

TOP NEWS OF J&K

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Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

11 labourers trapped in Ujh River flood rescued by SDRF, Police in Kathua

KATHUA, Feb 28 (Agencies): A joint team of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and police successfully rescued 11 labourers trapped in a flood at a construction site on the Ujh River in Kathua on Friday morning, officials said.

SDRF Inspector Mohd Iqbal stated, "Early in the morning, 11 labourers/employees of Megha Construction Company got trapped in the flood at a construction site at Ujh River. A police team from Rajbagh, along with SDRF, reached the spot and rescued all of them."

The rescued labourers were safely moved to secure locations.

Minor Slips Into River Jhelum in North Kashmir, Dies

SRINAGAR, Feb 28 (Agencies): A minor girl died after slipping into the river Jhelum in Baniyari Sharki village of North Kashmir's Baniyari Sharki village of Bandipora district on Friday.

An official said that a 10-year-old girl slipped into the river Jhelum in Baniyari Sharki village of Bandipora.

He said that soon after the incident, local residents and JK Police launched a rescue operation to retrieve the body.

JKBOSE postpone exams scheduled for Mar 1 & 3 in hard zones

SRINAGAR, Feb 28 (Agencies): Amid prevailing bad weather conditions, the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) on Friday postponed all exams of 10th and 12th classes scheduled on March 01 & 03 in hard zones

JKBOSE in a order said, "In view of inclement weather, the examinations for classes 10th, 11th and 12th scheduled to be held on

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J&K High Court approves updated guidelines for recording evidence of vulnerable witnesses

SRINAGAR, Feb 28 (Agencies): The Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has approved the updated Model Guidelines for Recording Evidence of Vulnerable Witnesses in accordance with the new criminal laws in the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

According to a notification issued by the Registrar General, Shahzad Azeem, these guidelines have been developed in compliance with the Supreme Court's directions in Smruti Tukaram Badade v. State of Maharashtra and have



been drawn from the Guidelines for Recording Evidence of Vulnerable Witnesses in Criminal Matters prepared by the Delhi High Court, as well as the Protocol for Recording Evidence of Vulnerable Witnesses

notified by the Jammu & Kashmir High Court. Additionally, they incorporate relevant statutory provisions, judicial pronouncements, and international standards concerning vulnerable witnesses.

"The purpose of this protocol is to provide guidelines and recommendations aimed at improving the justice system's response to vulnerable witnesses," the notification states, adding, "These guidelines prescribe the procedures to be followed while recording depositions of vulnerable witnesses to ensure they can provide their best evidence in criminal proceedings."

Each witness is unique and must be addressed accordingly. The vulnerability of a witness may arise due to various circumstances.

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Properties of 5 PoJK-Based Hizbul Terrorists seized in Ramban



BANIHAL/JAMMU, Feb 28 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police has seized immovable properties of five operatives of the proscribed terrorist group Hizbul Mujahideen in the Gool area of Ramban district, an official

spokesperson said on Friday.

The five terrorists — Saraj Din (48) of Sangaldan, Reyaz Ahmed (45) of Dalwah, Farooq Ahmed (46) of Banj Bhimdassa, and Mohd Ashraf (50) and Mush-taq Ahmed (47) of Moila

— have crossed over to Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) and are operating from there, he said.

They were trying to sell these assets to fund militant activities, he said.

"The seizure of immovable properties belonging to these five exfiltrated terrorists of the Gool area is a decisive step in dismantling terror funding networks and preventing the resurgence of militancy in the region.

"It sends a strong message to terrorists operating from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir that their attempts to revive terrorism in Jammu and

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Winter vacations extended, Schools to reopen on March 7: Sakina Itoo

SRINAGAR, Feb 28 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir government has extended winter vacation in all the schools across the Union territory due to wet weather conditions. Jammu tourism

In response to the prevailing weather conditions in valley, schools upto higher secondary level will now reopen on 7th March 2025, J&K Education Minister Sakina Itoo posted on X.

In an order, the Education department said the winter vacations



for all Government and Private Schools upto higher secondary level of Kashmir Division and winter zone(s) of Jammu Division are hereby

extended upto March 6.

"The schools shall now reopen on March 7th, 2025 instead of March 1,

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Doda, Rajouri districts receive heavy snowfall after dry spell

JAMMU, Feb 28 (Agencies): The districts of Doda and Rajouri in Jammu and Kashmir received much-anticipated snowfall after a dry spell, leading to a significant drop in temperature and bringing relief to farmers and other citizens.

After a prolonged dry spell, the snowfall transformed the Gandoh Bhalessa Mountain in Doda into a mesmerising winter wonderland as a fresh spell of snow encased the region into white.

Moreover, elevated areas of the Pir Panjal mountain range also received snowfall, transforming the region into a breathtaking tourist spot. The lower areas of the range experienced rainfall.

Gulmarg, Sonamarg, and Pahalgam received fresh snowfall on Thursday, bringing joy to tourists, according to officials.

Farmers in the Doda district have expressed happiness over the snowfall, which was a rare occurrence in the region. While previous spells of snowfall had heightened concerns over potential financial losses for farmers, but this one appears to be beneficial for them.

The rainfall in Rajouri has led to the revival of rivers after a prolonged dry spell. The change in weather is expected to recharge groundwater sources and provide much-needed relief to farmers and residents struggling with arid conditions.

PDP seeks support of political parties on alcohol ban, other key issues in J&K



SRINAGAR, Feb 28 (Agencies): The PDP has sought the support of NC, Congress and BJP among other parties on alcohol ban and other

key issues in Jammu and Kashmir including proprietary rights for the owners of houses constructed on public land in Jammu and Kashmir

travel and regularisation of daily wagers.

Former Chief Minister and Peoples' Democratic Party (PDP) President Mehbooba Mufti has written to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and Congress leader Ghulam Ahmad Mir seeking support on the three bills moved by PDP legislators in the upcoming J&K Assembly.

In a post on X, PDP, wrote, " @OmarAbdullah Sahab, urging a

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Driver rescued from flash flood in Niki Tawi

JAMMU, Feb 28 (Agencies): A dumper driver trapped in a flash flood in Niki Tawi near Shiva Stone Crusher was successfully rescued by Jammu and Kashmir Police in Jammu District along with the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) in a swift operation early this morning. Jammu travel



packages A police official said

around 5:40 AM, Satarwari Police Station

received information that a dumper had been submerged due to a sudden rise in water levels.

The driver, identified as Mohan Lal, son of Salik Ram from Om Nagar, Gole Gujral, was stranded on the cabin roof, struggling for survival, he said.

Accordingly, he said, senior officers were

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UTHALA




With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform you the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Bimla Devi Anand** W/o Late Sh. Krishan Lal Anand R/o Mendhar, Distt. Poonch.

Uthala will be performed on 1-03-2025 (Saturday) from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Gundwara Banda Bahadur Singh Ma in Bazar Mendhar.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Daughter-in-law & Son
 Smt. Rita Anand & Sh. Gulshan Anand
 Smt. Gurmeet Kour Anand & Sh. Sham Sunder Anand
 Dr. Reema Anand & Dr. Rakesh Anand

Daughter & Son-in-law
 Smt. Prima Mehta & Raman Mehta
 Smt. Kiran Kandhari & Prem Sagar
Contact No. - 9419673555, 9622371323

OBITUARY



With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform sad demise of **Mr Moti Lal Bhat** S/o Late Dina Nath Bhat of Karan Nagar Srinagar Kashmir, at present H.No 48, Lane no 4, block B, Roop Nagar Enclave, Jammu on 27 Feb 2025 at 6:25 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Pushpa Dulari Bhat (Wife)
Son and Daughter-in-Law
 Satish Bhat, Abhilasha
Daughter and Son-in-law
 Monika and Mohit Jaikhani
Grand Daughter: Sach Jai Khani
Samast Bhat Parivaar
9541726110, 9845393600, 9560808764

10TH DAY/KRIYA




With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad & untimely demise of **Mrs. Remi Gupta (Teacher)** W/o Sh. Rajesh Gupta R/o H.No. 350-1/P Extn. Khoo Wali Gali Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, who left for her heavenly abode on 17-02-2025.

10TH DAY will be performed on Wednesday 26th Feb at 11 AM at Laxmi Narayan Temple Gandhi Nagar (Back side).

KRIYA will be performed on Saturday 1st March 2025 at their residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN
 Sh. Rajesh Gupta - Husband
 Ranjoy Gupta - Son
 Rachel Gupta - Daughter
Brothers-in-law and Sisters-in-law
 Sh. Ashok & Smt. Suman Gupta
 Sh. Rajender and Smt. Sunita Gupta
 Sh. Navesh and Smt. Veena Gupta
 Sh. Navesh Gupta - Brother-in-law
 Smt. Santosh Gupta - Sister-in-law
 Smt. Prem and Sh. Bishan Dass Gupta - Sister-in-law and Brother-in-law
 Smt. Sharda Gupta - Mother
 Smt. Rashmi & Sh. Inder Gupta - Sister and Brother-in-law
 Smt. Ruchi & Sh. Vikram Gupta - do-
 Sh. Anshul Gupta - Brother
 Mithila, Akhil, Vaishavi - Nephew & Niece
Mob No: 9419194186, 7006355345, 7006062765, 9419369353, 9419149296

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA



With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Late Sh. Hans Raj Sharma** S/o Late Pt. Sh. Hari Saran R/o H.No. 310, Street No. 11, Shakti Nagar, Jammu.


10th Day Kriya will be performed on 27th Feb 2025.

Kriya will be performed on 28th Feb 2025 at 11 am.

Uthala will be performed on 3rd March 2025 (Monday) at 4 pm at Samiti Bhawan (Community Hall) Gurha (Bakshi Nagar), Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN
 Sh. Kuldeep Sharma (Son)
 Smt. Mainika Sharma (Daughter-in-law)
 Sh. Ravi Sharma (Son)
 Smt. Shalini Sharma (Daughter-in-law)
 Sh. Jai Kumar Sharma (Son-in-law)
 Smt. Kiran Bala (Daughter)
Grand Children:
 Shubam, Deepali, Dhruv, Mehak, Shrishti & Adhav
Mob.: 9906382664, 7889771626

10TH DAY /KRIYA/UTHALA



With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Late Sh. Prithvi Raj Abrol** S/o Late Sh. Des Raj Abrol R/o H. No. 251A, Lane No. 10, Shakti Nagar, Jammu.

10TH DAY will be performed on 25th Feb 2025 (Tuesday) from 11 am at our residence.

KRIYA will be performed on 28th Feb 2025 (Friday) at 12 Noon.

UTHALA will be performed on 3rd March 2025 (Friday) at 4 pm at Arya Smaj Mandir, Bakshi Nagar, Opp. Relaxo Showroom.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Son & Daughter in law
 Rakesh Abrol & Sapana Gupta
 Neel Kamal & Satish Gandotra - Daughter & Son in Law
 Neeru & Abdul Haleez - Daughter & Son in Law
Grand Children: Bharat, Gautam, Sharay, Ayat
MOBILE NO 9419164484, 9149705350

TENTH DAY KRIYA



With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Shobawati Raina** W/o. Lt. Sh. Sham Lal Raina erstwhile of Shodpani Nawa, Pulwama presently residing at Qtr. No. 20, Block No 3, Lane No 01 Jagti Township.

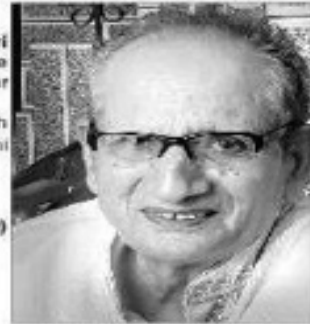
TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 2nd March 2025 at Bhadrakali Temple Thalwal Mandal Jammu and assembly will be held at Muthi Gath Near Directorate of School Education at 10:30am.

GRIEF STRICKEN :
Son's & Daughter in Law
 Sh. Bushan Lal Raina & Smt. Tosha Raina (7006833945)
 Smt. Babita Raina & Lt. Sh. Gopi Krishan Raina (7006038300)
 Sh. Dwarika Nath Raina & Smt. Pinky Raina (7889918854)
 Sh. Kuldeep Raina & Smt. Babita Raina (8082899141)

Daughters & Son in Law
 Smt. Tosha Kachroo & Sh. S. L Kachroo
 Smt. Basanti Bhat & Lt. Sh. Kaka Ji Bhat

Grand Childrens :
 Amit, Ashish, Anshu, Aman & Jatin Raina
 Sunil, Sandeep Kachroo & Ashwani Bhat

Tenth Day Kriya



With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Shri Dwarika Nath Dhar** of YK. Para, who left for his heavenly abode on 22nd February 2025 at his residence "House No. 23/3, Netar Kothian, Lower Bamai, Jammu.

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on Sunday, 2nd March 2025, at Akhnor, Jammu and "assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat, Near Directorate of Education, Jammu, at 11.30 AM."

Grief-stricken:
 Smt. Pary Dhar (Wife)
 Smt. Parmeshwar, Wife of Late Prem Nath Dhar (Sister-in-law)
 Smt. Veena Ji & Brij Lal Dhar (Sister-in-law and Brother)
 Smt. Ashu Ji & Bushan Lal Dhar (Sister-in-law and Brother) (Brother-in-law and Sister)
 Shri P. K. Sapru & Smt. Phoolika Dhar (Daughter-in-law and Son)
 Smt. Prana Dhar & Arter Krishan Dhar (Daughter-in-law and Son)
 Shri Ragandhar Dhar (Son)
 Shri Shashi Lal Dhar & Shikha Dhar (Son and Daughter-in-law)
 Smt. Archana Dhar & Rakesh Dhar (Daughter-in-law and Son)
 Smt. Piche & M. K. Hengoo (Daughter and Son-in-law)
 Smt. Kiran & Shri Nana Jee Pandita (Daughter and Son-in-law)
 Mrs. Binny & Shri Sanjay Dhar (Daughter and Son-in-law)
 Mrs. Renu & Shri Rakesh Pandita (Daughter and Son-in-law)
 Mrs. Anita & Shri Sanjay Razdan (Daughter and Son-in-law)

Grandchildren:
 Akhil, Ayush, Nikin, Nidhi, Riya, Arushi

Malun side mourning will be held at the above-mentioned address.

Contact:
9419929904, 7889983695, 9877365046

DHARAM SHANT/UTHALA



We regret to inform you the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Vishal Dutta (Ashu Dutta)** S/o Sh. Gulshan Kumar Dutta (draba wala) A/P 71-A Subash Nagar, Jammu on 17th February 2025.

Dharam Shant will be performed on 1st March 2025 at 1 pm at their residence.

Uthala will be performed on 1-03-2025 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Hari Mandir, Rehari.

Grief Stricken
Father & Mother
 Sh. Gulshan Kumar Dutta & Smt. Sudosh Dutta
 Smt. Bharati Dutta (Wife)

Daughters
 Miss. Kritika Dutta
 Miss. Ashwika Dutta


Chacha & Chachi
 Sh. Keval Dutta & Smt. Rekha Dutta

Bhua and Fufa
 Smt. Shakuntla Devi & Sh. Mohinder Kumar Bala
 Smt. Shama Rani & Sh. Kuldeep Bakshi
 Smt. Pawna Rani W/O Lt. Sh. Parveen Bakshi
 Smt. Sonika & Sh. Haritab Sharma (Sister & B-in-law)
 Sh. Dev Raj Soodan & Smt. Prem Labs (Father & Mother-in-law)
 Sh. Vishal Soodan & Smt. Sonika Sharma (Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law)

Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law
 Smt. Prabha Sharma & Sh. Vahel Raina
 Smt. Vandana Sharma & Sh. Anil Sharma

Cousins: Oshin, Sonali Dutta, Varun Dutta, Tarun Dutta, Ishaan Dutta & Anuj Dutta

TENTH DAY KRIYA



With profound grief and sorrow, we would like to inform sad passing away of our dearly beloved **Mrs. Abha Sapru**, wife of Late Sh. Ashok Sapru, on 22nd February, 2024 at Pune.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at 504, Suncity-B, NIBM in Pune, on Monday 3rd March 2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN
SAPRUS, ZAIFRANIS, AND HINDUJAS
 Sandeep Sapru: 9545569756
 Satish Sapru: 9818231740

CHOUBARS



Four years have passed since our beloved mother **Smt. Sunita Gupta** W/o Lt. Sh. Satish Gupta left us for her heavenly abode, but her sweet memories and warmth will be cherished forever.

