we are as clueless as those two characters in the play." She mentions Covid times and how humanity clung on to hope. "Just like we passed those dark times, humanity will probably pass other tough times, but the eternal wait for answers remains... the wait is still on for *Godot*."

For theatre director Umesh Kant, the play stands for desire, hope and frustration. "I am so glad that the finest to come out of the theatre of the absurd is getting a Broadway outing," shares Kant, admitting plainly, "I have wished many times, but never dared to do *Godot*. To make theatre of the absurd accessible to common people, the director must have a crystal clear vision."

For Kant, the play is been more relevant today than ever before. "Aren't we all still waiting for things to fall in the right place? The wait, the hope and hopelessness is as relevant today as it was during the 50s, when this gem of a play was written," says the director, who is working on his next production, a Hindi adaptation of Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*.

Angelina Jolie to be honoured at Toronto International Film Festival

Hollywood actor Angelina Jolie is set to receive a special honour for her contribution to the cinematic world and humanitarian work at the upcoming Toronto International Film Festival. Angelina will be receiving the TIFF Tribute Award in Impact Media at the upcoming film festival, reports.

All about the special honour

The Oscar-winning actor will be honoured on September 8 at the

TIFF fundraiser. The honour, presented by Anne-Marie Canning, recognises efforts in cinema and social work. Previous award winners include Pedro Almodóvar, Mira Nair and Alanis Obomsawin.

Angelina will be recognised alongside Amy Adams, Cate Blanchett, Durga Chew-Bose, David Cronenberg, Clément Ducoil and Camille, Jharrel Jerome, Mike Leigh and Zhao Tao, with Sandra Oh serving



as the inaugural Honorary Chair of the fundraising gala. "Angelina Jolie is a multifaceted talent who has entertained audiences for decades while consistently using her platform to champion important causes," said Cameron Bailey, CEO of TIFF. "We're honoured to present her with the 2024 TIFF Tribute Award in Impact Media. This award recognises her exceptional achievements in filmmaking, and her unwavering

commitment for positive change, solidifying her status as a veritable humanitarian and global force to be reckoned with," Cameron added.

More about the gala In addition to this, her latest film, *Without Blood*, will also have its world premiere at the film festival.

Written, directed and produced by Angelina, *Without Blood* is a war drama based on the Alessandro Baricco novel of the same name.

It narrates the story of a girl's quest for revenge and healing during a time of conflict. It stars Salma Hayek Pinault and Demián Bichir in lead roles.

Her outing at the fest will mark her return to TIFF following the success of her features, *First They Killed My Father*, which she wrote and directed; and *The Breadwinner*, which she executive produced. Both films were TIFF selections in 2017.

“Idea is to create safe, appealing environment”: CJI Chandrachud after inaugurating creche In Supreme Court

NEW DELHI, Aug 29 (Agencies): The Chief Justice of India, DY Chandrachud on Thursday inaugurated a creche in the Supreme Court and said that it has a play area, feeding area, sleeping area and a dining area for the young children that will encourage more women lawyers to participate in the legal profession.

CJI Chandrachud said, “We have a large number of young lawyers who come here every day to work. We have a staff of almost 2500 members. The earlier creche was about 198m2. This creche is 450 m2. It can accommodate about 100 children of lawyers and the staff. The idea is to create a safe, very appealing environment.”

“We have a play area, feeding area, sleeping area and a dining area for the young chil-



dren. This is to encourage more women lawyers to participate in the legal profession without any uncertainty about the safety of their children,” he added.

The CJI further said that other organizations should take the cue from this as it will encourage more women enrolment. “I hope other organizations

take the cue from us and create these facilities because this is a way we can encourage more women to come into the workplace and create safe working conditions for the children,” he said.

After inaugurating the creche, when the CJI sat on the bench to hear the cases, he said, “So sorry we were all late. But we dedicated the new creche to benefit the young men and women lawyers. Earlier creche was about 200 sqm for 30 children but now it’s close to 400 sqm for nearly 100 kids.”

The Chief Justice of India also inaugurated a branch of the Bank of Maharashtra in the Supreme Court earlier today. The President of the Supreme Court Bar Association, Kapil Sibal also accompanied the CJI.

Mamata Banerjee clarifies ‘snake’ remark, says it was aimed at BJP, not students



KOLKATA, Aug 29 (Agencies): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who was in the eye of the storm over her remarks at the Trinamool Congress rally, on Thursday clarified that she was not against medical students or their movements but referring to a popular parable by Hindu mystic Ramakrishna Paramahansa on a “snake that refused to hiss”.

As per the parable, a monk advised a snake “not to bite anybody but surely hiss when attacked,” meaning that “while not harming is the principle, protesting against injustice is right.”

On Wednesday, while addressing an event to mark the foundation day of Trinamool Congress’ students’ wing, the Chief Minister referred to the parable reportedly to energise

the activists of the student wings to oppose “propaganda” against her government on the issue of the rape and murder of a junior doctor of state-run R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital in Kolkata earlier this month.

Soon after she made the statement, scathing criticisms flooded both from the opposition parties as well as from different walks of society claiming the Chief Minister was “instigating” her party followers to adopt the “path of revenge” to silence the voices of protest against the rape and murder.

The Chief Minister said that her “hiss” remark was not aimed at silencing the protests by the medical fraternity or students but to counter the “negative politics” of the BJP and the Union government against the state government.

“Let me most emphatically clarify that I have not uttered a single word against the (medical etc) students or their movements. I support their movement. Their movement is genuine. I never threatened them, as some people are accusing me of doing. This allegation is completely false. I have spoken against the BJP. I have spoken against them because, with the support of the Government of India, they are threatening the democracy in our State and trying to create anarchy. With support from the Centre, they are trying to create lawlessness and I have raised my voice against them,” read the statement from the Chief Minister posted on social media platform X. She said that the phrase ‘Phonsh Kora’ (hissing), which she referred to, is a quote from Ramakrishna Paramahansa.

“The legendary saint had said that occasionally there is a need to raise one’s voice. When there are crimes and criminal offences, a voice of protest has to be raised. My speech on that point was a direct allusion to the great Ramakrishna saying,” her post read.

Mallikarjun Kharge slams Modi government over issue of women’s safety

NEW DELHI, Aug 29 (Agencies): Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday hit out at the Centre over women’s safety, saying Prime Minister Narendra Modi has talked about the issue many times in his speeches from the Red Fort but his government has not done anything concrete that could prevent crimes against women. Kharge asserted that crimes against women are a serious issue and preventing these crimes is a big challenge for the country.

“We all have to unite and find solutions to this by taking along every section of the society,”

the Congress chief said in a post in Hindi on X. His remarks come amid uproar against the backdrop of the nationwide outcry over the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata and also cases of rape of girls in other parts of the country.

Every hour 43 crimes against women are recorded in the country. Every day 22 crimes are registered against women and children of the most vulnerable Dalit-tribal class of our country.

Countless crimes are not even registered - out of fear, intimidation,

social reasons,” the Congress chief said. “Are we able to take preventive measures? Has our criminal justice system improved? Are the exploited and deprived sections of society now able to live in a safe environment?” he said.

Will painting “Beti Bachao” on every wall bring about social change or make governments’ law and order competent.

Has the government and administration not tried to hide a crime. Has the police stopped forcibly cremating the victims so that the truth does not come out, the Congress chief further



asked.

“Are we able to fully implement those recommendations of the Justice Verma Committee even today, after the Nirbhaya case in Delhi in 2012, the recommendations of the were implemented, today?” Kharge said.

Are the provisions of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act passed in 2013 being followed properly so that a fear-free environment can be created for our women at the workplace, Kharge said.

Delhi High Court extends till September 5 interim protection from arrest to IAS probationer Puja Khedkar

NEW DELHI, Aug 29 (Agencies): The Delhi High Court on Thursday extended till September 5 the interim protection from arrest granted to former IAS probationer Puja Khedkar, who has been accused of cheating and wrongly availing OBC and disability quota benefits.

Justice Subramonium Prasad deferred hearing on the anticipatory bail plea by Khedkar till then and granted liberty to the police to file a fresh status report in the meantime.

Both UPSC and the Delhi Police have sought

dismissal of her plea for pre-arrest bail.

In a rejoinder filed to the stand of the authorities, Khedkar has denied the allegations levelled against her and asserted that she has neither misrepresented nor cheated in the process of successfully clearing Civil Services Examination 2022.

She also said UPSC has no power to disqualify her candidature.

“(Her) selection (was) on the basis of merit in the category of Persons with Benchmark Disability (PwBD) and has attempted fifth time



under the category whereas the available attempts are nine in the said category.

The attempts given prior to this from 2012 to 2017 was not under this category and cannot

be mixed up to disentitle applicant as a disabled candidate,” the rejoinder said.

“As such pursuant to the selection and appointment as a probationer, the respondent

no. 2 (UPSC) ceases the power to disqualify the candidature and DOPT alone can take action under the All India services Act 1954 and the Probationer Rules therein as per Rule 19 of the CSE 2022 Rules,” it added.

Khedkar further said it was wrong on the part of UPSC to claim that she misrepresented her name when the commission itself verified her identity through biometric data collected during the personality test and all documents were also verified.

Two held, five booked for raping, trafficking Bangladeshi woman for sex racket

THANE, Aug 29 (Agencies): The Navi Mumbai police have arrested two persons and registered a case against five others for allegedly raping and trafficking a 24-year-old woman from Khulna district in Bangladesh and selling her for Rs 2 lakh for flesh trade, an official said on Thursday.

The arrested duo, including a woman, was identified as Amir Azam (27) and Shaifali Jahan-gir Mulla (34), both from

Nerul.

“Some agents tricked the victim into coming to India on the promise of a job.

After she arrived in India, a man allegedly raped her.