Choubarsi of our beloved **Late Smt. Sunita Gupta** will be performed on Saturday 1 March, 2025 from 12 Noon onwards followed by lunch at Afsar Guest House, Near A.G. Office, Shakti Nagar, Jammu-180001.

DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY:-
 Ajay Gupta & Meenakshi Gupta
 Shailini Gupta & Lt. Sh. Rakesh Gupta
 Suhail Gupta & Deepthi Sharma
 Nitish Gupta & Kanvi Mahajan
 Kanav Gupta & Shreya Mahajan

Grand Children: Swayam, Kyna, Ripanshi, Medansh & Ishanya

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Mob: 9906016596, 7042500298, 7006353635, 7006344690, 9906223301


TENTH DAY KRIYA



With profound sorrow, we share the passing of **Dr. Rattan Kumari Koul** W/o Dr. H.L. Kaul, who departed for her heavenly abode on February 21, 2025. The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at Gang Nahar, Muradnagar (U.P.) at 09:00 AM. A Homage Gathering will be held at Sagar Presidency Club House, F-8, Sector 50, Noida, from 12:00 Noon onwards.

LOVINGLY REMEMBERED BY --
 Dr. H.L. Kaul (Husband)-8800133131 19/03/1942 - 21/02/2025
 Mr. Rakesh & Mrs. Monika Kaul (Son and Daughter-in-law)
 9601280425, 9664797043
 Mrs. Renuka & Mr. Vivek Raina (Daughter and Son-in-law)
 +1(647)741-8733, +1(416)996-8733
 Aditi Kaul, Neha & Rohan Raina (Grandchildren)

TENTH DAY KRIYA



With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our dear and loved one **Sh Roop Krishan Ganjoo (Retd. AGM BSNL Jammu)** S/o Late Prem Nath Ganjoo erstwhile resident of Agahamam Lane Habbakadal Srinagar Kashmir, presently at Saptagiri Sanghvi Hills Anand Nagar Ghodbunder Road Thane West- 400615 (Mumbai) on 26-02-2025 early hour.

The **10th, 11th & 12th Day Kriya** of the pious soul will be performed at Haridwar on 6th, 7th & 8th March 2025.

Deeply Remembered By
SAMAST GANJOO & HAUSTU PARIVAR
 9819008235 (MUNJ)
 9819389020 (MONU)
 9819003735 (DEEPU)

10th Day/Kriya/Rasam Pagri



With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Biso Devi Jamwal** W/o Late Thakur Parkash Singh Jamwal R/o village Flora- Nagbani.

10th Day will be performed on Feb. 28, Friday 11.00 am at our residence.


Kriya will be performed on March 3, Monday at our residence at 11.00 am on ward.

Rasam Pagri will be performed on March 3, Monday.

Grief Stricken
 Smt. Kanla Jamwal W/o Late Joginder Singh Jamwal- Daughter-in-Law
 Sh. Uttam Singh & Smt. Santosh Jamwal- Son & Daughter-in-Law
 Sh. Arjun Singh & Smt. Vijay Jamwal- Son & Daughter-in-Law
 Sh. Bhadr Singh & Smt. Sushma Jamwal- Son & Daughter-in-Law

Grand Children: Gulshan, Munish, Arun, Ajay, Abhishek, Rishab, Anjali
Mob.: 9796899828, 9469558366

TENTH DAY KRIYA




TENTH DAY KRIYA of our mother **Karmyogni Smt. Santosh Tickoo** wife of Late Dwaraka Nath Raina resident of Zainapora (Shopian) at present H.No.423, Sector 2nd Vinayak Nagar will be performed on 20th Feb, 2025 at Akhnor Ghat.

PRAYERS and ASSEMBLY will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of Education on 01.03.2025 at 10:30 am.

Deeply Missed & Remembered by:
Family, Raina's, Walis, Kouls & Tickoos
9419351968

OBITUARY




With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Kishni Koul** W/o Lt. Narinder Nath Koul R/o House No - 160, Phase II, Victoria Estate, Defence Road, Near Partap World School, Pathankot, Punjab and originally from Chinkral Mohalla, Habba Kadal, Srinagar.

10th Day Kriya shall be performed at Barfani Mandir, National Highway, Near Nalwa Bridge, Pathankot, on Thursday, the 6th March at 10:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sister in Law
 Smt. Subash Koul W/o Lt. J. L. Koul
Son and Daughter in law
 Suman Koul & Sunita Koul
7889436974, 9417249642

Daughter & Son in law
 Rita Koul & Avtar K Koul
 Anjali Kotru w/o Lt. Sushil Kotru
 Surekha Raina & Sanjay Raina
 Jyoti Pandita & Bilo Pandita

TENTH DAY




With profound grief & sorrow we regret to inform you the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Karmyogni Shri Prithvi Nath Pandita** S/o Late Sh. Vasudev R/o Rainapora Handwara Kupwara Kashmir at present Flat No.09/C Purkoo camp Dornara Jammu. He left for the heavenly abode on 23rd February 2025 Sunday in Gurgaon.

The **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Gauri Shankar Mandir New Palms Vihar Sector 109 block T near pillar No. P54 Dwellite Express Gurgaon Haryana on 4th March 2025 at 8:30 a.m. and the assembly shall take place at our residence H.No. 140/348 Gali No. 18 Ashok Vihar phase 2 Gurgaon Haryana at 11 a.m.

GRIEF STRICKEN
(Sons & Daughter-in-law)
 Shri Bansil Lal & Meenakshi
 Shri Sander & Rinu (Daughters & Son-in-law)
 Smt. Nancy & Sh. Ratan Lal Pandita
 Smt. Roopa & Sh. M. K. Raju
 Smt. Indu Pandita & Sh. Heera Lal Pandita

DEEPLY SADDENED BY: Mehak, Sachin, Shagun, Riya, Shivi and Gurgun.
MOBILE NO: 991080723, 7006196152, 700672856, 7006395233

CHOUBARS



Four years have passed since the pure and pious soul of the great **Sh. Shriman Narayan Gupta (Sh. S.M.N. Gupta)** left us. His memories remain as vivid as ever. He motivated and influenced many people. We remember his warmth, kindness, and the joy he brought into our lives. His legacy continues to inspire us every day.

The **Choubarsi** will be performed on 1st March 2025 at 12:00 noon at our residence (H.No. 04 Arya Vihar, Kunwari, Jammu, J&K).

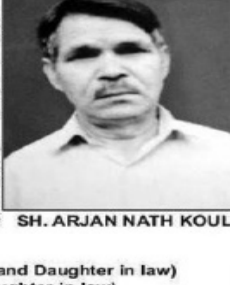
GRIEF STRICKEN
 Smt. Neelam Gupta (Wife) - [Reld. JK Bank]
 Ishan Mahajan (Son)
 Nidhi Gupta & Varun Gupta (Daughter & Son-in-law)
 Master Shaurya Gupta (Grandson)

Brothers & Bhabhis:
 Sh. Charmer Gupta & Smt. Lalita Gupta
 Sh. Gopal Krishan Gupta & Smt. Karishma Gupta
 Sh. Naveen Gupta & Smt. Anjali Gupta
 Sh. Rajan Gupta & Smt. Meenu Gupta

Sisters & Brothers-in-law
 Smt. Sharda Gupta & Sh. Bansil Lal Gupta
 Smt. Rama Gupta & Late Sh. Surinder Gupta

Contact Numbers: +91 94191 38853, +91 70662 41639, +91 95969 33303, +91 94192 77921, +91 94191 96454, +91 94191 17034, +91 94191 12576, +91 94191 02735

10TH DAY KRIYA



With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Arjan Nath Koul** S/o Lt. Sarwanand Koul, R/o Damjan, Anantnag. A/P Trikuta Lane No. 2, Sector :1 Near Krishna Palace Durga Nagar Jammu on 20/02/2025.

The **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 01/03/2025 (Saturday) at Akhnor Ghat and **Assembly** will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Office at 11:00 AM on 01/03/2025 (Saturday).

GRIEF STRICKEN
 Rajender Nath Koul and Kiran Koul (Son and Daughter in law)
 Hira Lal Koul and Romi Koul (Son and Daughter in law)
 Dileep Koul and Dolly Koul (Son in law and Daughter)
 Rajender Kumar Bhat and Roshni Bhat (Son in law and Daughter)

Deeply Remembered by Grand Children :
 Vishal, Rupesh, Sheenu, Chahat, Pranav and Parth.
Phone number: 9858688494, 7298033349 and 9419629614

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Omar Govt committed for youth empowerment, economic revival: Sadhotra

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: Ajay Kumar Sadhotra, former Minister and Additional General Secretary JKNC said in his address, stating that the Central Government has consistently failed to address the concerns of J&K's youth.

He pointed out that hollow policies and lack of employment opportunities over the last decade have severely impacted the future of young people in the region.

Ajay Kumar Sadhotra further added that the present government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, is committed to reversing this trend by implementing policies that will generate employment and boost economic growth.

He called upon the newly inducted members to work with dedication and spread the party's vision among the masses. He reaffirmed the commitment of party leadership to fighting for the rights of the people and ensuring holistic development in Jammu and Kashmir.

The senior NC leader was speaking during a joint programme held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu. The joint programme was organized under the leadership of Tejinder Pal Singh Aman, Provincial President Jammu Province YNC in which several enthusiastic youth joined the party fold.

Welcoming the new entrants, Sardar Tejinder Singh Aman Provincial President Jammu Province YNC urged them to work diligently for strengthening the Party's base at the grassroots level. He highlighted that youth play a crucial role in shaping the future of J&K and must be active participants in the democratic process.

Among those who joined the party fold namely: Ravi Kumar social worker and President of Matador Union Ramnagar, Abdul Razaq Bandy and Irshad Ahmad, Youth leaders of Ramnagar.

Those who were present on the occasion included: Ayub Malik Provincial Secretary Jammu, Jugal Mahajan Treasurer, Th. Yashu Vardhan Singh Additional Spokesperson Jammu, Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone, S. Gurnam Singh Block President Jammu West, Akash Kharka District President Udhampur Rural YNC, Mohinder Kumar Rana Joint Secretary Central Zone, Jaseen Malik, Nitish Gowsami, Mudit Seth, Sunil Sharma, Uttam Singh and others.

emphasizing the significance of Mahashivratri and extending a warm welcome to the Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir UT.

The VKMI delegation comprised members, including Ashok Gupta (Vice President), K. S. Samyal (Advisor), Parmod Jain, Shri Abhinandan Jain (Financial Advisor), Narinder Wadhwa (Executive Member) and Anju Bansal (Coordinator, Punjab VKMI). Their presence and contributions added to the spiritual grandeur of the occasion.

Maha Shivratri celebrated with devotion at Amriteswar Shiv Mandir, Dharpur Barnara



The Amriteswar Shiv Mandir has become a cherished place for devotees, especially for pilgrims en route to Shikvori, who often find solace and accommodation here.

Satyapal Sharma, recognized as the real builder of this Devsthaan, received generous donations from dignitaries, political leaders, and the general masses, further contributing to the temple's development.

A special highlight of the event was the visit of the Vichar Kranti Manch International (VKMI) team, invited by Shri Satyapal Sharma. The team, led by Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner, actively participated in the celebrations.

Dr. Jain composed and presented a heartfelt poem, emphasizing the significance of Mahashivratri and extending a warm welcome to the Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir UT.

The event concluded on a note of spiritual fulfillment, reinforcing the temple's role as a beacon of faith and devotion in the region.

Top News Report

SUNDERBANI, Feb 28: The sacred festival of Maha Shivratri was celebrated with great devotion and enthusiasm at Amriteswar Shiv Mandir, Dharpur Barnara, Bhamla (Sunderbani).

The spiritual aura of the occasion was elevated by the presence of Shri Akhileshnanda Giri Ji, Advisor of the temple and a disciple of Swami Satyamitrnananda, the revered founder of Bharat Mata Mandir, Haridwar.

The deity of this holy place is Baba Gigoshidh Ji Maharaj, and under the dedicated leadership of Satyapal Sharma, President, this Devsthaan has flourished as a remarkable religious site.

The celebration was graced by Deputy Chief Minister Surender Chowdhry, who was the Chief Guest on this auspicious occasion.

The temple committee, including Dr. Bharat Bhushan (General Secretary), Puran Sharma (Secretary), and Satish Sharma (Media Secretary), played a pivotal role in organizing the event.

Dr. Jain composed and presented a heartfelt poem, emphasizing the significance of Mahashivratri and extending a warm welcome to the Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir UT.

Fortis Escorts Amritsar's Critical Surgery brings teen footballer back on field

"Patient can now resume playing football by end of March"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 26: Fortis Escorts Hospital, Amritsar, has added another feather to its cap as it performed a yet another successful Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) reconstruction surgery on 16-year-old patient Shine Salhotra, a professional footballer. The procedure was performed by Dr. Tapish Shukla, Associate Consultant-Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine, Fortis Escorts Amritsar.

Shine suffered a complete ACL tear and Anterior Lateral Ligament (ALL) tear in her left knee following a sports injury. Her movement was restricted, preventing her from training and playing football. After a thorough clinical evaluation, which included an MRiscan, Dr. Shukla confirmed the diagnosis



and recommended an ACL reconstruction surgery along with Lateral Extra-Articular Tenodesis (LET).

ACL reconstruction surgery involves reconstructing the torn anterior cruciate ligament, a band of tissue that connects the thigh bone to the shin bone in the knee, using a graft and restoring knee stability. The LET technique, performed alongside ACL reconstruction, reinforces

the outer part of the knee to reduce rotational instability and prevent re-injury.

The surgery was performed successfully, ensuring knee stability and enabling Shine to regain her full range of motion. Three months post-surgery, Shine has resumed gym exercises, including squats, cycling, and running, without any pain. She is expected to return to professional football by the end of March 2025.

Dr. Tapish Shukla, Associate Consultant in Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine, Fortis Escorts Amritsar, commented, "The ACL reconstruction combined with LET enhances knee stability and enables athletes to return to their sport without long-term limitations. Shine's rapid recovery showcases the advancements in sports medicine and our dedication to restoring athletes to peak performance."

Yogesh Joshi, Facility Director, Fortis Escorts Amritsar, said, "At Fortis Escorts Amritsar, we leverage cutting-edge medical technologies to help our patients recover from injuries and regain mobility. Shine's successful surgery is a testament to our commitment to world-class healthcare."

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER HEALTH & F.W. KATHUA

Name of the Centers for conducting the examination of Paramedical courses for the session Oct-Nov. 2024 held on dates as per mentioned below:-

S. No	Category	Date of Examination	Total Candidate	Name of Examination Centre
1	D-Pharma-I	02-03-2025	72	Govt. Boys Hr. Secondary School Kathua
2	D-Pharma-II		39	
3	GNM-I		177	
Total			288	
4	GNM-II Reg.	02-03-2025	197	Rajiv Gandhi College of Education Kathua
5	GNM-II/LE		92	
6	ANM-I		2	
Total			291	
7	Med Asstt-I	02-03-2025	26	Govt. Girls Hr. Sec. School Kathua
8	Med Asstt-II		9	
9	Lab Asstt-I		36	
10	Lab Asstt-II		44	
11	Xray-I		20	
12	Xray-II		15	
13	ECG-I		9	
14	ECG-II		5	
15	Dental-I		10	
16	Dental-II		7	
17	GNM-IV	1		
Total			182	
18	FMPHW-I	02-03-2025	55	Surya College of Education Logate Morh Kathua
19	FMPHW-II		47	
20	MMPHW-I		1	
21	MMPHW-II		5	
22	Opth-I		10	

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER HEALTH & F.W. KATHUA

Name of the Centers for conducting the examination of Paramedical courses for the session Oct-Nov. 2024 held on dates as per mentioned below:-

S. No	Category	Date of Examination	Total Candidate	Name of Examination Centre	
23	Opth-II	02-03-2025	3	Surya College of Education Logate Morh Kathua	
24	OTT-I		15		
25	OTT-II		10		
26	Anesth-I		12		
27	Anesth-II		8		
28	ISM-I		4		
29	ISM-II		2		
30	GNM-III Regular		54		
31	GNM-III/LE New		60		
Total			286		

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER HEALTH & F.W. KATHUA

Name of the Centers for conducting the examination of Paramedical courses for the session Oct-Nov. 2024 held on dates as per mentioned below:-

S. No	Category	Date of Examination	Total Candidate	Name of Examination Centre
1	D-Pharma-I	09-03-2025	72	Govt. Boys Hr. Secondary School Kathua
2	D-Pharma-II		39	
3	GNM-I		177	
Total			288	
4	GNM-II Reg.	09-03-2025	197	Rajiv Gandhi College of Education Kathua
5	GNM-II/LE		92	
6	ANM-I		2	
Total			291	
7	FMPHW-I	09-03-2025	55	Surya College of Education Logate Morh Kathua
8	FMPHW-II		47	
9	MMPHW-I		1	
10	MMPHW-II		5	
11	Opth-I		10	
12	Opth-II		3	
13	OTT-I		15	
14	OTT-II		10	
15	Anesth-I		12	
16	Anesth-II		8	
17	ISM-I	4		

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER HEALTH & F.W. KATHUA

Name of the Centers for conducting the examination of Paramedical courses for the session Oct-Nov. 2024 held on dates as per mentioned below:-

S. No	Category	Date of Examination	Total Candidate	Name of Examination Centre
18	ISM-II		2	
19	GNM-III Regular		54	
20	GNM-III/LE New		60	
Total			286	

1	D-Pharma-I	11-03-2025	72	Surya College of Education Logate Morh Kathua
2	D-Pharma-II		39	
3	GNM-I		177	
Total			288	
4	GNM-II Reg.	11-03-2025	197	Rajiv Gandhi College of Education Kathua
5	GNM-II/LE		92	
6	ANM-I		2	
Total			291	
7	D-Pharma-I	15-03-2025	72	Surya College of Education Logate Morh Kathua
8	D-Pharma-II		39	
9	GNM-I		177	
Total			288	
10	GNM-II Reg.	15-03-2025	197	Rajiv Gandhi College of Education Kathua
11	GNM-II/LE		92	
12	ANM-I		2	
Total			291	

1	D-Pharma-I	17-03-2025	72	Govt. Boys Hr. Secondary School Kathua
2	D-Pharma-II		39	
Total			111	
3	D-Pharma-I	18-03-2025	72	Govt. Boys Hr. Secondary School Kathua
4	D-Pharma-II		39	
Total			111	
5	GNM-I/GNM-II/D.Pharm-I/D.Pharm-II (Carry on candidate)	19-03-2025		Govt. Boys Hr. Secondary School Kathua

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER HEALTH & F.W. KATHUA

Name of the Centers for conducting the examination of Paramedical courses for the session Oct-Nov. 2024 held on dates as per mentioned below:-

S. No	Category	Date of Examination	Total Candidate	Name of Examination Centre
6	GNM-I/GNM-II/D.Pharm-I/D.Pharm-II (Carry on candidate)	20-03-2025		Govt. Boys Hr. Secondary School Kathua
7	GNM-I/GNM-II/D.Pharm-I/D.Pharm-II (Carry on candidate)	22-03-2025		Govt. Boys Hr. Secondary School Kathua
8	GNM-I/GNM-II/ D.Pharm-I/D.Pharm-II (Carry on candidate)	24-03-2025		Govt. Boys Hr. Secondary School Kathua
9	D.Pharm-I/D.Pharm-II (Carry on candidate)	25-03-2025		Govt. Boys Hr. Secondary School Kathua
10	D.Pharm-II (Carry on candidate)	26-03-2025		Govt. Boys Hr. Secondary School Kathua

DIP/J-10596/24

Sd/-
Chief Medical Officer
Health & F.W.Kathua

EDITORIAL

SKILL-BASED
EDUCATION

The traditional education system has long focused on theoretical knowledge, emphasizing rote learning over practical application. However, in today's rapidly evolving world, skill-based education has emerged as a crucial alternative to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world employability. With industries demanding professionals who possess hands-on expertise, it is time to rethink our approach to education and shift towards a more skill-oriented system.

Skill-based education, also known as competency-based learning, focuses on imparting practical skills that prepare students for real-life challenges. Unlike conventional education, which primarily evaluates students based on memorization, skill-based learning encourages critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, and adaptability. It equips students with the knowledge and technical expertise required to excel in their chosen fields.

This model of education is experiential and application-driven, ensuring that students can apply what they learn directly in their professional lives. Whether it is coding, communication, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, or vocational training, skill-based education provides a platform for students to develop industry-relevant competencies.

One of the biggest challenges faced by graduates today is unemployment despite having degrees. Employers often complain that fresh graduates lack the skills required for modern jobs. A skill-based curriculum ensures that students are job-ready by training them in communication, teamwork, leadership, and industry-specific skills.

With automation and artificial intelligence (AI) replacing traditional jobs, skill-based education prepares individuals for new-age careers. Professions in digital marketing, data analytics, robotics, and sustainable energy are booming, and skill-based learning ensures that students are equipped to thrive in these evolving industries.

A skill-driven approach fosters creativity and innovation, enabling students to think beyond conventional employment and venture into entrepreneurship. When individuals are trained in financial literacy, problem-solving, and business management, they are more likely to start their own enterprises and contribute to economic growth.

Unlike traditional education, which often lacks practical application, skill-based learning emphasizes hands-on experience. Whether through internships, apprenticeships, workshops, or project-based learning, students develop confidence in real-world problem-solving.

The dynamic nature of industries means that skills need constant upgrading. A skill-based education model promotes lifelong learning, encouraging individuals to continuously update their skills through certifications, workshops, and vocational courses.

The education system needs a revamped curriculum that integrates skill development at all levels. Subjects like coding, financial literacy, communication skills, and entrepreneurship should be introduced alongside traditional subjects to create a balanced learning experience.

Collaboration between educational institutions and industries is essential. Schools and colleges must provide internships, apprenticeships, and industrial training to help students gain real-world exposure. This will ensure that students not only acquire knowledge but also learn how to apply it.

Vocational training in areas such as plumbing, carpentry, electrical work, hospitality, and healthcare should be encouraged. Countries like Germany and Finland have successfully integrated vocational education into their mainstream education system, leading to higher employment rates and economic stability.

The integration of artificial intelligence, virtual reality (VR), and online learning platforms can enhance skill-based education. Online courses, simulations, and digital tools make learning more engaging, allowing students to practice real-world scenarios in a controlled environment.

Teachers play a crucial role in skill development. They need to be trained in modern teaching methodologies, project-based learning, and interactive learning techniques to effectively guide students in skill acquisition. For skill-based education to be successful, it must be integrated at all levels of learning. Governments, educational institutions, and industries must work together to create a holistic framework that prioritizes skills over rote learning. In an era where job markets are evolving faster than ever, skill-based education is the key to unlocking future opportunities. It empowers individuals with practical knowledge, adaptability, and confidence, making them self-reliant and employable. By shifting our focus from rote learning to competency-based education, we can create a workforce that is not just educated but truly skilled for the challenges of tomorrow.

It is time for governments, educators, and industries to come together and build an education system that prioritizes skills over degrees—because in the modern world, what you can do is more important than what you know.

Health problems that arise from consuming processed, fast foods

By: Dr. Satyawan
Saurabh

Fast food is made to be consumed quickly and taste delicious and is overcooked, highly processed, and high in fiber. The human body is made of unprocessed, highly fibrous, and minimally cooked foods, so they are completely unsuitable. Sugar spikes from fast food lead to insulin resistance, weight gain, fat synthesis, and diabetes. The expanding fast food industry in India includes restaurants serving idli, vada and dosa, McDonald's burgers, Domino's pizza, panipuri-chatamsala kiosks, and pavbhaji-samosa carts. Both obesity and diabetes are on the rise. Our body needs healthy cholesterol, which can be obtained from foods like butter, milk, and eggs. But our body is harmed by bad cholesterol. The cooking oil used to prepare fast food on the street has high triglyceride (bad cholesterol) content, which can lead to dangerous diseases if consumed. Fast food restaurants also add flavors and aromas, making it incredibly delicious and almost addictive. Ayurvedic and sattvic diets which are a major part of Hindu customs are being replaced by modern diets. Traditional eating practices, family meals, and social bonding are all being affected by fast-food culture. The way people eat together has changed as a result of the rise of eating alone and online food delivery services like Swiggy and Zomato.

India's food culture is changing as a result of globalization, urbanization and changing lifestyles, which are causing major socio-economic and cultural changes. The younger generation in India is increasingly consuming fast food, which is leading to a number of health problems, such as obesity, type 2 diabetes, and cardiovascular disorders. Fast food often contains large amounts of calories, sugar, sodium, and bad fats, which can lead to poor eating

habits and nutritional deficiencies. It can also result in a sedentary lifestyle, which will increase risks to one's health. This trend has the potential to put pressure on health-care systems over time and affect the general quality of life of generations. Because it promotes obesity, poor nutrition, and unhealthy eating patterns, fast food consumption can hurt children's health and eating habits. Fast food, which is high in calories, sugar, and bad fats, increases the risk of developing chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease and leads to weight gain. Frequent consumption of fast food makes children prefer processed foods over healthy foods, which reduces their chances of eating a balanced diet and choosing nutritious food. Nowadays, many young people prefer fast food because it is convenient, tasty and quick to prepare. They continue to eat it even though they are aware of its negative health effects. In a busy lifestyle, it is convenient to eat fast food as quickly as possible. They follow the crowd because their friends may also like it.

Fast food restaurants also add flavors and aromas, making it incredibly tasty and almost addictive. Even after knowing about its unhealthy elements, such as excess fat and sugar, people find it difficult to resist the craving for fast food. Fast food companies use deceptive advertising to make their products appear cool and fun, which is another factor. Celebrities and memorable slogans are used to attract attention, especially from young people. Despite their intelligence and education, people sometimes prefer to eat fast food rather than considering the possible harmful effects on their health. They act as if they know it is not the best option, but they still choose it because it is so simple and attractive. Therefore, many people still find themselves attracted to fast food, even though they know its disadvantages. Eating habits are changing as people are

choosing convenience food over home-cooked meals. According to the National Family Health Survey, young people in urban areas are eating more processed foods. Traditional cereals like millet are being replaced by refined cereals and packaged foods. To promote the consumption of millets, the government has launched the International Year of Millets in 2023. The growing number of processed, high-fat, high-sugar Western diets is replacing traditional balanced diets. The rapid growth of McDonald's, KFC, and Domino's has changed urban eating habits in India.

Due to the homogenization of food culture caused by globalization, regional cuisines are losing their distinctiveness. Fermentation-based diets and other traditional cooking techniques are falling out of favor in Northeast India. Due to changing food habits, culinary traditions of festivals and religions are losing their significance. Ayurvedic and sattvic diets which are a major part of Hindu rituals are being replaced by modern diets. Traditional food practices, family meals, and social bonding are all affected by the fast-food culture. Eating alone and social gatherings have changed as a result of the rise of online food delivery services like Swiggy and Zomato. Street vendors and indigenous food artisans face challenges as a result of global food chains. UNESCO has acknowledged Mumbai's street food culture, but urban modernization is threatening it. Malnutrition and health impacts: As a result of eating more processed food, heart disease, diabetes, and obesity have increased. Changes in dietary habits have led to 101 million diabetics in India. Changes in consumption patterns have led to a decline in demand for traditional crops, which has impacted farmers' profits. According to Niti Aayog (2022), crop diversification is important to sustain the rural agricultural economy. Small-scale food businesses, traditional eateries, and

neighborhood food vendors are all affected by global food chains.

Due to the 2017 food licensing regulations, small, traditional restaurants had to close. Farm-to-table programs and organic farming counter-movements are beginning to take shape. Indian food products are encouraged to be certified organic by the Organic India initiative. Local food affordability is affected by global food trends that increase dependence on imports. Increased import costs for wheat and palm oil have an impact on domestic food security. While maintaining its foundations, India's diverse culinary culture must change. Traditional food diversity and cultural identity can be enhanced rather than diminished by modernization through the implementation of sustainable food policies, support for native crops, and balanced diet awareness. Importantly, eating fast food occasionally is unlikely to have a major impact on your general health. On the other hand, eating fast food regularly can eventually lead to a number of health problems. The goal is to limit to protect your health.

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Why is ragging taking the form of brutal bullying?

By: Priyanka Saurabh

Ragging is often presented as a rite of passage that helps new students adjust to campus life at higher education institutions. Although juniors may learn campus customs and form a supportive community through positive interactions with seniors, ragging becomes a major problem when it results in harassment, humiliation, and violence. These incidents have the potential to cause long-lasting trauma, which will defeat the goal of promoting a welcoming and inclusive campus community. Although ragging should provide students with a chance to connect and integrate, it often turns into a harmful harassment. Instead of promoting a supportive environment, harassment leads ragging to be associated with violent behavior that fosters fear rather than friendship. Several tragic incidents, such as those at Kottayam Nursing College in Kerala and Kariavattom College in Thiruvananthapuram, have drawn attention to the harmful effects of ragging and highlighted the sinister aspect of ragging as a tradition.

For many years, ragging has been a serious form of bullying and harassment problem in Indian higher education institutions, often resulting in psychological trauma, suicide, and even violent crimes such as murder. Incidents continue despite Supreme Court orders and UGC anti-ragging regulations from 2009. The failure of enforcement was exposed by the death of 78 students as a result of ragging between 2012 and 2023. In Indian higher education institu-

tions, ragging is primarily caused by socio-cultural factors. Senior students exert their dominance over juniors in a rigid hierarchy reinforced by Indian social structures. This reinforces the power-based social order in engineering colleges when seniors make juniors commit humiliating acts. The hyper-masculine culture that glorifies aggression forces students to follow traditions of ragging. In medical schools, students are forced to complete endurance-based assignments in the name of "building resilience." Many higher education institutions discourage intervention unless extreme violence occurs because they view ragging as an initiation ritual. In Jadavpur University (2023), ragging was written about as a "bonding process" that resulted in the untimely death of a student. Fear of retaliation, lack of effective witness protection, and social stigma make victims reluctant to report ragging. In 2009, Aman Kachru did not file a complaint earlier because he feared senior retaliation, even though he had been repeatedly abused. Peer pressure or suspicion about it prevents many students from reporting ragging.

Strict and swift punishments are essential to effectively eliminate ragging. To discourage potential raggers, ensure immediate disciplinary measures are taken, such as expulsion, legal prosecution, and blacklisting of the offender. Establish a private online complaint portal with strict resolution timelines and open monitoring. A new version of the University Grants Commission helpline with transparent accountability is needed, as the cur-

rent helpline does not respond fast enough. Encourage positive senior-junior relationships and change attitudes by implementing mandatory workshops, sensitization campaigns, and mentorship programs. AIIMS Delhi reduces cases of ragging and promotes a supportive culture by offering counseling sessions to new students. Use behavior tracking, surprise checks, and CCTVs in hostels to identify potential issues before they become more serious. IIT Madras has significantly reduced the number of ragging incidents by using CCTVs and student profiling to monitor interactions. Establish an organized mentorship program where seniors can earn leadership certificates or academic credits for helping new employees in a positive way. Senior students guide juniors through BITS Pilani's "Buddy System," which promotes constructive relationships rather than bullying. Behavioral assessments should be incorporated into the systems of higher education institutions to guarantee a safe and friendly environment for new students. Active observation can reveal information about potential threats. Support from organized mentoring programs can aid in treatment.