Later, some other accused took her to a lodge on Grant road in Mumbai and handed her over to those operating a sex racket,” assistant inspector Nilesh Phule of Nerul police station said.

“The agents later took

the victim and sold her to two other accused for Rs 2 lakh. She was again forced to become part of a sex racket,” he added.

The case against them was registered under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) on charges of rape, human trafficking of person, voluntarily causing hurt, common intention, the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, the Passport (Entry into India) Act and the Foreigners Act.

Delhi High Court refuses to quash defamation proceedings against Shashi Tharoor on ‘scorpion on shivling’ remark

NEW DELHI, Aug 29 (Agencies): The Delhi High Court on Thursday refused to quash the defamation proceedings against Congress leader Shashi Tharoor on a complaint over his alleged “scorpion on shivling” remark targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Justice Anoop Kumar Mendiratta dismissed Tharoor’s plea challenging the defamation proceedings.

The high court, which had on October 16, 2020, stayed the criminal proceedings against Tharoor in the defama-



tion complaint, vacated the interim order and directed the parties to appear before the trial court on September 10. “No grounds are made out for quashing the proceedings,” the judge

said while pronouncing the order.

Tharoor sought setting aside of the trial court’s April 27, 2019 order by which he was summoned as an accused in the criminal defamation complaint filed by BJP leader Rajiv Babbar. He had also sought quashing of the complaint of November 2, 2018. The criminal complaint was filed against Tharoor in the trial court by Babbar, who had claimed that his religious sentiments were hurt by the Congress leader’s statement. In October 2018, Tharoor had claimed that an unnamed RSS leader had compared Prime Minister Modi to “a scorpion sitting on a Shivling”. He termed it an “extraordinarily striking metaphor”.

Tharoor was granted bail in the case in June 2019 by the trial court.

The complainant had said, “I am a devotee of Lord Shiva...”

However, the accused (Tharoor) completely disregarded the sentiments of crores of Shiva devotees, (and) made the statement which hurt the sentiments of all Lord Shiva devotees, both in India and outside the country.”

The complaint was filed under sections 499 (defamation) and 500 (punishment for defamation) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Typhoon Shanshan lashes Japan with torrential rain, strong winds causing 3 deaths

The typhoon made landfall in the morning on the southern island of Kyushu and about 60 cm of rainfall had fallen in parts of Miyazaki prefecture

TOKYO, Aug 29 (Agencies): A typhoon lashed southern Japan with torrential rain and strong winds Thursday, causing at least three deaths as it started a crawl up the length of the archipelago and raised concerns of flooding, landslides and extensive damage.

Typhoon Shanshan made landfall in the morning on the southern island of Kyushu and about 60 cm of rainfall had fallen in parts of Miyazaki prefecture, Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) said. That 24-hour total was more than the August rainfall average and swollen rivers were threatening floods, it said.

The typhoon was forecast to bring strong winds, high waves and significant rainfall to most of the country, particularly the southern prefectures of Kyushu. Around midday, Shanshan was moving north



at 15 kph and its winds had weakened to 126 kph, JMA said.

More than a dozen people were injured in Miyazaki, many of them thrown to the ground. One each was also injured nearby Kumamoto and Kagoshima prefectures on their way to shelters, Fire and Disaster Management Agency (FDMA) said.

Nearly a quarter million households were without power across

Kyushu, most of them in the Kagoshima prefecture, Kyushu Electric Power Co. said.

Ahead of the typhoon's arrival, heavy rain caused a landslide that buried a house in the central city of Gama-gori, killing three residents and injuring two others, according to the city's disaster management department. On the southern island of Amami, where the typhoon passed, one

person was injured by being knocked down by a wind gust while riding a motorcycle, FDMA said.

Weather and government officials are concerned about extensive damage as the typhoon slowly sweeps up the Japanese archipelago over the next few days, threatening floods and landslides. The typhoon's impact was yet to be felt in the Tokyo region, where business

was as usual and heavy rain was predicted later this week.

Disaster Management Minister Yoshifumi Matsuura said the typhoon could cause "unprecedented" levels of violent winds, high waves, storm surges and heavy rain. At a task force meeting Wednesday, he urged people, especially older adults, not to hesitate and to take shelter whenever there is any safety concern.

Hundreds of domestic flights connecting south-western cities and islands were cancelled Thursday, and bullet trains and some local train services were suspended. Similar steps were taken Thursday in parts of the main island of Honshu that were experiencing heavy rain. Postal and delivery services have been also suspended in the Kyushu region, and supermarkets and other stores planned to close.

Ex-Bangladesh Speaker, former Commerce Minister arrested in murder case



DHAKA, Aug 29 (Agencies): Former Bangladesh Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury and ex-Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi have been arrested for the killing of a goldsmith during the recent quota reform protests that led to the ouster of the Sheikh Hasina-led government, media reports said on Thursday.

Munshi, 74, was arrested by the Rapid Action Battalion in Gulshan, Dhaka, on Wednesday night in the murder case filed in Rangpur, the Dhaka Tribune newspaper reported.

The case was filed against 17 people, including Munshi and former speaker of Parliament Chaudhury, for the killing of Muslim Uddin Milon, a 38-year-old goldsmith.

Besides, many unnamed people were accused in the case.

Chaudhury, 46, served as the first female Speaker of the Bangladesh Jatiya Sangsad from April 2013 until August 2024.

Milon was shot dead on July 19 in

Rangpur during the student-led movement against a controversial quota system in government jobs, which later turned into a mass uprising that ousted 76-year-old Hasina's Awami League government on August 5, according to The Daily Star newspaper.

According to the case statement, when a clash broke out between students and Awami League activists during a protest in the City Bazaar area, police opened fire indiscriminately under the orders of the accused persons.

Milon was hit by a bullet at that time and taken to Rangpur Medical College and Hospital, where he was declared dead, the report said.

Over 230 people were killed in the incidents of violence that erupted across the country following the fall of the Hasina-led government, taking the death toll to more than 600 since the massive protest by students first started in mid-July.

Many senior Awami League leaders, lawmakers and former ministers went into hiding following the fall of Hasina-led government.

Munshi had also been hiding since August 5, according to the leading Bengali-language newspaper Prothom Alo.

He became the Commerce Minister during the third consecutive term of Awami League government led by Hasina, according to the report.

Hasina, who fled to India on August 5, is facing at least 75 cases, including murder charges, against her.

EU's top diplomat ramps up pressure on Ukraine's backers to permit strikes on targets inside Russia

BRUSSELS, Aug 29 (Agencies): The European Union's top diplomat on Thursday ramped up pressure on Ukraine's international backers to lift restrictions on the use of weapons they provide the conflict-ravaged country to allow its armed forces to strike targets inside Russia.

The U.S. restricts the use of long-range ballistic missiles it provides to Ukraine and some EU members also limit the use of their weapons. Ukraine is desperate to target airfields and other military installations inside Russia that are used to stage attacks on its armed forces and civilians.

"We need to lift restrictions on the use of weaponry against Russian military targets, in accordance with international law," EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said as the bloc's foreign ministers gathered in Brussels to discuss Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"The weaponry that we are providing to

Ukraine has to have full use, and the restrictions have to be lifted in order for the Ukrainians to be able to target the places where Russia is bombing them. Otherwise, the weaponry is useless," Borrell told reporters.

Speaking alongside Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba, Borrell condemned Russia's attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure. "Russia wants to bomb a European country into full capitulation," he said.

Kuleba said that Ukraine's backers would only have themselves to blame if Russia wins.

"The success of Russia depends on one thing: on the preparedness of partners to make bold decisions. If decisions are taken, Ukraine is successful on the ground. If they are not taken, then do not complain on Ukraine, complain on yourself," he said.

Kuleba insisted that Ukraine only wants to attack "legitimate military targets" inside

Russia.

"If we are supplied a sufficient amount of missiles, if we are allowed to strike, we will significantly decrease the capacity of Russia to inflict damage on our critical infrastructure and we will improve the situation of our forces on the ground," he said.

He also urged the West to make good on promises to quickly send military support to Ukraine.

"We pay for all these delays, with the damage and loss of lives," he said. Kuleba called in particular for the rapid delivery of Patriot air defense systems.

He urged "all countries who pledged to deliver Patriot systems months ago to finally deliver them. They are there, they are ready for delivery. What is lacking is just the final go, the greenlight to do it."

Ukraine said last month that it needs 25 Patriot air defense systems to fully defend its airspace and protect the country from Russian missile attacks.

Hong Kong court convicts two journalists in a landmark sedition case

HONG KONG, Aug 29 (Agencies): A Hong Kong court convicted two former editors of a shuttered news outlet on Thursday, in a sedition case that is widely seen as a barometer for the future of media freedom in the city once hailed as a bastion of free press in Asia.

Stand News former editor-in-chief Chung Pui-ken and former acting editor-in-chief Patrick Lam were arrested in December 2021. They pleaded not guilty to the charge of conspiracy to publish and reproduce seditious publications. Their sedition trial was Hong Kong's first involving media since the former British colony returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

Stand News was one of the city's last media outlets that openly criticized the government amid a crackdown on dissent that followed massive pro-democracy protests in 2019.

The offense is punishable by up to two years in prison and a fine of 5,000 Hong Kong dollars (about \$640) under a colonial-era sedition law. Judge Kwok Wai-kin is not expected to hand down a sentence on the same day.



Best Pencil (Hong Kong) Ltd., the outlet's holding company, was convicted on the same charge. It had no representatives during the trial, which began in October 2022.

Chung appeared calm after the verdict was handed down, while Lam did not appear in court.

Stand News was shut down just months after the pro-democracy Apple Daily newspaper, whose jailed founder Jimmy Lai is fighting collusion charges under a sweeping national security law enacted in 2020.

Chung and Lam were charged under a colonial-era sedition law that has been used increasingly to crush dissidents. If convicted, they face up to two years in prison and a fine of

5,000 Hong Kong dollars (about \$640) for a first offense.