There is no single, universally applicable solution to the problem of ragging. It is important for educational institutions, students, and society at large to work together to establish a safe and caring environment. To eradicate ragging, a multi-pronged strategy, stringent legal enforcement, anonymous reporting systems, and prompt punitive action are needed. Strong mentoring networks, necessary sensitization pro-

grams, and encouraging compassionate peer interactions can change campus culture in ways other than deterrence. Institutional accountability and technology-driven monitoring will guarantee that higher education institutions are places of safety, inclusiveness, and holistic growth rather than fear. The UGC should use clause 9.4 against institutions that do not comply. Fast-track trials and police verification are necessary to guarantee that offenders receive severe punishment. Hostels should be fitted with CCTVs that use AI-based facial recognition. To protect victims, a digital ID-based tracking system should be implemented. Implementation of psychological counseling and anti-ragging workshops should be mandatory. An inclusive culture should be promoted by student mentorship programs. The response time and accessibility of UGC helplines need to be improved. There should be digital complaint portals that are anonymous and provide direct police alerts. Despite stringent laws and Supreme Court directives, India's higher education system is still plagued by ragging. Legal action, institutional reforms, technology integration, and cultural change are all important components of a multi-pronged strategy.

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GCoE Jammu organizes awareness workshop on three New Criminal Laws

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: Psychological Counselling Cell of Government College of Education (GCOE), Jammu has successfully organized a One-Day Awareness Workshop on "Three New Criminal Laws" under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Jyoti Parihar, Principal, GCOE, Jammu.

In her opening remarks, Dr. Jyoti Parihar, Principal, GCOE, emphasized the significance of such awareness programs in equipping educators, students, and professionals with updated legal knowledge.

The workshop aimed to provide in-depth knowledge and under-



standing of the newly enacted criminal laws i.e., Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023, which became effective from July 1, 2024. And their implications on legal proceedings and public administration.

The event began with the formal welcome address presented by

Dr. Ambica Kumari, Convenor Psychological Counselling Cell and HOD Psychology.

The event was graced by esteemed Resource Persons, including Farha Nishat, DySP Headquarters, Jammu, who shared valuable insights on law enforcement perspectives regarding the new legal framework.

Paramjeet Singh, Tehsildar Jammu, who

highlighted the administrative and procedural aspects of the legal reforms.

Nitish Sharma, Sr. PO DPO, who elaborated on the prosecutorial and judicial implications of these legislative changes.

The Principal appreciated the efforts of Psychological Counselling Cell headed by Dr. Ambica Kumari along with the members Prof.

Balwan Singh, Dr. Suraj Prakash, Prof. Kiran Thapa and Dr. Sonam Gandotra for organising the sessions featured with engaging discussions, interactive Q&A segments, and thought-provoking deliberations on the impact of these legal amendments on society.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Sonam Gandotra, HOD ICT.

Other members who were present in the workshop were Prof. Satish Sharma, Dr. Rajinder Kour, Dr. Shalika Gupta, Prof. Sarita Dogra, Prof. Kiran Thapa, Prof. Deepali Kundal, Prof. Roopa Kumari, and Anshul bhagat.

Training of MOs, Paramedical staff for National SBPC concludes



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: Training of Medical Officers and Paramedical staff of District Jammu for National Snakebite Envenoming Prevention & Control Programme (SBPC) concluded successfully on Friday.

Organized by Office of the Chief Medical Officer Jammu / Vice Chairman District Health Society Jammu with the support of Directorate of Health Services Jammu and National Health Mission (NHM) J&K, the program focused on reducing deaths and disabilities due to Snake Bite before 2030 with vision of zero death due to Snake Bite through timely administration of Anti Snake Venom for prevention of death and disability due to snakebite held under the leadership of Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Secretary, Health and Medi-

cal Education, J&K, and the supervision of Dr. Rakesh Magotra, Director, Health Services Jammu, the workshop witnessed participation from Medical officers and paramedical staff of all urban and rural blocks of District Jammu.

Dr. Poonam Sethi Dy. Director Schemes, Dy. Director Dentistry Dr. Sanjay Sharma, State Tuberculosis Officer Dr. Jyoti Jolly, State venereologist Dr. Kiran Kailu, Dr. Simmi Verma Assistant Director HEB and Divisional Nutrition officer Dr. Jitendra Kour also witnessed their presence in training.

Resource Persons were Dr. Shehnaz Choudhary (Medical Officer Epidemiology), and Dr. Isha Kohli (District Program Manager, NHM and District Nodal Officer SBPC).

Dr. Harbaksh Singh, CMO Jammu highlighted the role of Peripheral Health staff in timely

management of Snake bite cases to prevent the occurrence of deaths and reduce disability.

He stressed that timely management of Snake Bite cases to be done to prevent death & disability.

He also emphasised that a strong inter-sectoral approach is essential in tackling Snake Bite Envenoming Management.

He also discussed the ground level challenges faced by Health workers in implementation of this programme.

Director Health Services Dr. Rakesh Magotra and Dy. Director Schemes Dr. Poonam Sethi also shared their valuable insights regarding implementation of SBPC program in the field with the Participants.

The training comprised of technical sessions, case studies, and hands-on exercises to enhance skills of the Medical Officers & paramedical staff in disease surveillance and management.

Farewell accorded to DSCO Prem Singh



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: A warm and heartfelt farewell was organized on Friday for Prem Singh, Divisional Seed Certification Officer (DSCO) Jammu, who retired after more than 30 years of dedicated service to the Agriculture Department.

The farewell ceremony brought together staff and officers from the Agriculture Department Jammu, who expressed their deep appreciation and gratitude for Prem Singh's unwavering commitment to the welfare of the farming community.

The gathering, imbued with warmth and camaraderie, was graced by the Director of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare, Jammu, Shri Arvinder Singh Reen, along with Joint Director Agriculture (Extension/SLUB) Jammu, Satish Sharma, Deputy Director (Central), Dr. Ashwani Sharma, and various sectoral officers, who collectively wished Prem Singh a fulfilling and prosperous post-retirement life.

Speaking on the occasion, Director Agriculture Arvinder Singh

Reen eloquently highlighted the exemplary service rendered by Prem Singh over the years, stating, "Your dedication, professionalism, and tireless commitment have set an extraordinary benchmark for all of us. We wish you good health, abundant happiness, and a retirement filled with new opportunities and joy."

Prem Singh was deeply commended for his invaluable contributions and steadfast dedication to his duties throughout his illustrious career.

Reflecting on his journey, he shared insightful experiences that have significantly contributed to the success of the department's efforts to support the agricultural community in the region.

The ceremony was also attended by family members, friends, and colleagues from various districts, who conveyed their heartfelt regards and best wishes for Shri Prem Singh's future endeavours.

As a token of esteem and respect, a memento was presented to him, symbolizing the admiration and reverence he has earned over his remarkable career.

Army perform selfless act amidst heavy rains

Top News Report

DODA, Feb 28: As the heavy rainfall lashed down the Doda District of J&K causing widespread disruption and Chaos, the Indian Army personnel from Sohanda Battalion deployed at Ganpath Bridge assisted stranded vehicles in moving and clearing the traffic jam from bridge.

This act of kindness

demonstrated the Army's unwavering dedication and commitment towards the nation and its people earning appreciation from locals and highlighting the sacrifices they make to ensure public safety.

The rain are continuing in third day in Doda district in a hilly area fresh snow fall recorded near about 2 feet above.

ICAR Sponsored Short Course on 'Entrepreneurship and Startup Opportunities in Entomology' concludes at SKUAST-J



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: The ICAR-sponsored 10-day short course on "Entrepreneurship and Startup Opportunities in Entomology" successfully concluded today at the Division of Entomology, Faculty of Agriculture, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J).

The program, held from February 19 to 28, 2025, was inaugurated under the dynamic leadership of Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu, and witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, researchers, and young professionals across the country.

The course aimed to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in the field of entomology, equipping participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to address contemporary challenges in agriculture and pest management through startups and entrepreneurial ventures.

The program featured a series of lectures, hands-on training sessions, interactive discussions, and field visits led by top entomologists and industry experts from across India.

Addressing the gathering during the inaugural session, Dr. Anil Sharma, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, emphasized the critical role of innovation and entrepreneurship in transforming agricultural sciences.

He highlighted the growing need for startups in entomology to develop sustainable solutions for pest man-

agement, crop protection, and biodiversity conservation.

Dr. Sharma urged participants to leverage the knowledge gained during the course to create impactful ventures that contribute to the agricultural sector.

The 10-day course featured a wide range of lectures delivered by renowned experts, including Dr. Deepa Bhagat on nanotechnology in entrepreneurship, Dr. Ankit Gupta on employing taxonomic skills in entomological ventures, Dr. Hema Somanathan on the role of taxonomy and museum curation, and Gulshan Rana on opportunities in the crop protection industry. Dr. Anand Kumar showcased insect-inspired technologies, while Dr. Vikas Jindal highlighted molecular entomology's entrepreneurial potential.

Dr. Barkat Hussain explored pheromone technology, Dr. Ankit Alok shared his loopworm-based startup journey, and Dr. Pawan Sharma discussed broader agricultural startup opportunities. Dr. Sachin Suroshe emphasized pollinators' role in income security, Dr. Subhash Chander explored IPM technologies, and Dr. Puneet Choudhary highlighted drone applications in agriculture.

Dr. R.K. Gupta stressed skill development and beekeeping entrepreneurship, Dr. K. Bali delved into sericulture opportunities, and Dr. Uma Shankar highlighted insect tourism and photography as emerging professions.

The course also

included practical exposure through field visits to the Butterfly Park and Beekeeping Units within the Department of Entomology.

Participants were accompanied by Dr. R.K. Gupta, Professor and Head of the Division of Entomology, who provided detailed insights into butterfly conservation, beekeeping practices, and their entrepreneurial potential. The visit to the Butterfly Park highlighted the importance of insect tourism and biodiversity conservation.

The Beekeeping Units visit offered hands-on experience in hive management, honey extraction, and value-added product development.

The valedictory ceremony, held on Friday was graced by Dr. R.K. Gupta, who commended the organizers and participants for their dedication and enthusiasm.

In his closing remarks, Dr. Gupta reiterated the university's commitment to promoting entrepreneurship and innovation in agricultural sciences.

He encouraged the participants to take bold steps toward establishing startups that address real-world challenges in entomology and contribute to the nation's agricultural growth.

The program concluded with the distribution of certificates to the participants, marking the successful completion of the course.

The event was widely appreciated for its insightful sessions, practical approach, and emphasis on fostering a culture of entrepreneurship among young scientists.

SKUAST-Jammu remains committed to organizing such initiatives that bridge the gap between academia and industry, empowering the next generation of agricultural entrepreneurs to drive innovation and sustainability in the field of entomology.

JKTJAC deputation meets DSEJ, raises issues of teaching fraternity



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: A deputation of the Jammu Kashmir Teachers' Joint Action Committee (JKTJAC), led by UT President Vinod Sharma, met with Director School Education Jammu (DSEJ) Ashok Kumar Sharma (JKAS) in his office chamber on Friday.

During the meeting, Vinod Sharma highlighted several pressing issues concerning the teaching fraternity. The key demands put forth included Regularisation of left-out ReTs whose files have been pending in the DSEJ office for a long time; Conversion

of RRETs to Teachers Grade II/III by instructing CEOs to submit their respective files; Grant of permission to Teachers Grade III who have acquired a graduation degree; Issuance of mutual transfer orders for teachers seeking transfers; conducting another Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) meeting for the promotion of teachers to the master grade; Pay order issuance for recently promoted masters working under SSA posts; and Release of pending time-barred arrears for eligible teachers.

The Director School Education Jammu gave

a patient hearing to the deputation and assured them that every issue raised by JKTJAC leadership would be addressed.

On the spot, he directed officials to issue circulars to CEOs for the submission of regularisation and conversion files.

He also informed the deputation that one list of ReT regularisation is ready and will be released soon.

Regarding the DPC for teacher promotions, he stated that the process would begin once the exact vacancy position is submitted by the CEOs.

NSS Units of GGM Science College arrange visit to adopted village in Mandal Panchayat

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: As part of the ongoing Winter Camp, about 50 NSS volunteers from GGM Science College, along with NSS Programme Officers Dr. Rahul Kait and Dr. Neha Sharma, visited Phallain Mandal village, which has been adopted by the NSS Units of the college.

The visit aimed to foster community engagement and pro-

mote social responsibility among students. Volunteers interacted with villagers and the employees of Panchayat Mandal, conducting surveys and questionnaires to understand the needs and challenges of the local community.

The event was flagged off by Dr. Prof. Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of GGM Science College. Dr. Ravinder Kumar Tickoo, Principal of GCW Parade, also

appreciated the efforts of the NSS volunteers in their outreach and service initiatives.

A major focus of the visit was Swachhta Awareness, where volunteers encouraged villagers to adopt cleanliness and hygiene practices for a healthier environment. The camp successfully strengthened the bond between the college and the community, reflecting the true spirit of NSS—"Not Me, But You."

Singer Sukhwinder Singh launches music video of his song Nagini in Chandigarh

On a crisp February morning, an air of excitement hung thick as music enthusiasts, industry insiders, and devoted fans gathered at the Chandigarh Press Club for the launch of a much-anticipated music video of the song Nagini.

Present on the occasion was renowned playback singer Sukhwinder Singh, known for songs like Jai Ho, Chaiyya Chaiyya, Haule Haule and more, and lyricist Babu Singh Mann—two artistes who have shaped contemporary Indian music for the launch of their upcoming song Nagini. Many industry personalities, including Harpreet Singh, Bobby Bajwa, Nippy Dhanoa and Vijay Barar, were present too, making it a grand celebration of music and creativity.

After the screening of Nagini's music video, the singer excitedly spoke about the vision behind the visuals. "During my world tour, I was deeply mesmerised by a Mexican Punjabi Club, which was launched back in 1910 by migrants from Punjab. It has a vibrant population now, which speaks Spanish while keeping alive their Punjabi roots. I couldn't get the scene out of my mind, and then I connected the two."

Demand of the times
The event further delved into a discussion of the storytelling,



aesthetics and a deep dive into the creative process of the project. Sukhwinder, who brought international recognition to Indian music with his Oscar-winning song Jai Ho, says, "This song is simply for entertainment, and this is a segment of music which is also important". Maan laughs and adds, "As per the current trends, this music video is the demand of the time." The duo took a moment to share how their composition evolved from a simple verse into a full-fledged masterpiece, "Nagini as a concept was simple poetry, easy to compose, and it came

together naturally within a short period of time."

The music video is a visual treat, with Mexican aesthetics meeting Punjabi language. The visuals have been shot in a Mexican pub in a rural landscape with a Punjabi flavour, creating a perfect blend of the east and the west. It features stars like Isha and Mukesh Rishi. The highlight of the video was 'No gun, only fun', a phrase displayed on the sign boards in the pub that Singh deeply resonates with, "We will not promote weapons, even inside a club." Creative streak

Matthew Perry allegedly received 27 shots of Ketamine before his death



Friends star Matthew Perry, who passed away last year, has left a deep scar on the hearts of his fans, friends and family members. A new Peacock documentary looks at his life before he died from an accidental overdose on October 28, 2023.

According to his autopsy report, the actor had 'high levels of ketamine' in his system, and the documentary claims that was because he received 27 shots of the drug in his final three days.

"Allegedly, you have Dr Salvador Plasencia providing ketamine to a live-in assistant who has no medical train-

ing whatsoever, and that live-in assistant is administering ketamine to a person whose risk factors are through the roof," said Martin Estrada, the former United States Attorney for the State of California Central District, in the documentary.

In mid-October, Estrada shared that Plasencia 'had numerous red flags that were flashing in front of him', yet he allegedly continued to illegally inject Perry. "Allegedly, Dr Plasencia would arrange with Perry different locations to meet and provide the ketamine," he said. "On one occasion, they met in a parking lot in Long

Beach, and he administered ketamine in the back seat of a car. Doctors are not supposed to inject people in parking lots," he added.

"A trained doctor like Dr Plasencia knew much better. One of the overall themes of our indictment is that all these defendants should have known better. They were taking advantage of an individual and letting their greed drive them to endanger Perry's life," Estrada said. Perry had a poor reaction to the medicine at this time, and prosecutors believe Plasencia saw Perry 'freeze up'. Estrada claimed the doctor did 'nothing about this'. "He allegedly continued to provide ketamine to Perry's live-in assistant, which was then going to be administered to Perry," added Estrada.

Ultimately, that assistant, named Kenneth Iwamasa, gave Perry the shot of ketamine that killed him. The drug was supplied by a woman known as 'The Ketamine Queen', Jasveen Sangha.

SikhLens: Sikh Arts & Film Festival, India chapter, marked its 25th year with a day-long movie screening programme

As the winter sun cast a golden hue over the Tagore Theatre courtyard in Chandigarh recently, laughter and conversations filled the air. Against the backdrop of cultural performances and symphonies, including Zafarnama, Gatka, Giddha, and nostalgia-filled exhibitions, SikhLens: Sikh Arts & Film Festival's India chapter began celebrations of its 25th year.

The full-day movie screenings featured the world premiere of animation film, Saka Sirhind—The Martyrdom Of Younger Sahibzadey, Raah-E-Nanak and Resilience of Faith, and international short, animation and documentary films, totalling 13, screened across three film sessions. Films, including Guru Nanak Matth, The Patka Box, Reviving Roots, Guru Da Kender, Rising Above: The Kamal Singh Story, Resilience of Faith, Sparks of Change, Connecting the Dots, Hola Mohalla, Eternal Musicians and The Journey of United Sikh Mission, based on Sikh culture, heritage and ethos, were produced in over six countries and presented in Punjabi, English, Hindi, Urdu and Nepali. The event also included

SikhLens 2025 Calendar launch, based on the Anglo Sikh Virtual Museum in Leicester by festival directorate and British Deputy High Commissioner, Chandigarh.

Directorial debut
The highlight of the event was the launch of Rose Gill's directorial debut with documentary film Raah-E-Nanak: A Journey Through Everyday Sufiyat, which explores timeless teachings of Guru Nanak ji. A labour of love, Gill feels inspired by her brother, a philanthropist and follower of Nanak's teaching. Gill says "If you look closely, you will find Nanak everywhere, there's a shot at the end of the film, an infant's expression; it was written by someone else centuries ago."

Beyond the screening, the festival offered interactive sessions about the themes of the films. The event also featured exhibitions of relics like coins from Nanak Shahi and Gobind Shahi periods, arms and armours dating back centuries, handwritten manuscripts in Gurmukhi, stamps and covers, instruments played in religious music, and much more.

Preity Zinta says no politics for her, but this is what she said about Kangana Ranaut's political journey

A woman supporting another woman is a great quality, especially when the purpose is to encourage colleagues.

In an AskMe session on X, Preity Zinta shared her thoughts on social media negativity, toxicity and how every comment is politically twisted and motivated.

What was striking in her interaction with her fans was her appreciation and support for Kangana Ranaut, who has run into controversies for her open and blunt views.

Someone like Zinta, already a successful actress and a fashion icon, was humble enough to speak so highly about a fellow actress.

Preity, like Kangana Ranaut, is from Himachal Pradesh. She hails from a village in Rohru in Shimla district. "Kangana is a fantastic actress and a fashion icon. I haven't seen her work as a director, but I believe she is a very good one. I wish her all the best in her new role as a politician, and I sincerely hope she does her best for the people of Himachal Pradesh. I love how Preity



acknowledges Kangana's talent and wishes her well in her political career.

"This is a heartwarming exchange! It's wonderful to see such support and encouragement between colleagues," wrote one fan.

A fan asked the actor about her intention to join politics. "You are truly a Soldier dar Preity!! Hats off to you!! Just curious, any plans to join politics?"

"No! No politics for me. Over the years, various political parties have offered me tickets and Rajya Sabha seats, but I have



politely declined as it's not what I want. Calling me a soldier is not completely wrong because I am a soldier's daughter and a soldier's sister (grinning face emoji). We fauji kids/Army brats are wired differently. We are not North Indian or South Indian or Himachalis or Bengalis etc. We are just Indians and yes, patriotism and national pride are in our blood. If you know, you know (star-struck emoji) Ting!" replied Zinta.

Another asked, "Did things you went through (got attacked by a political party) had done any

change in your political opinion?" The Kal Ho Na Ho actor mentioned how social media had become more toxic in India. "I'm surprised at how toxic social media in India has become and how every comment and observation is weighed on a political scale. I'm not a politician nor am I interested in politics, but as a normal person, I find this deeply disturbing. Having said that, I'm also not a delicate darling or a pushover that anyone can try and bully me, so if anyone tries, they will be in for a rude shock," she wrote. This response came after a post by the Kerala Congress handle in which the party alleged that Zinta had given "her social media accounts to BJP and got Rs 18 crore loan written off" from the New India Co-operative Bank.

Later, Mumbai Police officials investigating the New India Co-op Bank's Rs 122 crore embezzlement case stated that actor Preity Zinta, any loan taken by her or whether it was written off was not part of their investigation.

Rakul Preet Singh joins Saif Ali Khan in Ramesh Taurani's film

Filmmaker Ramesh Taurani earlier confirmed that actor Saif Ali Khan will be returning to lead 'Race 4'. Now, news agency has exclusively learnt that Rakul Preet Singh might have joined Khan in this anticipated thriller franchise. While the source didn't confirm that the project Singh has joined is indeed 'Race 4', it is likely to be the one, considering Khan and Taurani are working together on only this project right now.

More details about the project have been kept under wraps, but Singh's entry into the 'Race' world definitely makes it look more exciting.

A source close to the production informed us that Singh seems to have been truly excited to do something that she has never done before. While she has acted in many big-budgeted films over the years, entering the 'Race' franchise is going to be an interesting challenge for the actor.

The source said, "Rakul is set to team up with Saif Ali Khan for an exciting new project under Ramesh Taurani's banner. After the success of 'Mere Husband Ki Biwi', she's making smart choices, and this film will only add to her



momentum."

The 34-year-old has worked in varied genres in the past. She's known to have a strong hold on the romantic-comedy genre, and 'Race 4' will provide a further edge to her versatile career. However, an official announcement is yet to be made by the makers.

Saif Ali Khan's return to the 'Race' franchise has already added a lot of intrigue around this project. If Rakul Preet Singh is joining the film, one can expect a fresh pairing on-screen. It is, however, not clear yet whether the two have been paired together or not.

Earlier last year, while confirming that Khan is doing 'Race 4',

producer Ramesh Taurani told the news agency: "Saif will be back in the 'Race' franchise, and we are excited to have him on board. He did a great job in the first two films. The film will boast an ensemble cast, and we are finalising the script and cast. We haven't finalised the director either. We will announce the film officially before we go on the floor, most likely next year."

Meanwhile, Singh was last seen in 'Mere Husband Ki Biwi' alongside Arjun Kapoor and Bhumi Pednekar. The film was released earlier this month. 'Race 4' is going to be a fantastic addition to her resume.

Govinda, Sunita divorce rumours swirl amid conflicting reports

Are actor Govinda and Sunita Ahuja, his wife of 38 years, headed for divorce? His lawyer says yes, his manager admits to "just a difference of opinion", the star himself doesn't want to comment and Sunita has been giving multiple interviews indicating that all may not be well.

As is often the case with film stars and their personal lives, there have been lots of rumours, some gossip but little clarity.

Lalit Bindal, lawyer and a close family friend of the 'Hero No 1' star, said Ahuja had indeed filed for divorce.

"... there are some misunderstandings. I can confirm that she filed for divorce. I have the notice with me. But it will be settled soon," Bindal told agency.

Asked to comment on the divorce reports, Govinda's manager Shashi Sinha said the



matter had been blown out of proportion.

"Govinda ji doesn't want to comment on the rumours. He is busy working on his two home production films. He is upset with the way things have come out. It's disheartening," Sinha told agency.

There is no friction, just a difference of opinion between the couple, he added.

"It is regarding the work he is doing under his home production banner. Sunita ji wants him to make choices wisely," Sinha said.

Bindal also addressed the rumours that the

couple had been living separately for years.

"It is not like that they live separately. You take any minister or politician. They have an official bungalow. Same is the case with Govinda. He has a flat directly opposite his bungalow... Many politicians and film stars come over for meetings so he stays in the official bungalow... And this has been the case since 2004," he said.

In an interview to The Times of India, Govinda denied that divorce is on the cards. "There are only business talks going... I am in the process of starting my

films," he said.

The rumour mills got going after Sunita gave a spate of media interviews where she discussed her marriage, her take on infidelity and said candidly that she doesn't want to marry the actor in her next life.

In one podcast, she declared Govinda doesn't like her criticism and often says he has enemies in his house.

In another podcast in which she was asked about Govinda's romantic side, Sunita said, "I have told him that in my next life, he should not be my husband. He doesn't go on holidays. I am a person who wants to go out with her husband and eat pani-puri on the streets. He spent too much time working. I don't recall a single instance when we both went out to watch a movie."

The couple has two children, son Yashvardhan and daughter Tina.

Any justice system would be considered robust only if it is truly inclusive: President Murmu

Murmu was speaking at the third convocation of the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) in Gandhinagar

GANDHINAGAR, Feb 28 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu on Friday said fear among criminals of being caught and punished, and the trust of common people of getting justice is the identity of good governance.

She emphasised that any judicial system would be considered robust only if it is truly inclusive and maintained the introduction of three new criminal laws in 2024 was a watershed moment in Indian history.

Murmu was speaking at the third convocation of the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) in Gandhinagar. Gujarat Governor Acharya Devvrat and Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel were also present on the occasion.

"Control of crime, fear among criminals of being caught and punished, and trust of common people of getting justice is the identity of good governance. In our country, a social system based on justice is believed to be the best," the Presi-



dent noted.

She asked students graduating from NFSU to ensure no one is deprived of justice due to financial reasons.

"By union of tradition and development, we are in the process of building a developed country which will be based on justice.

Any justice delivery system will be considered strong when it is inclusive. To make justice available to all sections of society, especially to those who are weak and deprived, should be the goal of those passing out of the university.

"You should work in a way that the last person of the country

can access justice and ensure that no one is deprived of justice due to financial reasons," she affirmed.

The President also spoke about the introduction of three new criminal laws — the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam — which replaced British-era legislations.

It was a watershed moment for the country in justice delivery system when old criminal laws were replaced by three new laws (which came into effect on July 1, 2024), Murmu highlighted.

The President said

changes related to crime investigation and evidence have been made in the three new criminal laws.

"In cases where the punishment period is seven years or more, it has now become mandatory for a forensic expert to visit the crime scene and investigate. The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita made provision for development of forensic facilities in all states in a time-bound manner. Time-bound forensic examination has been made mandatory in many states," she said.

The President noted these changes would increase demand for

forensic experts.

"Due to rapid changes in technology, especially in the fields of digital technology and Artificial Intelligence, the capabilities of forensic sciences experts are increasing, but at the same time, criminals are also discovering new ways.

"People associated with our policing, prosecution, and criminal justice delivery system can be successful in controlling crime and making justice accessible only by being smarter, more prompt and alert than the criminals," Murmu emphasised.

She expressed confidence that with the contribution of NFSU, a strong forensic system would develop, the conviction rate would increase and criminals would be afraid of committing crimes.

Over 1560 students were awarded degrees from NFSU at the third convocation of the university headed by vice-chancellor J M Vyas.

Around 70 students from five foreign countries also graduated from the university.

"Two decades of strategic partnership between India, EU organic and natural": PM Modi



NEW DELHI, Feb 28 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi has lauded the partnership between India and the European Union, terming the strategic partnership between them as "organic and natural." Further he said that a free trade agreement between India and the European Union can be expected by the end of this year.

In his joint press statement following his meeting with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen at Hyderabad House here today, the Prime Minister said, "We have had sincere and meaningful discussions, yesterday on various issues. We have asked our teams to work on a mutually benefit Free Trade Agreement and to realise it by the end of this year."

PM Modi said that many decisions have been taken to elevate and accelerate partnership between India and the EU.

"This visit of the European Commission President and the College of Commissioners to India is unprecedented. This is not only the first visit of the European Commission to India, but it is also the first such

comprehensive engagement of the European Commission in any one country. This is one of the early visits of the (European) Commission's new tenure. I welcome them all to India."

"Two decades of strategic partnership between India and the EU is natural and organic, and in its foundation are trust and democratic values, shared commitment to shared Progress and prosperity. In this spirit, today and yesterday, 20 ministerial-level talks were held. We have had sincere and meaningful discussions on various regional and global issues. Many decisions have been taken to elevate and accelerate our partnership. A blueprint for cooperation on Trade, Technology, Investment, Innovation, Green Growth, Security, Skilling and Mobility has been prepared," he said.

PM Modi announced that India and EU has decided to start a space dialogue. He stated that India and EU have decided to hold Green Hydrogen Forum and Offshore Wind Energy Business Summit "

"We have discussed going ahead on investment protection and GI agreement to strengthen the investment framework. In the field of tech-

nology and innovation, a trusted and secure value chain is our shared priority. We also agree on increasing cooperation in semiconductor, AI, high-performance computing, and 6G. We have also decided to start a space dialogue. The balance of ecology and economy has been our shared commitment, and in this direction, we have a strong cooperation. We have decided to have a Green Hydrogen Forum and Offshore Wind Energy Business Summit," he said.

He announced that India and EU will cooperate over cyber security, counter-terrorism and maritime security. He said, "Our increasing cooperation over the issues related to security is a symbol of mutual trust. We will go ahead in cooperation over cyber security, maritime security and counter-terrorism."

PM Modi expressed confidence that India Middle East Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) will prove to be an engine to drive global commerce, sustainable growth and prosperity.

He said, "In the field of connectivity, concrete steps will be taken to take forward the India Middle East Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC). I am confident that 'IMEC' will prove to be an engine to drive global commerce, sustainable growth and prosperity."

PM Modi and Ursula von der Leyen held delegation level and bilateral talks at Hyderabad House in Delhi. Leyen arrived in Delhi on Thursday for a two-day visit to India.

Four people returning from Kumbh killed in UP road accident

MAHOBHA, Feb 28 (Agencies): Four devotees returning from Prayagraj after attending the Maha Kumbh were killed when their car collided with a truck on the Kanpur-Sagar highway on Friday, police said.

The deceased have been identified as Naresh Nagar (35), Awadhesh Nagar (35), Bhura Gurjar (35) and Pooja Nagar (23), all from Madhya Pradesh.

The accident occurred near Bara Nala in

the Srinagar Kotwali area in the early hours of Friday, police said.

"Preliminary investigations suggest the driver may have fallen asleep, causing the car to veer into oncoming traffic and collide with the truck," Superintendent of Police Palash Bansal said.

While three people were killed at the spot itself, Pooja died at the district hospital. Police have sent the bodies for post-mortem examination.



Further investigation is underway.

Pune police arrest man who raped woman inside bus in Swargate bus station

PUNE, Feb 28 (Agencies): After 48 hours of intensive search, Pune police arrested a man on Friday who allegedly raped a 26-year-old woman inside a bus at Pune's Swargate bus station.

Gade (37), a history-sheeter, allegedly raped the woman inside an ST bus in the early hours of Tuesday.

According to the police, the accused had visited a relative's house in Shirur, Pune district. He confessed to his relative that he had made a mistake and wanted to surrender to the police. However, he went absconding.

The relative later informed the police about Gade's whereabouts, the police said. The accused, Dat, was apprehended from a paddy field following an extensive search operation with the help of drones and sniffer dogs around midnight in Shirur tehsil.