Dozens of residents and reporters lined up in the morning to secure a seat for the hearing, which was scheduled for 2:30 p.m. and began an hour late.

The delivery of the verdict was delayed several times for reasons including awaiting the appeal outcome of another landmark sedition case.

Resident Kevin Ng, who was among the first in the line, said he used to be a reader of Stand News and has been following the trial. Ng, 28, said he read less news after its shutdown, feeling the city has lost some critical voices. He said if the editors were found guilty, he would have "complex feelings."

"They reported the truth, they defended press freedom," said the man who works in risk management industry.

His case is centered on 17 articles. That included stories featuring pro-democracy ex-lawmakers Nathan Law and Ted Hui, who are among a group of overseas-based activists targeted by Hong Kong police bounties; interviews with three participants in a primary election organized by the pro-democracy camp in 2020; and commentaries by Law and veteran journalists Allan Au and Chan Pui-man. Chan is also Chung's wife.

Prosecutors accused some of the articles of helping promote "illegal ideologies," as well as smearing the security law and law enforcement officers. They described Stand News as a political platform as well as an online news outlet.

Chung previously denied that Stand News was a political platform, and emphasized the importance of freedom of speech during the trial.

"Freedom of speech should not be restricted on the grounds of eradicating dangerous ideas, but rather it should be used to eradicate dangerous ideas," he said.

Stand News shut down in December 2021, following a high-profile police raid at its office and the arrests. Armed with a warrant to seize relevant journalistic materials, more than 200 officers participated in the operation.

Days after Stand News shut down, independent news outlet Citizen News also announced it would cease operations, citing the deteriorating media environment and the potential risks to its staff.

Hong Kong was ranked 135 out of 180 territories in Reporters Without Borders' latest World Press Freedom Index, down from 80 in 2021. Self-censorship has also become more prominent during the political crackdown on dissent. In March, the city government enacted another new security law that many journalists worried it could further curtail press freedom.

The Hong Kong government insists the city still enjoys press freedom, as guaranteed by its mini-constitution.

Australian PMs Private Chat Caught On Camera In Awkward Summit Bloop

Sydney has tried to paint the police initiative as coming from the Pacific Islands -- despite Australia bankrolling the project and hosting the training facility in Brisbane.

NUKU'ALOFA, Aug 29 (Agencies): An unguarded exchange between Australia's prime minister and a veteran US diplomat about a sensitive Pacific policing plan was caught on camera, causing blushes at a regional summit Thursday.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell were heard celebrating a deal at the Pacific Islands Forum in Tonga that is seen as a

way of stymying similar Chinese-led efforts.

"We had a cracker," Albanese told Campbell, celebrating a deal to establish a police training facility and a crisis reaction force of about 200 personnel.

"It will make such a difference," he said, with a coffee cup in hand.

Campbell hailed the agreement as "fantastic" and said Washington had considered doing something similar, before allowing Australia

to take the lead.

"We've given you the whole lane, so take the lane," Campbell urged Albanese, in an exchange filmed by a reporter.

Albanese seized the moment to jokingly ask if Washington would like to help bankroll the project: "You can go us halves on the cost if you like."

"It would only cost you a bit."

Australia has set aside US\$271 million for the



initial phase of the project.

The exchange will fuel often-repeated Chinese allegations that Australia is doing America's

bidding in the region, and that both countries are preoccupied with countering Beijing's growing influence.

Sydney has tried to

paint the police initiative as coming from the Pacific Islands -- despite Australia bankrolling the project and hosting the training facility in Brisbane.

Asked later Thursday about whether the pair had been guilty of saying "the quiet part out loud", Albanese bristled.

"This has come from the Pacific. And I'm aware of the video of a private conversation. Kurt Campbell's a mate of mine, it's us having a

chat," he claimed.

"People try and read something into it, you must be pretty bored, frankly," he said.

"It is Pacific-led, this has been led by police ministers who have been meeting about this for a year," he said.

China's Pacific allies -- most notably Vanuatu and Solomon Islands -- had voiced concern that the policing plan represented a "geo-strategic denial security doctrine", designed to box

out Beijing.

China tried and failed to ink a region-wide security pact in 2022, but has since been plying some under-resourced Pacific police forces with martial arts training and fleets of Chinese-made vehicles.

While all members of the forum have endorsed the deal in principle, national leaders will have to decide how much they participate, if at all.

Doon International School celebrates National Sports Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: Doon International School, Jammu proudly celebrated National Sports Day today, featuring a vibrant and engaging array of activities that underscored sportsmanship and physical fitness. In an era where children are increasingly absorbed in video games, the school emphasized the importance of reconnecting with traditional games and cultural heritage. This event honored the legendary hockey player Major Dhyan Chand, whose contributions continue to inspire athletes worldwide.

The day's festivities included a diverse range of activities, showcasing traditional and indigenous games that highlighted teamwork, agility, and fun. Key events featured were the Cone Balancing Game, Tug of War, and Obstacle Race. These



activities provided students with opportunities to demonstrate their skills and enthusiasm. The Cone Balancing Game tested participants' balance and precision, while the Tug of War and Obstacle Race emphasized teamwork, physical endurance, and determination. A rejuvenating Yoga session was also part of the day's activities, offering students a chance to practice mind-

fulness and enhance their physical flexibility. This session reinforced the importance of a holistic approach to fitness and well-being.

The celebration was designed to ensure that every student could participate and enjoy the festivities. Beyond the competitive events, the array of recreational activities served as both entertainment and a reminder of the critical

role physical fitness plays in overall health and personal development. The school's commitment to fostering a love for sports and encouraging active participation was evident throughout the day.

The Chairman, G.N. Tantray, and Principal Dr. Vikesh Kaur expressed their appreciation for the students' efforts during the games. Vice Chairman Mr. M.A. Tantray, Director Mr. Leesan UI

Nabi, Vice Principal Dr. Sarita Moza Kaul, Headmistress Ms. Shivali Singh Pathania, CCs, and the entire school community extend their gratitude to coaches Mr. Harmeet, Mr. Nitin, and Mr. Sohail for their unwavering support and guidance. The success of the celebration reflects Doon International School's effective approach to integrating sports into the educational experience and nurturing a vibrant, health-conscious community.

National Sports Day was not only a tribute to Major Dhyan Chand's enduring legacy but also a meaningful reminder of the significant role sports play in personal growth and well-being. Through a dynamic range of activities, Doon International School, Jammu reaffirmed its commitment to inspiring students through engaging and educational experiences.

APSCC apprehends many of Sikh voters may have been excluded from voter list in Kashmir Valley

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 29: The All Parties Sikh Coordination Committee (APSCC) has apprehended that many of the young Sikh voters may have been excluded from the voter list in Kashmir Valley as the census carried out in 2011 was not done in an organized manner. The Committee has also expressed concern over the scattering of Sikh voters saying that the sole aim of this exercise was to ensure that Sikhs did not put up a united front.

These concerns were raised by a delegation of APSCC during their meeting with the officials of the Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu & Kashmir. The delegation was led by APSCC Chairman, Jagmohan Singh Raina. The committee had planned to raise these issues with the team of Election Commission of India that visited Jammu & Kashmir some weeks back. As the committee could not meet the Election Commission of India due to the paucity of time

of the later the poll body had directed Chief Electoral Officer of Jammu & Kashmir to get in touch with them and listen to their point of view.

Following this a delegation of APSCC met the higher-ups of Chief Electoral office here today.

In a statement APSCC Chairman Jagmohan Singh Raina said that the committee had proposed to the government to take a team of the Sikh community while carrying out the census in Kashmir Valley in 2011. He said that since majority of the Sikh families had left villages and settled in city areas like Mehjoor Nagar, Aloochoi Bagh, Jawahar Nagar and others it was necessary that community members were to be taken along while the census was carried out.

"We apprehend that many of the young Sikh voters may not vote in the coming assembly elections since their names might be missing in the voter list. This would lead to disenfranchise of the community and the consequences will be not less than a disaster," said

Raina. The APSCC Chairman said that delimitation of the assembly constituencies has been done in such a manner that the voters of a particular assembly segment have been divided into two or three assembly segments. He said that Sikhs are no exception in this regard and as such community members have been divided and there is no unity.

"The government has accommodated each and every section of the society when it comes to giving the reservation but Sikhs have been left out. There is clear discrimination of the community as a whole and it does not augur well for the country's democracy," said Raina.

The APSCC Chairman said that the matters could have been resolved had the Election Commission of India taken some time out and met the committee members. He said that the other issues pertaining to the community have been put to backburner and there is no accountability.

Akhood Softball Club lifts women title of District Srinagar Softball championship

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 29: District Srinagar Softball Championship 2024-25 on National Sports Day Sports Activities programme initiated by J&K Sports Council in collaboration with District Srinagar Softball Association under the auspicious of J&K Softball Association concluded with stunning participation here today at Sports facility of Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council at Gindun Sports Centre, Rajbagh, Srinagar on August 29.

The championship was concluded by Mohammad Iqbal, Incharge Gindun Sports Centre, Rajbagh, Srinagar as Chief Guest while Waseem Raja Khan, General Secretary J&K Softball Association was also present as Special Guest.

The championship was

organized under the supervision of Mohamad Iqbal Beigh who was organizing Secretary of the championship.

Chief Guest congratulate the organizers for organizing such a beautiful championship in this beautiful Sports facility of Sports Council. He also said that every Athlete who is associated with the Sport of Softball should work hard to bring laurels for Jammu & Kashmir UT as this Sports falls in Sports Requirement quota of J&K Government.

He also lauded the tremendous efforts of Nuzhat Gul, Secretary J&K Sports Council for uplifting Sports & Games and providing modern Sports facilities to the Athletes in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

At last he said every athlete has to take ben-

efit of the facilities which is providing by the Sports Council.

Chief Guest expressed gratitude to Gindun Sports Centre, J&K Sports Council staff, Officials from different Schools, Colleges and Clubs for their contribution towards grand success of this championship.

Later, the Chief Guest distributed medals, trophies among the Winner and Runner-up and Third place teams and encouraged them. The championship was sponsored by J&K Sports Council.

WINNERS: Senior Women - Akhood Softball Club; Senior Men - Acme Softball Club; Junior Girls - Acme Softball Club; Junior Boys - Young Hawks Club; Sub-Junior Girls - Wais Softball Academy; and Sub-Junior Boys - Wais Softball Academy.

GCW Bhagwati Nagar organizes seminar on "Animal Welfare"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: NSS Unit of Government College for Women, Bhagwati Nagar "Veerangana" in collaboration Jammu Municipality Corporation organised a seminar on the topic "Animal Welfare" to protect and enhance the lives of animals within community under the patronage of Dr. Meeru Abrol, Principal of the college.

The main objective of the initiative is to represent a bold step of JMC mission to ensure all animals be treated with compassion and respect. Session began with welcome address by Dr. Preeti Salathia, NSS PO wherein she sensitized students towards the stray animal found in our locality.

She said that humans and animals exist in close proximity to each other and can exist beautifully & form a mutually beneficial relationship. She also welcomed the resource person Dr. Divya Sharma, Tiwari and their entire team from Jammu Municipality Corporation.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Meeru Abrol Principal of the college said that human beings must behave empathetically towards all the animals as they are blessed with intellect and emotional intelligence as they are highest order of living beings.

During first session, Dr. Divya Sharma Municipal Veterinary Office, Resource person for the seminar awared students regarding various schemes being launched by JMC for the care, protection and proper feeding of the stray animals. She encouraged students to volunteer their services such as feeding animals, cleaning of shelters, taking care and adoption at MACC Roop Nagar and JMC Cattle pound Nagrota.

She also highlighted about anti rabbies vaccination and animal birth control program being run by JMC. She also enlightened t students about the proper disposal of cow dung through JMC Community Pit programme wherein compost pits are provided and managed free of cost generating organic manure.

AIDS awareness programs organized by GDC Paloura

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: In a significant event aimed at raising awareness about HIV/AIDS and promoting national integration, Red Ribbon Club of Govt Degree College (GDC), Paloura on Thursday launched the intensified IEC (Information, Education and Communication) campaign for HIV/AIDS awareness under the aegis of J & K AIDS Control Society.

The Red Ribbon Club of the college planned the different events during the three-day program that includes walkathon, poster competition and slogan competition. Day one started with a walkathon flagged off by the Principal of college, Dr.

Kulvinder Kour along with other faculty members of the college.

The walkathon was conducted within and outside the college premises in which students volunteers of the college participated. The walkathon served as a platform for students to recite slogans focusing on National Integration and raising awareness about HIV/AIDS, particularly among the youth of India.

Prof. Moni Mehra, Convener of the Red Ribbon Club, emphasized the significance of this campaign. She also emphasized that the young people are at the forefront of change, and our goal is to equip them with the knowledge and tools they need to combat HIV/AIDS

effectively." Nearly 45 Volunteers of the college actively participated in the walkathon.

Dr. Kulvinder Kour, Principal of the College, added, "This marathon symbolizes our collective effort to address the challenges of HIV/AIDS. Through this campaign, we aim to spread accurate information and foster a supportive community that empowers individuals to take proactive steps in their health."

The Programme was coordinated by Prof. Moni Mehra (Convener Red Ribbon Club), Dr. Gaurav Kumar, Dr. Seema Devi, Prof. Kusha Sharma, Prof. Neha Bhagat, Prof. Poonam Sharma and Dr. Sikender S Khan.

GDC Khour celebrates National Sports Day

Top News Report

KHOUR, Aug 29: The Department of Physical Education at Government Degree College, Khour celebrated National Sports Day under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) T. K. Sharma, Principal GDC Khour.

The event showcased the College's commitment to promote physical fitness, sportsmanship and teamwork among students.

The event began with a video clip to highlight the impacts of sports in our lives. In the event, NCC Cadets, NSS volunteers and the students from

various departments participated with great zeal and enthusiasm.

The students from various departments of the College presented their views on the importance of games and sports in the all-round development of the personality of individuals thus, highlighting the significance of physical education in today's world.

Prof. (Dr.) T. K. Sharma encouraged the students to take part in games and sports as they are an essential part of a student's life. He emphasized that sports instill invaluable life skills in the individuals i.e. team-

work, cooperation and discipline.

He praised the students for their participation and commended the Department of Physical Education for organizing a successful event. The event was organized under the aegis of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the College.

Prof. Shivani Sharma, Head Department of EVS coordinated the whole event. Dr. Rashmi Sharma, Dr. Deepti Gupta, Dr. Sapna Narania and Prof. Pooja Kumari also graced the occasion with their presence.

GDC Ramnagar's NCORD Cell organizes Marathon on National Sports Day

Top News Report

RAMNAGAR, Aug 29: In a remarkable celebration of National Sports Day, Government Degree College (GDC) Ramnagar's NCORD Cell, in collaboration with the Sports Committee, successfully organized a marathon event under the esteemed patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Bhavnai Chand Anthal, Principal of GDC Ramnagar.

The event, held on Thursday, aimed to pro-

mote the spirit of sportsmanship and fitness among students and faculty.

Dr. Sham Singh Kotwal (Nodal Officer of the NCORD Cell), Dr. Pankaj Sharma (Convener of the Sports Committee) and Dr. Dinesh Kumar (Physical Director) played pivotal roles in organizing and coordinating the marathon.

The marathon saw enthusiastic participation from both students and faculty members, making

it a grand success.

Among the distinguished attendees were Prof. Manmohan Singh, Dr. Rakesh Kumar Pandita, Dr. Kewal Kumar, Prof. Parminder Kumar, Prof. Jatinder Lal, Prof. Eisha Gohil, Prof. Puyesh Kant Sharma, Prof. Jeevan Kumar, Prof. Anice Ahmed, Prof. Sanjay Malhotra, Prof. Tanmeet Kour and Prof. Pankaj Dabgotra.

Their presence added to the event's significance and underscored the col-

lege's commitment to fostering a culture of physical fitness and well-being.

The event not only commemorated the legacy of Major Dhyan Chand on his birth anniversary but also served as a platform to encourage students to incorporate physical activity into their daily lives.

The marathon concluded with a motivational address by Prof. (Dr.) Bhavnai Chand Anthal, who highlighted the importance of sports in developing a well-

rounded personality and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

The event concluded with prize distribution. Priya Sharma and Jagir Singh declared as Fitness and Fitness respectively. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Dinesh Kumar.

The GDC Ramnagar community looks forward to organizing more such events in the future to continue promoting the values of sports and fitness.

FROM PAGE 1

2019

3 terrorists believed to have been killed in operations along LoC in Kupwara: Army

Jammu and Kashmir Police on the intervening night of August 28 and 29 in general area Tangdhar, Kupwara," it said on X. "One terrorist is likely to have been neutralised," the army said.

Both the operations were in progress when last reports were received.

Encounter breaks out following search operation in Rajouri

During the search operation, at around 2345 hours, a contact was established with terrorists, leading to an exchange of fire

between the militants and security forces near Kheri Mohra area, the spokesperson added.

Security forces also fired few shots of tracer rounds to illuminate the area, the officials said.

Two to three terrorists are holed up in the cordon area, they said, adding that additional forces have been rushed to the area to strengthened the cordon and the operation.

On Monday night, a group of Village Defence Guards (VDGs) noticed two unidentified persons near a house in Meira-Nagrota village at Rajouri district, and fired into the air. Following this, a search operation was initiated by security forces in the area.

Tarun Chugh dares Omar, Mehbooba for 'open debate' on J&K situation post Aug 5,

only 23 in 2023 and just 14 in 2024 so far. "Similarly, in 2018, 90 security forces personnel were killed but in 2023 there were only 30 and the number has gone down to just 14 in 2024," he said, adding that once there were 1328 stone pelting incidents a year and in 2023 and 2024 no stone pelting incident has taken place. "Stone pelting has vanished. "Terrorist is breathing its last post August 5, 2019 and the number of local terrorists is almost zero. Fake encounters have vanished," he said.

Chug while taking a jibe at NC president Dr Farooq Abdullah said that the NC chief talks about releasing the jailed leaders. "I want to ask him whom he is going to release—those who were promoting stone pelting and terror. Do they want to revive the stone pelting and gun culture in Kashmir," he said and reiterated that BJP was ready for an open debate with Omar and Mehbooba on what has changed post August 5, 2019.

Northern Army Commander visits Sunderbani Sector

the hinterland and was briefed on the operational preparedness and the security situation in the region.

The Army commander complimented the troops and exhorted all ranks to maintain high morale and professionalism for future challenges.

One killed, 8 others injured in accident on Mughal Road

They have been identified as Lal Hussain, 23, Son of Khadam Hussain, Shahid Ahmed, 18, son of Abdul Haq and Tariq (Driver) son of Mohammad Rasheed .

The deceased has been identified as Yaser Ahmed son of Manzoor Ahmed and

those under treatment at SDH Surankote include Zaffer Iqbal, 23, Shanawaz Ahmed, 25, Nissar Ahmed, 22, Maqsood Ahmed, 24, and Mukhtair Ahmed , all resident of Marhote village.

Confirming it, a police official said that a case has been registered in this regard.

Light snowfall likely over higher reaches of J&K tonight: MeT

rain/thundershower at most places of J&K, they said.

On August 30 there is a possibility of spell of rain/thundershower at scattered places, while on August 31 to September 1, the weather will generally remain dry with brief spell of rain/thundershower at isolated places.