"The police, with the help of a dog squad and drones apprehended him from a paddy field," a police official said.

Pune police have said a ligature mark was found on the accused's

neck, raising suspicion that he might have attempted suicide.

A senior police officer said, "Gade was brought to Pune by 2 am. He was sent for a medical examination and formally arrested. The accused will be produced in court later in the day."

According to sources, the accused switched off his mobile phone, but the police managed to reach his village and found out he had visited a house requesting water.

"We received information that Gade had visited a house asking for food. We rushed to the spot, but he managed to flee. The family in the house gave him a bottle of water," the official said.

Talking to reporters, Pune police commissioner Amitesh Kumar said, "According to the primary medical report, a ligature mark was found on the accused. It is suspected that he attempted suicide. We are waiting for the final report."

On Thursday, the Pune police had announced a reward of 1 lakh for any information leading to

the arrest of 37-year-old Dattatray Gade.

To track down the accused, the Pune police had formed 13 teams—eight from the Crime Branch and five from the Swargate Police Station, working on the ground.

Police sources mentioned that Gade had managed to slip through the dragnet thrown around the city by hiding in a truck carrying vegetables.

The woman, who was waiting at the Swargate bus depot to board a bus to her hometown in Satara district early on Tuesday, was approached by Gade. He told her that her bus would not arrive at the current platform but at another one, and persuaded her to board a particular bus, which was empty. The incident occurred just 100 metres from a police station.

Gade, 37, has a prior criminal record. He is facing charges in at least six cases of theft, robbery, and chain-snatching in Pune and the neighbouring Ahilya Nagar district. He has been out on bail since 2019.

India all set to eliminate TB by 2025: Nadda

BHUBANESWAR, Feb 28 (Agencies): Union Health Minister J P Nadda on Friday said that India will meet the target of eliminating tuberculosis (TB) from the country by the end of this year, five years ahead of the global target.

Nadda said this while inaugurating the 9th National Summit on Good and Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Healthcare System in Puri. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has organised the two-day-long conference.

"As per the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), India has to eliminate TB by 2030. But, we are all set to achieve it by 2025," Nadda said.

"We have already identified 5 lakh TB patients during the ongoing 100-day TB Mukh Bharat campaign in 455 districts across the country. An extensive campaign is going on. We are going to include all aspirational districts and aspirational blocks under the campaign so that we will be able to eliminate tuberculosis by the end of 2025," he said.

Nadda advised the participating health officers to treat the public representatives as very important messengers



and important tools for translation of the policies and programmes of the government.

"I see somewhere that officers are a little lagging behind in this aspect. So, please treat the public representatives as spokesperson of your policies and programmes. Take the PRI on board for better implementation of TB Mukh Bharat campaign along with the 22 lines departments," the Union Health minister advised the officers.

He said that there is a tremendous increase in non-communicable diseases due to the negative impact on the environment.

"Prime Minister has appealed to the people to decrease oil consumption by at least 10 per cent in every household. We have to take it as a movement with a holistic approach," he said.

Emphasising the deliv-

ery of quality healthcare at primary healthcare centres (PHC), Nadda said, "Our base needs to be strengthened to provide quality and accessible healthcare to the 1.4 billion population of our country." While admitting that there is a shortage of doctors in the country, Nadda said telemedicine is the only solution to overcome the problem.

"We have to ensure the advice of specialist doctors to reach the PHC level and Ayushman Arogya Mandir Centers. Hub and spoke model needs to be adopted to address the issue," he added.

Drone service was introduced in the healthcare system. It should be expanded to hilly and remote areas, where travelling is very difficult, he suggested.

Stating that finance is not a problem, Nadda said, "If this government can open 22 AIIMS in a

short span of 10 years, we are ready to give funds to provide quality healthcare services at PHC level under the NHM. However, you have to ensure that the fund is being properly utilised to enhance the quality of healthcare services." The Union Health minister said the ongoing universal screening programme, which was started on February 20 will continue till March 31, for early detection of various diseases like diabetes, three types of cancers, etc.

"Our target is to reach 37 crore people through the campaign. We have to do it in a massive way so that every person in our country should know about the government facility," he further stated.

Due to Ayushman Bharat, 90 per cent of cancer cases were detected in early stage, within 30 days and their treatment started, he said.

Nadda said that 200 daycare centres for cancer patients will be opened this year while every district will have at least one daycare centre for cancer patients in another year.

Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, who was also present at the meeting, said, "We are firm in our

commitment to expand and upgrade medical infrastructure. The Prime Minister laid the foundation for a 100-bed National Institute for Yoga & Naturopathy on October 29, 2024." Further steps have been taken to establish the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research and the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, he said.

The state has decided to strengthen 7358 urban and rural PHC & sub centres as Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAM) to provide comprehensive primary health care services including yoga and other wellness activities, Majhi said.

"We have made provision to construct a new building for 1,338 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs in the coming year's budget," he added.

Towards a TB Mukh Odisha, a 100-day intensified TB campaign has been initiated through focused interventions in 20 high-priority districts, the chief minister said.

Among others, Odisha Health minister Mukesh Mahaling, Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava and MD of NHM, Aradhana Patnaik attended the inaugural session of the summit.

Will have immediate, extremely strong response: Canada on US' tariffs

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Friday issued a warning regarding the potential imposition of tariffs by the United States, stating that 'Canada will have an immediate and extremely strong response.'

OTTAWA, Feb 28 (Agencies): Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Friday issued a warning regarding the potential imposition of tariffs by the United States, stating that "Canada will have an immediate and extremely strong response," CBC News reported.

"We will continue to do that work and do everything necessary to avoid these tariffs coming in, but like I said, if on Tuesday there are unjustified tariffs brought in on Canada, we will have an immediate and extremely strong response, as Canadians expect," Trudeau said.

The statement comes amid growing tensions over trade between the two countries. US President Donald Trump has repeatedly criticised the flow of illicit drugs into the US, allegedly coming from both Canada and Mexico.

As a result, Trump has decided to move forward with the imposition of tariffs on both countries, starting March 4. Additionally, reciprocal tariffs are set to continue with full force from April 2.

Further, Trudeau added that, "the first thing on tariffs is to emphasise that our government, and indeed all of Team



Canada, premiers, business leaders, community leaders, are focused on one thing, making sure that come Tuesday and for the weeks that follow, there are no tariffs imposed on Canada," as per CBC News.

"The tariffs that the president speaks of for next week are centered around the fentanyl crisis that they're facing in the United States, but that we are also facing in Canada," he added.

Addressing concerns regarding fentanyl trafficking into the United States, he said "And for months now, I've been emphasising that less than one per cent of the fentanyl that arrives in the United States comes

from Canada. But we know that even that one per cent, or less than one per cent, should be reduced, which is why we've invested USD 1.3 billion in strengthening our border capacities with Blackhawk helicopters, with drones, with 10,000 people patrolling our borders and keeping Canadians and Americans safe.

"And that Canada is not the source of problems for the United States," he added.

Meanwhile, on February 4, the US President paused tariffs on imports from both countries for 30 days, saying that he had secured new commitments from the two countries to improve

border security. The pause was put in place after President Trump said he spoke to his counterparts from Mexico and Canada.

"Drugs are still pouring into our Country from Mexico and Canada at very high and unacceptable levels. A large percentage of these Drugs, much of them in the form of Fentanyl, are made in, and supplied by China. More than 100,000 people died last year due to the distribution of these dangerous and highly addictive POISONS," Trump said in a post on Truth Social.

Citing the smuggling of drugs across the border, Trump has vowed to stop or "seriously limit" such drugs, especially Fentanyl.

"Millions of people have died over the last two decades. The families of the victims are devastated and, in many instances, virtually destroyed. We cannot allow this scourge to continue to harm the USA, and therefore, until it stops, or is seriously limited, the proposed TARIFFS scheduled to go into effect on MARCH 4 will, indeed, go into effect, as scheduled," read Trump's post.

In addition, China will also be charged an additional 10 per cent tariff from March 4.

Diving horror: Attacked by sharks, Russian tourist dies; another one drowns in Philippines



MANILA, Feb 28 (Agencies): Two Russian tourists died when they were swept away by strong undercurrents while scuba diving in waters south of Manila, with one believed to have drowned and the other attacked by sharks, a Philippine coast guard official said on Friday.

Two other Russian tourists managed to swim back safely to their dive boat on Thursday off Verde Island, a popular diving destination in the prov-

ince of Batangas, Philippine coast guard provincial commander Capt. Airlan Lapitan said.

The four Russian tourists travelled by boat to the waters off Verde Island from the nearby town of Puerto Galera in Oriental Mindoro province with a Filipino dive instructor. While diving, the five were swept away by strong undercurrents, Lapitan said.

Two of the Russians managed to surface with the dive instructor

but the two other Russians, who were identified as Ilia Peregudin, 29, and Maksim Melekhov, 39, went missing. The dive instructor and other divers in the area, along with Philippine coast guard personnel, immediately launched a search, according to Lapitan.

Melekhov was found unconscious at sea an hour later and was declared dead by doctors in a Batangas hospital, he said.

"The other Russian diver was found while being attacked by sharks. His right arm, unfortunately, had been severed and the sharks were moving around him," Lapitan told The Associated Press. "They somehow managed to pull him away."

An investigation is underway and the coast guard will meet provincial officials to discuss ways to prevent such deadly incidents at Verde Island and other dive spots, Lapitan said.

Beijing vows 'all necessary countermeasures' against new US tariffs on Chinese imports

BEIJING, Feb 28 (Agencies): China on Friday vowed to take "all necessary countermeasures" after US President Donald Trump said he would impose an additional 10 percent tariff on Chinese imports.

Trump's latest move is due to enter effect on Tuesday alongside sweeping 25 percent levies on Canadian and Mexican imports, intensifying a brewing trade war between the world's two largest economies.

The 10 percent tariff on Chinese imports will come on top of an existing levy of the same rate imposed by Trump on China earlier this month.

In response to Trump's allegations that Beijing



is contributing to a deadly fentanyl crisis in the United States -- his justification for the tariffs -- a spokesperson for China's commerce ministry said in a statement Friday that Washington was "shifting the blame."

"China is one of the countries with the strictest and most thorough anti-narcotics policy in the world," the statement read.

"But the US side has always ignored these facts," it said.

"If the US side insists on going its own way, the Chinese side will take all necessary countermeasures to defend its legitimate rights and interests," it said.

The statement also warned that the tariff hike "is not conducive to solving (the United States') own problems", adding that it would "increase the burden on American companies and consumers, and undermine the stability of the global industrial chain."

British PM Starmer to host major summit on March 2 to 'drive forward' Ukraine action

LONDON, Feb 28 (Agencies): UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer has invited more than a dozen European and EU leaders to a Sunday summit to "drive forward" action on Ukraine and security, his office said.

Ahead of the main summit, Starmer will chair a morning call with Baltic nations, before welcoming Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to Downing Street to discuss the war with Russia, it said on Friday.

"The prime minister will use the summit to drive forward European action on Ukraine -- signalling our collective unwavering support to securing a just and enduring peace, and a lasting deal, that ensures Ukraine's future sovereignty and security," his office said.

Leaders from around continental Europe including France, Germany, Denmark and Italy as well as Turkey, NATO and the European Union have been invited to the summit in London



later on Sunday, his office added.

Fresh from his Thursday talks with US President Donald Trump in the White House, Starmer has also invited the leaders of Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, Finland, Sweden, the Czech Republic and Romania to the summit.

NATO chief Mark Rutte as well as EU chiefs Ursula von der Leyen and Antonio Costa are

also due to attend.

Starmer will host one-on-one talks at Downing Street with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni before the summit starts.

His office said the meeting would build on the Paris talks hosted by French Emmanuel Macron earlier this month and focus on "strengthening Ukraine's position now -- including ongoing military support and increased economic pressure

on Russia."

It would stress again the need for a "strong lasting deal that delivers a permanent peace" and discuss "next steps on planning for strong security guarantees."

Starmer, while insisting again that Ukraine must be part of any negotiations to end the three-year war with Russia, will also recognise "the need for Europe to play its part on defence and step up for the good of the collective security."

During Thursday's White House talks, Trump took a softer tone on any truce talks, but refused to give any firm commitments on the US security guarantees Europe desperately wants.

Trump, who has alarmed European capitals with his sudden pivot towards Russia, said there had been "a lot of progress" towards a deal to end the conflict in Ukraine and that negotiations were at a crucial stage.

North Korea says it performed cruise missile tests

SEOUL, Feb 28 (Agencies): North Korea said Friday it had test-fired strategic cruise missiles to demonstrate its nuclear counter-attack capability, days after it vowed to respond to what it called escalating U.S.-led hostilities since the start of the Trump administration.

The official Korean Central News Agency said leader Kim Jong Un oversaw the missile tests off the country's west coast. They were the North's fourth missile launch event this year and the second of President Donald Trump's second term.

The launches were designed to inform "the enemies, who are seriously violating our security environment and fostering and escalating the confrontation environment," of the North Korean military's counterattack capability and the readiness of its nuclear operations, KCNA said.

Kim expressed satisfaction over the results of the drills and said the military must be fully ready to use its nuclear



weapons, the report said.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement later Friday that it had detected and tracked the North Korean launches. It said the South Korean military maintains readiness to repel any potential provocation by North Korea based on the solid South Korea-U.S. military alliance.

Since his Jan. 20 inauguration, Trump has boasted of his summitry with Kim during his

first term and said he would reach out to Kim again. North Korea hasn't directly responded to Trump's overture as it continues its typical aggressive rhetoric against the U.S. and weapons testing activities.

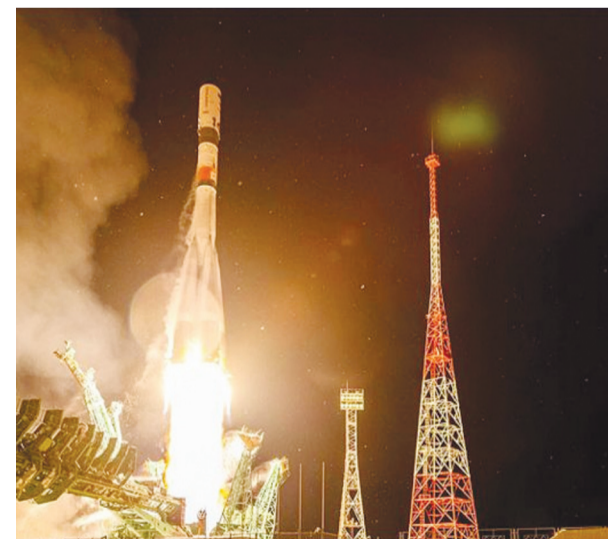
Many experts say Kim, now preoccupied with his support of Russia's war against Ukraine with supply of weapons and troops, won't likely embrace Trump's outreach anytime soon. They say Kim could reconsider if he doubts

he'll maintain North Korea's current solid cooperation with Russia after the war ends.

Last Saturday, North Korea's Defense Ministry alleged the U.S. and its allies were ramping up more serious military provocations targeting North Korea since Trump took power. It cited the recent U.S.-South Korean aerial exercise involving a U.S. B-1B bomber and other reported activities involving U.S. military assets. A Defense Ministry statement said North Korea will counter the strategic threat of the U.S. with strategic means.

Kim and Trump met three times from 2018-19 to discuss the fate of North Korea's nuclear program, but their diplomacy derailed due to disputes over U.S.-led sanctions on the North. Kim has since sharply increased the pace of weapons tests to expand and modernize his nuclear arsenal. Having a bigger nuclear arsenal now, experts say Kim would think he could win greater U.S. concessions if he revives diplomacy with Trump.

Russia launches Progress MS-30 cargo spacecraft to resupply ISS



MOSCOW, Feb 28 (Agencies): Russia successfully launched the Progress MS-30 cargo spacecraft into orbit using a Soyuz-2.1a rocket on Friday, Russia's state space corporation Roscosmos said.