From September 2 to 3 the weather likely to remain generally cloudy with possibility of spell of light to moderate rain/thundershower at many places, the officials held.

Major Resuffle in Court, 57 D&S Judges, 45 CJM/Sub-Judges Transferred

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: In a full Court meeting held under the chairmanship of Chief Justice (Acting) Tashi Rabstan in which 57 District & Sessions Judges and 45 Chief Judicial Magistrates/Sub-Judges including promotees were transferred.

According to the order issued by Registrar General J&K Shahzad Azeem that Sanjay Parihar, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Jammu has been transferred and posted as Member J&K Special Tribunal, Jammu on deputation; Yash Paul Bourney, Director, J&K Judicial Academy as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Jammu; Jaffer Hussain Beg, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Anantnag as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Srinagar; Ashok Kumar, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Kathua as Member, J&K Special Tribunal, Srinagar on deputation; Ravinder Nath Wattal, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Rajouri as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Samba; Jawad Ahmad, Principal District & Sessions Judge Srinagar as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Baramulla; Haq Nawaz Zargar, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Udhampur as Special Judge, Anti Corruption, Jammu; Tahir Khurshid Raina, Special Judge, Anti Corruption, Jammu as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Anantnag; Sonia Gupta, Principal District & Sessions Judge Reasi has been transferred and her services are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice (A) for her appointment as Director, J&K Judicial Academy; S.C Kattal, Special Judge, Anti Corruption (CBI Cases), Srinagar as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Reasi; Jatinder Singh Jamwal, 3rd Additional District and Sessions Judge (TADA/POTA), Jammu as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Kathua; Virinder Singh Bhou, 1st Additional District and Sessions Judge, Jammu as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Udhampur; Khalil Ahmad Choudhary, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Budgam as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Bandipora; Rajeev Gupta, Member, J&K Special Tribunal, Jammu is repatriated from deputation and posted as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Rajouri; Chain Lal Bavaria, 2nd Additional District and Sessions Judge, Jammu as Presiding Officer, MACT, Jammu on deputation; Ritsh Kumar Dubey, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Ganderbal as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Jammu; Mehmood Ahmad Choudhary, Additional District & Sessions Judge, Rajouri as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Shopian. He shall take charge on retirement of present incumbent Mirza Riyaz

Ul Haq. Ranbir Singh Jasrotia, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Ramban as 1st Additional District and Sessions Judge, Jammu; Masarat Roohi, Principal Judge, Family Court, Srinagar as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Anantnag; Balbir Lal, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Anantnag as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Srinagar; Kusoom Lata Pandita, Additional District & Sessions Judge, Kathua as Additional District Judge, Bank Cases (Commercial Court), Srinagar; Aijaz Ahmad Khan, Presiding Officer, Fast Track Court, Budgam as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Kulgam; Deepak Sethi, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Jammu as Principal District and Sessions Judge, Ramban; Sunil Sangra, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Sopore as Special Judge NDPS, Jammu; Abdul Nasir, Presiding Officer MACT, Jammu has been repatriated from deputation and posted as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Ganderbal; O.P Bhagat, Additional District and Sessions Judge Anti Corruption, Jammu as Principal District and Sessions Judge Family Court, Jammu as Presiding Officer, Fast Track Court (cases against women including rapes), Ramban; Amarj Singh Langeh, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Doda as 1st Additional District & Sessions Judge, Baramulla; Sandeep Gandotha, Additional Sessions Judge, TADA/POTA (NIA Court), Srinagar as Presiding Officer, NIA Court, Jammu; Arvind Sharma, Additional District Judge Bank Cases (Commercial Court), Srinagar as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Bandipora; Romesh Lal, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge LRP, High Court Wing Jammu; Sushil Singh, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar; Arun Kumar Kotwal, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Sopore; Mansoor Ahmad Lone, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as District Judge LRP, High Court Wing Srinagar; Parvin Pandoh, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Kathua; Faizan Ul Haq Iqbal, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Additional District and Sessions Judge Anti Corruption, Srinagar; Noor Mohammad Mir, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Kathua; Archana Charak, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon her appointment as District Judge, as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Doda; Abdul Qayoom Mir, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Special Judge NDPS, Baramulla; Manzoor Ahmad Zargar, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge, as Special Judge NDPS, Pulwama; Yahaya Firdous Ahangar, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appoint-

ment as District Judge, as Presiding Officer, Fast Track Court, Budgam; Manoj Parihar, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Principal District and Sessions Judge, Leh; Bashir Ahmad Munshi, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge, as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Rajouri; Raja Mohd. Tasleem, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge, as Special Judge UAPA, Baramulla; Manjeet Rai, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Additional District and Sessions Judge TADA/POTA (NIA Court), Srinagar; Anjum Ara, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon her appointment as District Judge as Additional District and Sessions Judge Anti Corruption, Jammu; Madan Lal, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as 3rd Additional District and Sessions Judge TADA/POTA, Jammu; Ahsanullah Parvez Malik, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Bandipora; Romesh Lal, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as District Judge LRP, High Court Wing Jammu; Sushil Singh, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as District Judge LRP, High Court Wing Srinagar; Parvin Pandoh, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Kathua; Faizan Ul Haq Iqbal, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Additional District and Sessions Judge Anti Corruption, Srinagar; Noor Mohammad Mir, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Kathua; Archana Charak, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon her appointment as District Judge, as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Doda; Abdul Qayoom Mir, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge as Special Judge NDPS, Baramulla; Manzoor Ahmad Zargar, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge, as Special Judge NDPS, Pulwama; Yahaya Firdous Ahangar, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appoint-

ment as District Judge, as Presiding Officer, Fast Track Court, Budgam; Manoj Parihar, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge, as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Ganderbal.

Mir Wajahat, Sub Judge, Chadoora has been transferred and posted as as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sopore; Aakil Mushtaq, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sopore as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Srinagar; Mehreen Mushtaq, Municipal Magistrate, Srinagar as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Kulgam; Feroz Ahmad Khan, Forest Magistrate, Srinagar as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Anantnag; Imran Hussain Wani, Sub Judge, Vailoo as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Budgam; Preet Simran Kour, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Samba as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Jammu; Umesh Sharma, Sub Judge, Baderwah as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Samba; Gowhar Hussain, Special Mobile Magistrate, Budgam as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Shopian; Geeta Kumari, Excise Magistrate, Jammu as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Reasi; Javed Rana, Sub Judge/ Special Mobile Magistrate, Poonch as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Rajouri; Jahangir Ahmad Bakshi, Secretary DLSA, Srinagar as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Pulwama; Anjana Rajput, Sub Judge, Batote as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Ramban; Munish Kumar Manhas, Special Mobile Magistrate (P&T), Jammu as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Kathua; Wajahat Hussain, Sub Judge, Surankote as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Doda; Raj Kumar, Sub Judge, Ramnagar as Special Mobile Magistrate (T), Jammu; Sarfaraz Nawaz, Special Mobile Magistrate, Anantnag as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Poonch; Iqbal Ahmad Akhoun, Special Mobile Magistrate, Baramulla as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bandipora; Tabasum Qadir Parry, Secretary DLSA Anantnag as Sub Judge, Bijbehara; Meryank Gupta, Municipal Magistrate, Jammu has been transferred and his services are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice (A) for his appointment as Joint Registrar (Judicial), High Court Wing Jammu; Rekha Kapoor, Secretary DLSA, Samba as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Udhampur; Nusrat Ali, Secretary DLSA, Ganderbal as Secretary DLSA, Srinagar; Mudassar Farooq, Special Mobile Magistrate (T), Srinagar as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Handwara; Muzamil Ahmad Wani, Sub Judge, Bijbehara as Secretary DLSA, Anantnag; Iqbal Rafiq Wakil, Munsiff, Handwara upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Sub Judge, Chadoora; Touseef Ahmad Magrey, Munsiff Pamphore upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Special Mobile Magistrate (T), Srinagar vice; Madhu, Munsiff, Majlata upon her promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), Sub Judge, Bhad-

erwah; Zahoor Ahmad Ganaie, Munsiff, Baramulla upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Secretary DLSA, Pulwama; Lubna Sultan, Munsiff/Additional Mobile Magistrate, Pantha Chowk upon her promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), has been transferred and posted as Special Mobile Magistrate, Anantnag; Jeewan Kumar, Munsiff, Basohli upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), has been transferred and his services are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice (A) for his further posting as Secretary, High Court Legal Services Committee; Arti Devi, Munsiff, Reasi upon her promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Electricity Magistrate, Jammu; Jyoti Bhagat, Munsiff, Billawar upon her promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Special Mobile Magistrate (P&T), Jammu; Fida Hussain Nayek, Additional Special Mobile Magistrate, Pahalgam upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Municipal Magistrate, Srinagar; Girja Shavan, Munsiff, Akhnor upon her promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Sub Judge, Batote; Tabraiz Ahmad, Munsiff, Surankote upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Secretary DLSA, Baderwah; Junaid Imtiyaz Mir, Munsiff, Baderwah upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), Sub Judge, Surankote; Shafeeq Ahmad Malik, 1st Additional Munsiff, Srinagar upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Sub Judge, Vailoo; Rajni Bhagat, Munsiff, Mahanpur upon her promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Secretary DLSA, Samba; Shabnam Sheikh, Sub Registrar, Jammu upon her promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Sub Judge, Ramnagar; Shafeeq Ahmad, Munsiff LRP, Jammu upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Sub Judge/Special Mobile Magistrate, Poonch; Wangial Tsering, Munsiff, Khalti upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Sub Judge/Special Mobile Magistrate, Kargil; Moneer Ahmad, 3rd Additional Munsiff, Srinagar upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Sub Judge, Kupwara; Chemit Yurgal, Munsiff, Nobra upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Secretary DLSA, Kargil; Faizan Nazar, Munsiff, Tangdarh upon his promotion as Civil Judge (Senior Division), as Special Mobile Magistrate, Srinagar.

Interactive Session on 'Impact of AI on Creative Thinking' organised at MIER College

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: An enlightening interactive session on the "Impact of AI on the Creative Thinking Process" was conducted for the faculty at MIER College of Education. The session featured the resource person, Professor Bipin Indurkha, from Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland. Professor Indurkha is renowned for his extensive research in the fields of artificial intelligence and creativity. The event was presided over by Dr Renu Gupta, Chairperson MIER, Prof. Amitabh Ojha from IIT Jammu and Mrs Rupa Gupta, Joint Director, MIER.

The session commenced with a warm welcome from Prof. Adit Gupta, Principal, MIER College who introduced Professor Indurkha and set the stage for the session. Professor Indurkha began by exploring the fundamental question, "What is creativity?" He delved into the various interpretations of creativity, emphasizing that it is often in the eye of the beholder. He

argued that creativity can't be reduced to an algorithm, highlighting its two key characteristics: novelty and meaning or purpose. He discussed the divergent-convergent method for refining ideas. He addressed cognitive blind spots and conceptual biases, referencing articles and books to illustrate how these can hinder or shape creative thinking. The discussion then shifted to the intersection of computers and creativity. Professor Indurkha provided intriguing examples of how artificial intelligence (AI) has been used to generate creative works, such as music, art, and literature. However, he was quick to point out that while AI can mimic certain aspects of creativity, it fundamentally lacks the intentions and emotions that drive human creativity. He elaborated on this by stating that artificial creative systems, though capable of producing novel outputs, do not possess the consciousness or purpose that characterises genuine creative thought. He also introduced the audience to

Rodari's techniques, a set of tools designed to stimulate creative thinking. He demonstrated how these techniques could be applied to both educational and professional contexts, encouraging participants to incorporate them into their teaching practices. He recommended several books on artificial intelligence and creativity, offering the faculty valuable resources to continue exploring the topic.

The interactive session concluded with a Q&A segment, where faculty members had the opportunity to engage with Professor Indurkha, asking questions and sharing their own perspectives on the impact of AI on creative thinking. The session was well-received, with participants expressing their appreciation for the depth of insight provided and the relevance of the topics discussed.

Overall, the event was a resounding success, providing the faculty at MIER College of Education with a deeper understanding of the complex relationship between AI and creativity.

Mother, daughter shine on ramp as Bridal in Brides Of India Season 3 by NISD

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: The VEDAS Hall in Jammu recently played host to the stunning "Brides of India Season 3," a bridal fashion show organized by the NISD Beauty & Designing Institute.

The event, titled "An Evening for Brides," was a grand showcase featuring 43 local models and 43 skilled makeup artists who brought the essence of bridal beauty to life.

The event was graced by Isha Sharma, Mrs. Universal India 2022, as the Chief Guest, adding prestige to the already glamorous evening. The show was a celebration of local talent, with each participant displaying their exceptional skills in bridal fashion and makeup artistry.

Manju Bala, the Founder and Director of NISD Beauty and Designing Institute, expressed her pride in the event, emphasizing that "Brides of India Season 3" was more than just a fashion show—it was a celebration of the artistry and talent within the community. She highlighted the importance of providing a



platform for local models and makeup artists to shine, which the event successfully achieved.

The evening was filled with stunning bridal ensembles, exquisite makeup designs, and an ambiance of sophistication, setting a new benchmark for fashion events in Jammu. Director of NISD, Sanjeev Kumar, along with other key figures from NISD, including Priyanka Sharma (Centre Head, NISD Bari Brahmana), Monika Devi (Branch Head, NISD Kathua), Raghav Kumar (Branch Head, NISD Gandhi Nagar), and Ritesh Kumar (Branch Head, NISD Udhampur), were present, underscoring the institute's commitment to nurturing and promoting local talent.

NISD Beauty & Designing Institute, known as the most awarded institute in J&K for fashion and design, is dedicated to providing top-notch education and training in the beauty and fashion industry. The institute continues to play a pivotal role in preparing students for successful careers in this dynamic field.

The event was supported by Inderjeet Raina, the founder of Sankar North PR Agency, and Ashish from DNG, who, along with their team, provided exceptional PR services. Known for their quality work and professional support, they ensured the event received the attention it deserved.

Industrial labourers' deputation calls on Manjit Singh in Vijaypur

Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, Aug 29: A deputation of industrial labourers today called on the Apni Party Provincial President, and former Minister, Manjit Singh.

The deputation composed of dozens of the industrial labourers met the Former Minister to deliberate about the long-standing issues which were not addressed by the Govts. On this occasion, Apni Party's ST Wing, State President, Saleem Alam also present.

These labourers work in the industrial sector of Samba District, and they have no representation to address their grievances amid their exploitation and blatant violation of labour laws by the industrialists in the Samba, Jammu, and Kathua Districts.

Upon listening to their issues, the Former Minister assured that if the Party comes to power, it will address their issues, and will hold the faulty industrial units for the violation of rules that regulates their operations, and provides protection to the labourers from the exploitation.

He said that the complaints about the violation of labour laws, and exploitation of local labourers by the industries in Samba, Kathua, and Jammu were not new, but many such complaints were received in the past, and voice was raised.

As there was no elected Govt in J&K, he said the authorities turned blind eyes, and did not give heed to the concerns of the industrial workers/labourers.

"The industrial units have also engaged workers/labourers on contract basis in place of providing them employment as per the industrial rules. Thus, they openly violated the rules that were meant to promote industrialization with sustainable development, generating employment at

the local industrial units, and developing the surrounding areas to avoid water and soil pollution," he added.

He further stated that the groundwater has become polluted in the surroundings of the industrial estate in Bari Brahmana, and other areas in Samba, and the situation has become alarming for the local residents in these areas.

"The Jal Shakti Department and the industrialists have not done anything to address the issue. The industries have also polluted the environment by not adhering to the guidelines of the pollution control board, and similarly, the said board is sleeping over the issue," he further stated.

He said that the Apni Party has committed to make revolutionary reforms in the industrial policy by holding accountable the industrial units, which violate the labour laws, do not employ local youth, and engage labourers/workers/skilled workers from the out of Jammu and Kashmir.

"These industries were opened to benefit the local economy, and the youth to generate employment. However, these industrial units take benefits of the Govt schemes, and subsidies and then close their units after several years, without clearing the dues of their workers/labourers. Hence, these labourers fight for years in the courts against the influential industrialists and this situation further adds to the suffering of the poor people," he stated.

Meanwhile, he said that the Apni Party would ensure justice to be done with the labourers / workers in industries and the contract system can be ended by providing permanent employment to the youth, free medical support and insurance to the employees/workers/labourers in the industrial sector.

Sports Festival Concludes at GDC Udhampur

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Aug 29: On the occasion of National Sports Day, the Shradhanjali Samaroh and medal winning ceremony was held at GDC Udhampur. "Sport for the Promotion of Peaceful and Inclusive Societies" is the theme of National Sports Day 2024. The ceremony started with lighting of Lamp and Oath ceremony on Fit India .Dr. Sanjay Kumar Verma, Principal GDC Udhampur was the Chief Guest of the occasion.

In his address, he emphasized students to participate in different sports activities with true

sportsmanship and disciplined manner. He also encouraged them to perform physical activity every day for the physical, mental and emotional development of health.

The students Gunshika Bhalwal and Shabnam Akhtar also highlighted the achievements of Major Dhyaan Chand, in their address they applaud that Major Dhyaan Chand remains a legendary figure in Indian and world hockey. His skills have been glorified in various apocryphal stories and anecdotes. A number of these skills revolve around the fact that Major Dhyaan Chand

had extraordinary control over dribbling the ball. Major Dhyaan Chand's birthday, is celebrated as National Sports Day in India. The President gives away sports-related awards such as the Major Dhyanchand Khel Ratna, Arjuna Award and Dronacharya Award at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, India.

Chief Guest of the occasion Dr Sanjay Kumar Verma Principal of the college distributed medal and certificates to the winners and runner up in three days' sports festival Tug of War, Table-Tennis, Long Race and Chess tournament for Men, Women and Staff.

Nearly 200 students participat-

ed during the three days' sports festival. Shashi Kumar Sharma (Physical Director) coordinated the sports festival. Dr Revika Arora Co-convenor Red Ribbon club presented formal vote of thanks. During the event the faculty members present were Dr. Mohinder Pal (Convenor Sports Committee), Dr. Jagjeet Singh (Staff secretary), Dr. Firdous Ahmad Itoo (Convenor Red Ribbon Club), Dr. Sanjeet Singh (NSS PO), Prof Manisha Kanchnru, Prof Neha and Prof. Waqar Ahmed and Suresh Kumar (Pharmacist). Refreshment was served to all the participants.

Manu Bhaker reveals PM Narendra Modi's words after Tokyo Olympics heartbreak that lifted her spirits

On the occasion of National Sports Day, Manu Bhaker reminisced about her interactions with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and offered her perspective on the inspiration he bestows upon athletes.

NEW DELHI, Aug 29 (Agencies): On the occasion of National Sports Day, Indian Olympic medallist pistol shooter Manu Bhaker reminisced about her interactions with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and offered her perspective on the inspiration he bestows upon athletes. The 22-year-old Manu created history at the 2024 Paris Olympics, becoming the first Indian to win two medals in a single Olympic edition post independence. She also became the first Indian woman to win a medal in an individual shooting event at the Games. Manu was just 16 when she first met PM Modi after her gold medal win at the 2018 Commonwealth Games when she was just 16 years old and taken aback by his genuine interest in her sporting career.



"During the interaction, he took me aside and said, 'You are very young. You will achieve even greater success and reach out to me whenever you need anything.' This was a great source of motivation for me," Manu recalled.