The carrier rocket lifted off from the Baikonur space center in Kazakhstan at 00:24

a.m. Moscow time Friday (2124 GMT Thursday). The spacecraft is expected to reach the International Space Station (ISS) in approximately two days, with docking to the Zvezda module scheduled for Sunday, Roscosmos said in a press release on its website.

Progress MS-30 car-

ries a total of 2,599 kg of cargo for the ISS, including 1,179 kg of equipment, clothing, food supplies, as well as medical and hygiene products.

Additionally, the spacecraft is transporting 950 kg of fuel for station refueling, 420 liters of drinking water, and 50 kg of nitrogen to replenish the station's atmosphere, it said.

A key delivery of this mission is the new Orlan-MKS No. 6 spacesuit, designed for spacewalks. This model features an advanced internal hermetic shell made from high-tech fabric for enhanced durability, an automated water-cooling system that maintains optimal comfort for the operator, and an upgraded display system.

Rich Harvest School celebrates Annual Fest "Ek Shaam Jammu Ke Naam"

Top News Report

JAMMU Feb 28: Rich Harvest School celebrated its annual fest-2025 "Ek Shaam Jammu Ke Naam" with great fervor and enthusiasm.

The event was graced by Chief Guest SSB Chairperson Indu Kanwal Chib and Special Guest of Honour Retd. District & Sessions Judge Bala Jyoti who appreciated the efforts of the students in showcasing the rich cultural heritage of Jammu and applauded the efforts of Team Rich Harvest for making efforts to preserve the culture and heritage of Jammu.

The highlight of the evening was the spectacular showcase of



Dogra culture and warriors, which left the audience mesmerized. The students presented a colorful and vibrant display of traditional dances, music, and drama, highlighting the bravery and valor of Dogra warriors.

The event also featured a range of cultural performances, including folk dances, songs, and skits, all of which were

meticulously prepared and presented by the students.

The uniqueness of the program was the virtual tour of Jammu by Rich Harvest Airlines and the live performances by the renowned Dogri singers of Jammu Asha Kesar (Dogri Paakh Singer) and Shamsheer Mohd (Dogri Folk Singer)

Founder Rich Harvest Schools and Vice Chair-

person S.G foundation Uma Katal welcomed and thanked the Chief Guest, Presiding Guest and other special Guest for their presence. She also gave a presentation on the performance of the school and said, Rich Harvest shall leave no stone unturned in its efforts to preserve the culture of Jammu by spreading awareness in the students.

GDC Mahanpur organises Awareness program on New Criminal Laws



Top News Report

MAHANPUR, Feb 28: Seminar, Symposium, Debate Committee of GDC Mahanpur in collaboration with the Police Department, Basohli organised an Awareness Drive on Friday.

The event was organised to raise awareness about newly introduced three Criminal laws.

The programme was organised by Dr. Jogbinder Singh Soodan,

Convenor Seminar, Symposium Debate Committee under the supervision of Prof. (Dr.) Sangeeta Sudan, the Principal of the College.

The Resource Person and Guest of Honour on the occasion was Sh. Suresh Kumar Sharma, SDPO Basohli. He gave an informative Power Point Presentation on the topic "newly introduced three criminal laws".

The new criminal laws in India are significant

because they aim to modernize the justice system, protect rights, and ensure justice for all.

A token of appreciation was presented to Suresh Kumar Sharma, SDPO Basohli. The students as well as NSS Volunteers were enlightened by the fruitful and information presentation. More than 50 students attended the Lecture. Besides this, All faculty members were present in the Awareness Drive.

The event was hosted by Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia, the formal welcome note was presented by Dr. Jogbinder Singh Soodan, Convenor Seminar, symposium Debate committee and the formal vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Sapna Devi.

GDC Marh organizes Inter-Disciplinary Quiz Competition

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: To foster scientific temperament, creativity and innovation among students College Science club in collaboration with IIC and IQAC, GDC Marh organized Inter-Discipline quiz competition on the occasion of National Science Day in the college campus celebrating this year's theme "Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership in Science and Innovation for Viksit Bharat" under the supervision Principal Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Kumar Koul. He emphasized the importance of science and technology in shaping the future.

He appraised the students that the aim of this competition is not about winning and losing but

learning and enhancing their scientific temperament and explained that how science and spiritualism complement each other.

The competition featured basic concepts from Bio-Sciences, Physics, Chemistry, Geography, Mathematics, Environmental Sciences, Computer Sciences, Current affairs & Science and Technology allowing students to showcase their knowledge, Social responsibility and problem-solving skills.

About 12 students participated in the quiz. A total number of 4 teams were formulated for the event and there were four rounds in the quiz competition. The students participated very enthusiastically in each round.

In the valedictory session, prizes (mementos and certificate) were given to the winning teams and the participants.

First prize was won by team D, Mercury (Kunal, Sanjay, and Suresh), Team B Venus (Diksha, Shilpa, Abhishek) won second prize and Team C Earth (Mohit, Geetanajli and Shivansh) won the third prize.

IQAC convener, Prof. Imtiaz Shahid made all the requisite preparations for ensuring a flawless execution of the competition. Dr. Balwinder Saini (HOD Chemistry) conducted the proceedings of the programme.

The event was conducted with full cooperation by Dr. Madhvi Parasher (HOD Botany), Dr Rahul Sharma (HOD

Computer Applications), Dr. Ram Dayal (HOD Maths), Prof. Anjana Chib (HOD Environmental Sciences), Prof Asha Kumari (HOD Geography) and Dr. Gurleen Kour. Prof. Sachin Kumar Bhagat (NSS PO), Ravi Kumar (PTI) and Brij Bir Jaswal (HOD Physics) were also present during the event.

The students provided highly favorable feedback regarding the competition and stated that such competition should be organized in the future also as they are very knowledgeable and develop decision making and problem solving skill among them.

At the end refreshment was also served to winners and participants.

PMIS IEC outreach seminar organised at Govt Polytechnic College Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: The Prime Minister Internship Scheme (PMIS) IEC outreach Seminar was organised at the Auditorium Hall of Government Polytechnic College Bikram Chowk Jammu, in coordination with the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu & Kashmir through the Directorate of Skill Development J&K.

The primary objective of this initiative is to spread awareness about the scheme among the youth of the region.

The event was represented by Rajneesh Kumar, Registrar of Companies for the UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh, who highlighted the

key features of the PMIS.

He shared the outcomes and success stories from Round 1 and encouraged youth between the ages of 20 to 24 to actively participate in this valuable initiative, which aims to provide exposure and hands-on experience in various sectors.

Additionally, Raj Kumar Koul from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs delivered an informative session on the step-by-step process for registering on the PMIS portal. He also demonstrated how to update profiles and ensure a smooth application process for interested candidates.

The session concluded with an address from the Er. Talet Mah-

mood Principal Government Polytechnic College Bikram Chowk Jammu, who emphasized the importance of the scheme tailored specifically for the youth. He urged students and young professionals to seize the opportunity and benefit from the scheme, which offers valuable skill development and career advancement prospects.

The Prime Minister Internship Scheme provides a unique platform for the youth to gain practical exposure and enhance their professional skills. It is an excellent opportunity for young individuals to contribute to national development while simultaneously building their career profiles.

Others were present on the event were HODs, staff, and students of Government Polytechnic Jammu, Government Polytechnic for Women Jammu, Government Industrial Training Institute Jammu and Government Women ITI Jammu.

For more information and registration details, interested individuals can visit the official PMIS portal.

From Page No:1

J&K High Court approves updated guidelines for recording evidence of vulnerable witnesses

including but not limited to the nature of the crime, threats and intimidation, fear of reprisal, age, developmental levels, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religious identity, caste, physical and/or mental disability, lack of infrastructural support, language barriers, and geographical location.

"Some of the most challenging cases before judges involve vulnerable witnesses such as children, victims of sexual offenses or domestic violence, persons with disabilities, and those facing threats to their life and property," the notification states.

It emphasizes that vulnerable witnesses often find legal proceedings, particularly the courtroom experience, to be intimidating.

The notification underscores that, without adequate support, vulnerable witnesses may not feel safe enough to provide robust testimony. It also highlights that navigating the adversarial criminal justice system or civil justice system can have significant and long-lasting psychological impacts on vulnerable witnesses.

To address these challenges effectively, the justice system must respond proactively and sensitively in an age-appropriate manner, ensuring that judicial processes are less traumatic and that secondary victimization is minimized.

"Sensitive engagement and suitable modifications of existing pro-

cedures (within the framework of the law), while safeguarding the rights of the accused or the opposing party, can significantly enhance the quality of depositions by vulnerable witnesses and potentially impact the outcome of a trial."

Objectives of the Guidelines:
To enable vulnerable witnesses to testify freely in a safe and secure environment.

To minimize harm or secondary victimization of vulnerable witnesses before and during their participation in the justice system.

To ensure that the rights of all parties involved in judicial processes are effectively protected.

The notification further emphasizes that, within the criminal justice system, the guidelines seek to balance multiple rights, including:

The accused's right to a fair trial and due process.

The victim's right to participate effectively in proceedings, be treated sensitively, and be protected from secondary victimization.

The protection of vulnerable witnesses, who may not necessarily be victims, but require support to provide reliable testimony.

Properties of 5 PoJK-Based Hizbul Terrorists seized in Ramban

Kashmir will not be tolerated," he added.

The spokesperson said that security forces remain committed to ensuring long-term peace, stability and development in Jammu and Kashmir while taking firm action against those trying to destabilise the region.

According to police, the five terrorists crossed over to PoJK to receive arms training and carry out

militant activities in India. Intelligence reports suggested that they were attempting to sell their immovable properties in Jammu and Kashmir with the intention of using the proceeds to finance terrorist activities and lure local youth into militancy, the spokesperson said.

The seizure order, issued by the sub-divisional police officer in Gool, prevents the sale, lease or any other form of transaction involving these properties without the permission of the Jammu and Kashmir Police or other designated authorities, he said.

The seizure will cut off a potential source of terror funding that would have been used to revive Hizbul Mujahideen's influence in the region, he added.

Police said the families of these individuals will now face legal and financial constraints, preventing them from providing indirect support to militant activities.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration has been proactively cracking down on terror funding, underground worker (OGW) networks and exfiltrated terrorists, and this has significantly weakened the terror ecosystem in the recent years, the spokesperson said.

The latest action aligns with the government's zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism, he said.

Winter vacations extended, Schools to reopen on March 7: Sakina Itoo

2025." the order read. The decision to extend the holidays follows three days of snowfall and rainfall across various parts of Jammu and Kashmir.

Driver rescued from flash flood in Niki Tawi

immediately alerted, and Rescue Operation Rudder was launched.

Under the operation, a police team led by PSI Balbir Singh, Incharge of Phallian Mandal Police Post, reached the site, assessed the situation, and reassured the driver, he said.

The SDRF team, led by ASI Om Parkash, was quickly requisitioned, he added.

With coordinated efforts, Jammu and Kashmir Police and SDRF successfully rescued the driver from the middle of the river, the police official said.

Later, he was provided first aid and taken to Phallian Mandal Police Post for further care, he said.

The operation was supervised by SSP Jammu, SP South, and SDPO South, and executed by SHO Satwari and IC PP Phallian Mandal.

PDP seeks support of political parties on alcohol ban, other key issues in J&K

united front on key issues affecting J&K. PDP introduces crucial bills on land rights, worker regularization & alcohol prohibition. Politics aside, the people's welfare must come first."

In a letter by Mehbooba Mufti to Congress general secretary, Ghulam Ahmad Mir, PDP said, "@GAMIR_INC Sahab, urging collective action on key issues in J&K. PDP introduces crucial bills

on property rights, worker regularization & alcohol prohibition. The peoples welfare must rise above politics."

Similarly in a letter to Leader of Opposition in J&K Legislative Assembly, Sunil Sharma, PDP wrote, "@Sunil_SharmaBJP Sahab urging bipartisan support for key PDP bills on property rights, worker regularization & alcohol prohibition."

The party also posted its letter to Peoples Conference President Sajad Lone on the issues on social media saying, "@sajadlone, urging support for PDP's key legislative bills on property rights, worker regularization & alcohol prohibition. A call for collective action beyond political divides."

About its letter to CPI(M) leader MY Tarigami, PDP posted "@tarigami MY Tarigami Sahab seeking support for PDP's key legislative proposals on property rights, worker regularization & alcohol prohibition. A call for unity on people's issues beyond party lines."

People's Democratic Party (PDP) MLAs have submitted three private member bills for the upcoming Assembly session which is commencing from March 3.

PDP legislator from Pulwama Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra has moved a private member bill titled "The Jammu and Kashmir (Regularization and Recognition of Property Rights of Residents in Public Land) Bill, 2025" to confer the ownership rights on houses constructed on public land in Jammu and Kashmir. The other two bills pertain to the regularisation of daily wagers and liquor ban and have been named as Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Special Provisions for Regularization of Adhoc, Daily Wagers, Need-Based and Other Temporary Workers) Act, 2025; and Jammu and Kashmir

Prohibition of Alcohol Bill, 2025. Earlier a bill proposed by PDP MLA from Kupwara, Fayaz Ahmad Mir, sought a complete ban on the advertisement, sale, purchase, consumption, and manufacture of alcoholic beverages in Jammu and Kashmir.

PDP has expressed concern that the increasing alcohol consumption is becoming a serious threat to society, particularly its impact on the youth. The bill by PDP MLA proposes stringent penalties, including imprisonment and hefty fines, for anyone found violating the ban.

National Conference MLA Ahsan Pardesi has also submitted a private member's bill seeking a ban on alcohol in Kashmir and other Muslim-majority regions of Jammu and Kashmir while Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) has also expressed strong support for bills aimed at banning alcohol in the Union Territory.

JKBOSE postpone exams scheduled for Mar 1 & 3 in hard zones

01-03-2025 and 03-03-2025 as per date sheet already issued, are hereby postponed and rescheduled."

The board said that the examinations that were earlier scheduled to be held on March 01 for classes 10th and 11th will be held on March 25.

In case of 12th standard, the examinations that were scheduled to be held on March 01 will be held on March 24.

The time and venue of the examinations shall remain unchanged, order stated.

MLA Banihal holds review meeting on Ramadan preparedness

Directs administration to expedite restoration of utility services



Top News Report

BANIHAL, Feb 28: In view of the upcoming holy month of Ramadan and the recent heavy snowfall, MLA Banihal Sajjad Shaheen convened a high-level review meeting with the Sub-Divisional level administration to assess the preparedness for Ramadan and the post-snowfall situation in the Banihal-Gool constituency.

During the meeting, MLA Banihal directed officials to expedite the restoration of essential utility services, including electricity, water

supply, and road connectivity, which have been disrupted due to heavy snowfall. He stressed the importance of ensuring uninterrupted essential services such as ration supplies, healthcare, and transport facilities during Ramadan, a time of great spiritual significance for the people.

Emphasizing proactive measures, he instructed the administration to keep emergency response teams on standby, ensure adequate stock of essential commodities, and deploy additional man-

power where required. Special focus was laid on maintaining unhindered power supply during Sehri and Iftar hours and ensuring timely snow clearance in affected areas.

MLA Banihal reiterated his commitment to the welfare of the people and assured that he would personally monitor the situation to ensure all necessary arrangements are in place.

He urged the public to report any grievances regarding essential services so that immediate action can be taken.

KVK Samba organises monthly officers workshop

Top News Report

SAMBA, Feb 28: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Samba under the aegis of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology-Jammu (SKUAST-J) organised officers monthly workshop here today at KVK Hq Samba which was enthusiastically attended by a number of extension officers from the Department of Agriculture, Samba of J&K.

The workshop was organised under the stewardship of Vice Chancellor, Prof. B.N. Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension, Prof. Amrish Vaid of SKUAST-Jammu.

Prof. Sanjay Khajuria Chief Scientist and Head KVK Samba coordinated the workshop and he warmly welcomed all the participants and discussed various field related issues and



stressed on the timely and efficient management of different field problems of farmers. He stressed on the close linkage between the field officers and the farmers.