After her heartbreaking Tokyo Olympics campaign, where she fell short of winning a medal due to a pistol malfunction, the Prime Minister reached out with words of encouragement and discussed her future plans. "PM Modi told me to be confi-

dent and focus on my goal. He keeps track of every detail about each player," Manu noted.

The pistol shooter believes that PM Modi's approach goes beyond merely celebrating victories; he focuses on nurturing and supporting every athlete, regardless of the outcome. Reaching out to athletes individually and taking the time to discuss their concerns, makes them feel valued and inspired.

After Manu bagged her first medal at the Paris Olympics, clinching the bronze medal in women's 10 m air pistol, PM Modi called upon the pistol shooter and congratulated her for the historic medal at the Games in Paris.

She later won the bronze in the Mixed 10m Air Pistol with Sarabjot Singh and finished fourth in the women's 25m Pistol event.

"Let's make India a...": New ICC Chairman Jay Shah's statement on National Sports Day



NEW DELHI, Aug 29 (Agencies): Newly appointed ICC Chairman Jay Shah extended his wishes to everyone on the occasion of the National Sports Day (Major Dhyan Chand's birth anniversary) on Thursday. Dhyan Chand celebrated as 'The Wizard' represented the Indian hockey team from 1925 to 1949, scoring over 1500 goals in the 185 matches he played as a centre forward during his international career, which includes three Olympic Gold Medal wins in 1928, 1932 and 1936. He was felicitated with the Padma Bhushan in 1956 and his birth anniversary on August 29, is celebrated as National Sports Day.

"On this National Sports Day, I warmly commend our athletes, coaches, and everyone who has devoted their life to sports. As we honor the legacy of Major Dhyan Chand Ji on his birth anniversary, let's commit ourselves to making India

a powerhouse on the global sporting stage, the newly elected ICC Chairman said in a post on X.

Earlier on Tuesday, Jay Shah was elected unopposed as the next Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC). Shah, who has served as the BCCI Secretary since October 2019 and Chairman of the Asian Cricket Council since January 2021, will assume this prestigious role on December 1, 2024.

Shah was the sole nominee for the chairmanship after current Chair Greg Barclay decided not to seek a third term, as per a media release by ICC. Upon his election, Shah expressed his intent to advancing the global reach and popularity of cricket, particularly with its upcoming inclusion in the LA 2028 Olympics—a moment he views as a pivotal opportunity for the sport's growth.

"I am humbled by the nomination as the Chair of the International Cricket Council,"

Shah stated as quoted by ICC.

"I am committed to working closely with the ICC team and our member nations to further globalize cricket. We stand at a critical juncture where it is increasingly important to balance the coexistence of multiple formats, promote the adoption of advanced technologies, and introduce our marquee events to new global markets. Our goal is to make cricket more inclusive and popular than ever before," Shah added.

"While we will build on the valuable lessons learned, we must also embrace fresh thinking and innovation to elevate the love for cricket worldwide. The inclusion of our sport in the Olympics at LA 2028 represents a significant inflection point for the growth of cricket, and I am confident that it will drive the sport forward in unprecedented ways," Shah concluded.

Jay Shah becomes the youngest person to lead the ICC. He joins the likes of Jagmohan Dalmiya, Sharad Pawar, N Srinivasan and Shankar Manohar as Indians who have led the ICC in the past. Shah's election marks a new chapter for the ICC as it seeks to expand the game's reach and continue its evolution on the global stage.

Sumit, Bhagyashri lead 179-strong Indian contingent at Paralympic opening ceremony

PARIS, Aug 29 (Agencies): Javelin throw star Sumit Antil and shot-putter Bhagyashri Jadhav led the Indian contingent out in the athletes' parade of the Paralympic Games' opening ceremony, a four-hour long spectacle which began at the Champs-Elysees avenue and concluded at the Place de la Concorde here.

French President Emmanuel Macron declared the Games open. The 179-strong Indian contingent, which is the largest ever in the nation's Paralympic history, features 84 athletes in 12 different sports.

Antil, who won the javelin gold at the Tokyo Paralympics, had the honour of being the flag-bearer alongside Jadhav, a silver-medallist in shot-put at the Asian Para Games in China.

The opening ceremony was an ode to diversity, resilience, and spirit of competition, and featured performances that highlighted French culture and the Paralympic values of determination and equality.

India had won 19 medals, including five gold at the previous edition of the Games, and the country is hoping to take

the number to at least 25 with a double digit haul of gold medals.

Several proven performers are in the team, including rifle shooter Avani Lekhara (10m Air Rifle Standing SH1), who became the first woman to win a Paralympic gold in Tokyo.

Other podium contenders include para-archer Sheetal Devi, who shoots with her legs as she was born without arms, landmine blast survivors Hokoto Sema (shot putter) and Narayana Konganapalle (rower).

India's ambition has been powered by the strong perfor-

mance in the Asian Para Games in Hangzhou last year when the country won a record 111 medals, including 29 gold.

Over 4,000 athletes with various physical and intellectual disabilities will compete in the showpiece that will conclude on September 8.

"The Paris 2024 Paralympic Games will show what persons with disabilities can achieve at the highest level when the barriers to succeed are removed," International Paralympic Committee President Andrew Parsons said in his speech.

"Just copy what India is doing": Ex-Pakistan star tells PCB after huge Bangladesh loss

ISLAMABAD, Aug 29 (Agencies): The disappointing loss against Bangladesh in the first Test match has sparked massive criticism for the Pakistan cricket team. It was the first time that Pakistan were defeated by Bangladesh in Test cricket and their performance has left both fans and experts fuming. Former Pakistan cricketer Basit Ali asked the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to take ideas from India when it comes to hosting more red ball tournaments in order to create a bigger pool of players. He expressed his displeasure at PCB organising a One-Day tournament after the Bangladesh Tests and said that more focus should be on red-ball cricket as Pakistan lack a strong pool of cricketers when it comes to the format.

Basit went on to say

that Pakistan have copied systems from England, Australia and New Zealand in the past but right now, they should look at India and try to mimic their domestic system.

"There will be a One-Day tournament called the Champions Cup after the Test series. Pakistan have copied the systems of England, Australia, and New Zealand. India is right next to us, please copy their system too. You need intelligence in copying as well. Just copy what India is doing. The Duleep Trophy is about to begin. Is it a T20 or One-Day tournament? It is a four-day tournament. They are focused on making their base stronger, which is why they are so successful," he said on YouTube.

Abrar Ahmed and Kamran Ghulam, who were previously released from the Paki-

stan Test squad against Bangladesh, have been recalled to join the team for the second Test scheduled to be played at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium from August 30 to September 3.

Both players had been contributing in a four-day match for Pakistan Shaheens against Bangladesh 'A' at the Islamabad Club, which took place from August 20 to 23.

Abrar, a leg-spinner known for his exceptional control and ability to extract turn on subcontinent pitches, is expected to provide Pakistan with additional spin options. Kamran, a middle-order batsman, brings depth and stability to the batting lineup.

Shaheen Shah Afridi, Pakistan's spearhead fast bowler, has also rejoined the squad after being released at the conclusion of the first Test.

AC Sparta celebrate return to Champions League with hilarious Mr Bean video

PRAGUE, Aug 29 (Agencies): The Champions League returns for its latest season in September. The tournament has completely been revamped to make it more exciting and spontaneous in nature. Four additional teams will be able to take part in the group stage, making it a total of 36 in this edition of the tournament. Czech Republic's AC Sparta Prague returned to the competition after a massive gap of 19 years and they celebrated their return in style.

The club took to its social media accounts and posted a clip from Mr. Bean. The clip featured Mr. Bean hilariously celebrating his seat in the first class section of a flight. Sparta compared their joy to Mr. Bean's in their video.

AC Sparta Prague, commonly known as Sparta Prague, is one of the most prestigious and successful football clubs in the Czech



Republic. Founded in 1893, the club is based in Prague and has a rich history both domestically and internationally. The team's traditional colours are red and white, and they are nicknamed "the Letná" after the Letná district of Prague where their stadium, Generali Arena, is located.

Sparta Prague is renowned for its historical dominance in Czech football. The club has won numerous domestic titles, including a significant number of Czech

First League championships. They are often regarded as the most successful team in the history of Czech football, with a track record that reflects their consistency and strength over the years.

The club's history is not limited to national success. Sparta Prague has also made notable appearances on the European stage. The pinnacle of their international endeavours is participation in the UEFA Champions League, Europe's premier club

competition. The last time Sparta Prague competed in the Champions League was during the 2003-2004 season. In that campaign, the club reached the group stage of the tournament. They were placed in Group A alongside teams like Ajax, Celta Vigo, and Panathinaikos. Despite their efforts, Sparta Prague did not advance past the group stage, finishing third and thus moving into the UEFA Cup (now the UEFA Europa League) for the remainder of the European competition that season.

The club's performance in European competitions has varied over the years. While their most recent Champions League appearance was in the early 2000s, Sparta Prague has continued to be a regular participant in European tournaments. They have often competed in the UEFA Europa League, demonstrating

their ongoing presence and competitiveness in continental football. The team's ability to qualify for these tournaments highlights their status as a strong force in Czech and European football.

In terms of their domestic competition, Sparta Prague's rivalry with Slavia Prague, another major Czech club, is one of the most intense in the league. Matches between these two teams, known as the Prague derby, are highly anticipated and showcase the rich footballing culture of the city.

Overall, AC Sparta Prague remains a cornerstone of Czech football, with a storied past and a continued aspiration to succeed both domestically and in European competitions. Their history in the Champions League, while not recent, underscores their capability and ambition on the international stage.

US Open: Novak Djokovic advances to 3rd round after Laslo Djere retires injured

NEW YORK, Aug 29 (Agencies): Defending Champion Novak Djokovic beat compatriot Laslo Djere in the second round of the US Open 2024 at Arthur Ashe Stadium on Thursday, August 29. The 37-year-old won the first two sets by 6-4, 6-4 and ended up sealing the game after Djere left the third set midway due to injury.

Djere gave stiff com-

petition to the veteran despite his body not helping him, but unfortunately had to withdraw from the match after his injury was exacerbated. Notably, the duo had to battle through scorching heat in the stadium as both were seen struggling at different stages of the match. After the first set, Djokovic was seen getting his abs massaged by a trainer and was also seen using

ice packs and a cooling air tube to relieve himself from the humidity. Djere was also seen being attended by his trainers to help him cool down.

The duo played a tightly fought first set until Djokovic broke Djere's serve to love to seal the set. However, the 29-year-old was in no mood to give up as he drew inspiration from the epic five-setter



clash between the Serbian duo in the previous edition of the competition and fought back by

breaking him in the third game of the second set.

However, Djere's momentum was broken

by an unfortunate injury during the eighth game as he winced after a serve and Djokovic made full use of the opportunity to convert a break point chance. Being 4-5 behind in the second set, Djere took a medical time out as he laid flat on his back on the court with a physio massaging his abdomen and lower back.

Djokovic to face Alexei Popyrin in third round

Not having his fitness on his side, there was nothing that Djere could do to stop a ravaging Djokovic who broke him again in the tenth game to take the second set. The defending champion secured another break point over his compatriot in the second game of the third set to take a 2-0 lead leaving Djere flinging down his racquet in frustration.

The moment led to the

29-year-old giving up the fight as he shook hands with Djokovic to award him the match, retiring injured.

The packed crowd were left wanting for more from the duo who had set the Arthur Ashe Stadium on fire in the last edition.

As a result, Djokovic advanced to the third round where he will face 28th seed Australia's Alexei Popyrin.

NILM organizes Painting Competition at Tiny Tots School

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: National Incredible Literacy Mission (NILM) organized school level painting competition to aware school children about environmental changes and natural resources.

Students of Tiny Tots Higher Secondary School Lower Roop Nagar Jammu took part in this painting competition.

This competition was organized by NILM NGO to aware the school children about green wealth and need of conservation of forest, water and other



need full environment resources. "This year many students learned the values of environment and water conservation through painting" Thakur KD Kurhan Chair-

man NILM said. During the painting competition Deepali Honda Principal of the said school along with school staff including Mohit Gupta, Ritu Sehgal,

Deepika, Sonam, Ankit Sharma, Neha Sharma, Seema Koul, Ayushi Gupta and Kanika participated in the painting competition event. At end of painting

competition certificates were distributed among the participants by the Rakeshwar Singh Project Director NILM J&K.

Rakeshwar said, "This type of competitions are specially designed by our NGO to make a positive attitude among the children to love their surrounding and environment."

He further added that students are passionately participating in the competition. This way they are getting aware with inner talent as well as the students develop environment friendly attitude in them.

BJYM President confident of sweeping victory of BJP in J&K Elections



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Aug 29: With the first phase of Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections approaching, BJP Youth Wing President Arun Prabhakar, intensified his campaign efforts today in Kishtwar.

This visit marks the beginning of a crucial election period for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) as nominations commenced on August 27, 2024, with the first round of polling scheduled for September 18, 2024, in the former district of Doda.

Prabhakar arrived in Kishtwar to campaign for BJP candidates Sunil Sharma, contesting from Paddar Nag-seni, Shagun Parihar from Kishtwar, and Tarik Keen from Inderwal constituencies.

During a conversation at the BJP office in Kishtwar, Prabhakar emphasized the party's commitment to its core ideology and expressed strong confidence in the victory of all three BJP candidates in their respective constituencies.

He stated, "The BJP is not just a political party; it is a movement dedicated to the betterment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. We are determined to bring development and prosperity to every corner of this region."

Prabhakar also criticized the role of other political parties in the region, accusing them of fostering conditions that allowed terrorism to thrive. "These parties have always played a negative role in Jammu and Kashmir, which has hindered the state's progress. In contrast,

the BJP is a party of the masses, committed to working for the people and ensuring their safety and development," he remarked.

Highlighting the party's agenda of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas" (Together with All, Development for All, Trust of All), Prabhakar reiterated the BJP's dedication to inclusive development. He stressed that the upcoming elections would be pivotal in achieving the party's vision of a "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) by 2047.

As the election campaign gathers momentum, BJP leaders are leaving no stone unturned to secure a decisive victory in Jammu and Kashmir, aiming to bring stability and development to the region.

Shiv Sena leader launches poll campaign in Doda

Top News Report

DODA, Aug 29: Shiv Sena UBT leader and party candidate from Doda West, Assembly Segment, Tilak Raj Shan held an election meeting at Doda and appealed the people to vote in his favour.

Shan, who filed his nomination papers yesterday while launching his campaigning with a public meeting today assured the people that he will come up to their expectations by solving their day-to-day problems.

He assured that he will strive hard to get

300 units of power free for the Doda and Kishtwar districts which are the hub of power generations, besides he will work for the development of the area with construction of Pucca roads, construct roads in remote areas of constituency which still lack the communication facilities, ensure ration to remote areas, get school buildings constructed in those villages which have no Government school buildings and ensure the appointment of teachers, in schools doctors and para medical staff in hospitals and dispensaries of the area.

GDC R. S. Pura celebrates National Sports Day-2024



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 29: Govt. Degree College (GDC), R S Pura commemorated National Sports Day on Thursday.

Sports activities were organised by the Department of Physical Education and Sports. A Yoga session was arranged, wherein faculty members and students performed various Asanas.

Later an indoor sport meet was organised where students played games like chess and carrom.

A chess competition was organised for the students. Large number

of students competed and performed well. Principal of the college, Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour impressed upon the students to include yoga and sports in their daily routine.

She stressed that yoga enables a strong mind and a healthy body, whereas sports whether indoor or outdoor help students to develop the ethics of discipline and mutual trust and also enhance team spirit, self confidence and mental/physical toughness.

The programme was efficiently coordinated and managed by Dr. Roopali Slathia, Physical

Director of the college.

The winners of the chess were Diksha Sharma was winner and Chanda Chib stood Runner-up and in boys category Anurag Bharat was winner and Lovedeep Kumar stood Runner-up, players were facilitated by the Principal.

The staff members who were present during the programme to make it successful were Prof. Shifali Abrol, Dr. Kiran Pathania, Prof. Sanjeev Upadhyay, Prof. Neelam Kumari, Dr. Rakesh Choudhary, Prof. Vajee-ta Anand, Dr. Rakesh Kalotra and Dr. Savleen Kour.

KDF for supporting Abid Ansari in Zadibal constituency

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 29: Khwajah Farooq Renzushah, Chairman of the Kashmir Development Front (KDF), announced full electoral support for Abid Ansari in the Zadibal constituency.

Renzushah highlighted Ansari's significant contributions to the development of Kashmir and his efforts in promoting Shia-Sunni unity during sensitive times.

He urged both Shia and Sunni communities to unite and vote for Ansari, emphasizing the importance of his role in transforming Srinagar into an ideal city recognized by UNESCO as a City of Cultural Heritage and Art.

Renzushah's appeal was made during a gathering with delegations from various parts of the city, including Akhoo, Makhdoom, Sangeen Darwaza, Baghi Ali Mardan Khan, Zadibal,



Hawal, Nowshera, Malik, and Soura.

He urged the Kashmir Development Front cadres to vote for Ansari, who is contesting on the Apple symbol, and expressed confidence that the people of Srinagar would follow this advice.

The event was also attended by other prominent figures, including Youth President of Kashmir Development Front Rameez Masood, General Secretary Abdul Rahman Shah, Publicity Secretary Adil Khan, Coordinator Javid Mir, and several others.

GDC Darhal holds pledge on electoral literacy



Top News Report

DARHAL, Aug 29: The NSS Wing of GDC Darhal under the guidance and supervision of Principal Prof Zameer Ahmed Mirza in collaboration with the SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) Cell Darhal, organized a pledge-taking ceremony today to promote electoral literacy and encourage responsible voting practices among students.

The event aimed to sensitize students about the importance of voting and their role in shaping the country's future. The pledge, taken by a sizeable number of students and faculty emphasized the commitment to exercise their right to vote, promote electoral

awareness, and uphold the values of democracy.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Mohd Akhlaq Programme Officer, NSS Wing, GDC Darhal said, "This initiative is a step towards empowering our students with knowledge and encouraging them to participate actively in the electoral process. We believe that informed and responsible voting is essential for a healthy democracy."

Prominent members of faculty including DrGhulam Abbas, Dr M Saleem Wani, DrTaseem Ahmed and DrAnzaar Ahmed participated.

SVEEP Cell Darhal, added, "We appreciate the enthusiasm and dedication of the NSS Wing and students of GDC Darhal in promoting electoral literacy. Together, we can make a significant

impact and strengthen our democracy."

The event was attended by faculty members, students, and representatives from the SVEEP Cell Darhal. The pledge-taking ceremony was followed by an interactive session on electoral awareness and voter education.

National Sports Day celebrated at GDC Akhnoor

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Aug 29: Government Degree College (GDC) Akhnoor celebrated National Sports Day with great zeal and enthusiasm. The event was organized by the College Sports Committee, under the guidance of Principal Dr. Romilla Malla Bhat.

The day witnessed thrilling competitions in Volleyball, Kabaddi, and Chess, which saw participation from students across various disciplines. The atmosphere was electric, with cheer-

ing and chants from the spectators.

While inaugurating the event, Principal Dr. Romilla Malla Bhat emphasized the importance of sports and Physical Education along with academic excellence in overall development of students.

She congratulated the Sports Committee for organizing this wonderful event.

Dr. Monika Malhotra, Sports Convener, and Sonu, Physical Director, thanked the Principal and students for their support.

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