He also discussed on natural farming and stressed on the adoption of cluster approach for the economic development

of rural areas. He also spoke on the SHGs/FPOs formation and food processing.

He highlighted the formulation and use of biopesticides, biofertilizers and biofertilizers in the organic crops.

He added that natural farming can reduce the cost of cultivation and can play a significant

role in enhancing the income and employment among the farmers.

Dr. Aakash Sharma, Professor Fruit Science SKUAST Jammu discussed on the commercial cultivation of fruits and suggested the scientific cultivation of different fruits in the District Samba. He also discussed in detail on the organic treatment of various insects-pests in various crops.

Dr. Bhav Kumar Sinha, Professor, Plant Physiology SKUAST Jammu spoke on the advance technologies in agricultural/horticultural crops. He stressed on the ecofriendly practices so as to produce the safe and healthy products.

During the workshop, all participants from allied departments thanked SKUAST Jammu for conducting the useful workshop.

GDC Bishnah celebrates National Science Day



Top News Report

BISHNAH, Feb 28: Government Degree College (GDC) Bishnah celebrated Science Day 2025 with a series of engaging and thought-provoking activities aimed at promoting scientific awareness and curiosity among students and faculty. The event, which was organized with great enthusiasm, featured a documentary screening,

an interactive session, and a lively question-and-answer segment that left the audience captivated.

The event was coordinated by Dr. Ratika Sharma, Head of the Department (HOD) of Physics, alongside Prof. Sonia Khajuria, Assistant Professor in Chemistry, Dr. Ashma Gupta, Assistant Professor in Zoology, and Dr. Kiran Koushal, HOD of Urdu. Their combined efforts

ensured that the event was both educational and highly engaging.

The day began with the screening of an insightful documentary highlighting the significant contributions of science and technology to humanity's progress. This film served as an inspiration, encouraging students to explore the endless possibilities that science offers.

Following the documentary, an interactive session was conducted, where the audience had the opportunity to engage with the esteemed panel of faculty members. Questions were answered, and students were given the platform to discuss various scientific phenomena, theories, and

breakthroughs. This session fostered a deeper understanding of science and encouraged a spirit of inquiry among the participants.

Dr. Ratika Sharma, HOD of Physics, expressed her excitement about the successful event, stating, "Science Day is an important occasion to celebrate the wonders of science and inspire the younger generation to pursue knowledge and innovation. It was heartening to see such an enthusiastic participation from both students and faculty."

Prof. Sonia Khajuria, Assistant Professor in Chemistry, also spoke about the importance of keeping students engaged with real-

world scientific issues, while Dr. Ashma Gupta, Assistant Professor in Zoology, underscored the relevance of biological sciences in today's rapidly changing world.

Dr. Kiran Koushal, HOD of Urdu, was also present, acknowledging the integral role that scientific literacy plays in the development of a well-rounded society.

The event concluded with a renewed sense of excitement and curiosity about the world of science, leaving all attendees inspired and motivated to delve deeper into the realms of scientific exploration.

The entire program was conducted under the able guidance of Dr. Shailu Samyal, Principal GDC Bishnah.

NSDC Certificates and Tool Kits awarded to Carpentry & Electrician Cadre at Tain

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Feb 28: In a significant step towards empowering local youth with various skills, the Indian Army successfully concluded the Carpentry and Electrician Cadres under Operation Sadbhavana at Tain, district Rajouri.

The Indian Army felicitated the Youths of Carpentry and Electrician Cadres, with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) certificates and tool kits to support their future endeavours.

The Carpentry Cadre was conducted at Parat over a period of 07 weeks, while the Electrician Cadre was conducted at Kalal over a period of 06 weeks.

These skill development programs were designed to equip participants with modern techniques and practi-



cal knowledge, enhancing their employment prospects and fostering self-reliance.

The Participants expressed their gratitude towards the Indian Army for this valuable opportunity, which will enable them to seek meaningful employment or start their own businesses.

The initiative has been widely appreciated by the local population, reinforcing the strong bond between the Indian Army and the communities.

The Indian army offi-

cial also interacted with the youth, inspiring them to pursue skill development for better career opportunities.

This effort is a testament to the Indian Army's commitment of uplifting lesser privileged regions, addressing local needs and promoting socio-economic development.

By investing in skill-based training, Indian Army continues to play a crucial role in shaping a self-sufficient and prosperous future for the youth of the region.

Army strengthens bond with Ex-Servicemen in Dehri Raylote, Kotli

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Feb 28: In a heartfelt initiative to strengthen the bond, fostering secure environment and developing a deeper sense of belongingness between the Indian Army and the Ex-Servicemen (ESM) community, a meeting was held today with the veterans of Upper Galuthi, Upper Dehri Raylote, Lower Galuthi and Kotli-Kalaban villages. A total of 26 ESM with their families



attended the said event.

The event, organized by the Indian Army, witnessed active participation from several ESMs, demonstrating the mutual respect and

commitment between the Army and those who have served the nation.

During the gathering, the Army showcased its unwavering support for the ESM community,

emphasizing the importance of their invaluable contributions to the area's security.

The event also highlighted the Army's continuous efforts to address the welfare needs of veterans. As a part of the initiative, the ESMs were provided with on-site medical facilities, ensuring that their health and well-being are given priority.

A dedicated grievance redressal session was also conducted, where the veterans were able

to voice their concerns, which were noted for further follow-up and redressal by Zila Sainik Board (ZSB) and other offices.

This meeting stands as a testament to the deep and enduring relationship between the Indian Army and the Ex-Servicemen, reaffirming the Army's commitment to the welfare of its veterans and the strong support system they provide to those who have dedicated their lives to the nation.

Army organizes Educational visit for students of GMS Bomal

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Feb 28: The Indian Army, in its continuous efforts to foster awareness and instill a sense of pride among young minds, organized an educational visit for 40 students and four teachers from Government Middle School, Bomal.

The initiative aimed to provide the students with a glimpse into India's rich military legacy and cultural heritage.

During the visit, the students had the opportunity to interact with Indian Army personnel, gaining first-hand insights into the life, discipline, and dedication of the Indian Armed Forces.

They were also given an overview of the



glorious military history, showcasing the valor and sacrifices of soldiers in safeguarding the nation. Special emphasis was placed on local cultural heritage, where students learned about the traditions, values, and historical significance of various landmarks and events.

The visit not only educated the students but also inspired them

to develop a spirit of patriotism and service toward the nation.

The teachers accompanying the students expressed their gratitude to the Indian Army for organizing this enlightening experience.

They emphasized that such initiatives play a crucial role in shaping young minds and motivating them to contrib-

ute positively to society.

The Indian Army remains committed to engaging with the community and fostering a strong bond between the armed forces and citizens.

This initiative is part of a broader effort to encourage educational outreach and create awareness about India's military and cultural heritage among the youth.

GDC R S Pura organizes workshop to celebrate "National Science Day"

Top News Report

R S PURA, Feb 28: In celebration of National Science Day, Science Club of Government Degree College R. S. Pura under the aegis of IQAC organized an insightful and engaging workshop on 28-2-2025.

The event, aimed at fostering scientific awareness and encouraging young minds to explore the wonders of science, brought together students, faculty, and professionals in the field.

The workshop, held at the college premises, focused on National Science Day based on the theme "Medicinal Plants and Biodiversity Conservation" and featured a series of interactive sessions and hands-on activities.

Dr. Wahid Ul Hassan, Technical Officer JK Medicinal Plants Board was the chief Guest in the workshop.

Dr. Muzaffar Ahmed Khichloo a renowned expert in the field of wild life ecology was invited to speak on various topics, inspiring



students to delve deeper into the world of science and research.

Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour, Principal of GDC R. S. Pura, inaugurated the event and emphasized the importance of science in everyday life.

"National Science Day is a reminder of the significant contributions science has made to society. Through workshops like these, we aim to inspire our students to think critically, innovate, and pursue careers in science and technology," She said.

The proceedings of the workshop were carried out by Prof. Vijeeta Anand.

Further the Students actively

participated in the Poster Making Competition, which enhancing their understanding of scientific principles and their practical applications.

The performance of the students was adjudged by Dr. Neeru Sawhney, Dr. Neeti Chibber and Prof. Sankait Gupta. The whole event was coordinated by Dr. Rajinder Kumar Sharma, Convener Science Club.

The event concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony for the winners of the poster making competition and science-related activities and a formal vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Priya Darshni.

Football's greatest rivalry in India: Real Madrid Legends take on Barcelona Legends

With over 40 million LaLiga fans in India, the country has become a powerhouse in the global football ecosystem.

MUMBAI, Feb 28 (Agencies): India is about to witness football history as The Sports Front brings one of the greatest rivalries in world football to Indian soil for the first time! On April 6, 2025, at the DY Patil Stadium, Navi Mumbai, legends of Real Madrid and Barcelona will reignite their iconic battle - Legends Faceoff - in a spectacle that promises to electrify fans like never before. For the first time ever, Indian football lovers will get an exclusive chance to witness football royalty live in action! Some of the biggest names in the game, including Luis Figo, Fernando Morientes, and Rivaldo, are already confirmed, with more superstars set to be unveiled soon.

This historic faceoff is more than just a match-it's a celebration of footballing greatness, bringing together two of the most legendary clubs to showcase the magic that has captivated fans for generations.

Mr. John Zaidi, CEO & CO-Founder of The Sports Front, emphasized the impact of this event: "Indian football fans have demonstrated unwavering passion for the game. Now, for the first time, they will witness history unfold in their own backyard. This event is about more than football-it's about placing India at the forefront of global sports



entertainment."

Mr. Anirudh Poddar, COO & CFO and CO-Founder of The Sports Front, underscored its significance: "Real Madrid vs Barcelona is one of the most iconic sporting spectacles in football history. Now, Indian fans will experience it first-hand. Our vision is to establish India as a key destination for marquee global sporting events, and this match marks a major step towards that goal."

Football lovers can now register exclusively on the District app by Zomato for early access to tickets before they officially go live. The ticket launch date will be announced soon, with sales

available on the District app and HSBC as the official banking partner. More partners and exciting fan experiences will be revealed in the coming weeks. The HSBC Pre-Sale is set to begin on March 2, 2025, giving HSBC customers an exclusive window to secure their seats ahead of the general public.

With over 40 million LaLiga fans in India, the country has become a powerhouse in the global football ecosystem. From record-breaking screenings to some of the world's largest digital football communities, Indian fans are shaping the future of the sport's viewership like never before. Now, with the arrival of

Real Madrid Legends vs Barcelona Legends, India takes center stage in world football, setting the stage for a new era of international sporting spectacles.

The Sports Front is on a mission to redefine India's sports industry by delivering world-class international experiences. Bringing this footballing masterpiece to India is a game-changing milestone, reaffirming India's position as an emerging hub for global sports and entertainment.

The battle between Real Madrid and Barcelona is more than just football-it's a collision of legacies, philosophies, and the relentless pursuit of greatness. Dating back to 1902, this legendary rivalry has been shaped by some of football's most iconic figures, from Di Stefano and Cruyff to Messi and Ronaldo. Now, for the first time ever, Indian fans will witness this historic showdown live!

This rivalry's global influence is so profound that Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself acknowledged the immense following of Real Madrid and Barcelona in India during a public address. As India continues to rise as a global sporting powerhouse, its ability to host premier international events is earning recognition on the world stage.

WPL: Gardner stars for Giants as RCB suffer third successive loss



BENGALURU, Feb 28 (Agencies): Ashleigh Gardner led from the front with a blazing 58 off 31 balls as bottom-placed Gujarat Giants snapped their losing streak with a dominant six-wicket win over Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the WPL here.

Opting to bowl, GG put on a disciplined bowling display, with Deandra Dottin (2/31) and Tanuja Kanwar (2/16) restricting RCB to a below-par 125/7. Gardner also chipped in with 1/22 in a tidy spell, while Kashvee Gautam (1/17) provided solid support.

GG took just 16.3 overs to seal victory, with Gardner smashing three sixes and six fours in her third fifty of the tournament. She raced to her half-century in just 28 balls, bringing it up in style with back-to-back sixes.

GG's top-order faltered, with Beth Mooney (17), Dayalan Hemalatha (11) and Harleen Deol (5) falling cheaply, but Gardner took charge. She broke free in Prema Rawat's over, plundering 19 runs. There was no stopping GG from there as they cruised to their second win of the season, their

last coming against UP Warriorz in Vadodara.

"Over the last couple of games we didn't bat the way we wanted to. Credit to the bowlers tonight, particularly TK (Kanwar) and Kashvee. Chasing a low total also gives you the freedom to play your shots and be positive," said Gardner, who was named the Player of the Match. "We lost three and it's hard to come back from that. Pleased to see how the batters went about their job. We're trying to reset and our bowlers are doing a fantastic job and we want to keep putting up wins on the board," she added.

For Smriti Mandhana's RCB, it was their third successive loss. "The first two games we still played well but ended up losing. Today's loss will really hurt us because we struggled in all three departments," Mandhana said.

Brief scores: Royal Challengers Bengaluru: 125/7 (Ahuja 33, Bist 22; Kanwar 2/16, Dottin 2/31); Gujarat Giants: 126/4 (Gardner 58, Litchfield 30*; Renuka 2/24).

IND vs NZ: Shubman Gill trains on off day before New Zealand clash

DUBAI, Feb 28 (Agencies): Shubman Gill has put to rest speculation about his availability for India's clash against New Zealand on March 2 in Dubai in the Champions Trophy 2025. Gill arrived for practice on an official off day on Thursday, February 27 for training alongside some of the support staff at the ICC Cricket Academy.



ing to agency.

The BCCI management also commented about the availability of the star batter and squashed any rumours of injury. They said that Gill was just taking an extra day to rest ahead of the match on Sunday.

During the training session on February 26, India captain Rohit Sharma decided to skip batting practice in the nets and spent most of his time with the strength and conditioning coach. Kohli would spend considerable time in the nets as he took on pacers and spinners as India trained under the lights.

Gill's fantastic form in

Champions Trophy

Gill has been in stunning form for India this year, and is leading the highest run-getters chart with 406 runs in 5 matches. After a fantastic England series, where he scored two fifties and a hundred, the 25-year-old started his Champions Trophy 2025 campaign with a brilliant hundred against Bangladesh in India's opening match.

He continued his form in the second match against Pakistan and scored a vital 46, which helped India win the game by 6 wickets. India will face New Zealand on March 2.

SOGF Grandmasters Series: Rahane named brand ambassador for West Zone finals

MUMBAI, Feb 28 (Agencies): After the success of the South Zone 1 in Bengaluru, the SOGF Grandmasters Series now moves to the West Zone, where the finals are set to take place on March 3-4 at the Sahara Star, Mumbai. The Grandmasters Series, an initiative of the Skillhub Online Games Federation (SOGF), continues its mission of elevating mind sports across India with a competitive tournament, aiming to find India's best mind sports athletes.

Former India Test vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane has been announced as the brand ambassador for the West Zone Finals, according to a release from SOGF Grandmasters Series.

With a staggering 1,50,000 registrations, the competition has witnessed significant participation, solidifying its position as India's premier skill-based mind sports championship in its online format. The tournament has seen massive engagement across categories, with 78,000 players competing in the online qualifiers for the Indian Rummy Grandmasters (IRG), leading to 150 finalists. Similarly, the Indian Chess Masters (ICM) saw 3500 players registering



for the online qualifiers, with 32 players (16 men and 16 women) advancing to the finals. Meanwhile, the Indian Chess Masters for the Blind (ICMB) selected 16 top players through zonal events conducted by the All India Chess Federation for the Blind (AICFB), reinforcing the tournament's commitment to inclusivity and talent development.

Speaking about the upcoming West Zone Finals in Mumbai, Shankar Aggarwal, President, Skillhub Online Games Federation, said they are thrilled to

welcome Ajinkya Rahane as the Brand Ambassador for the West Zone Finals of the SOGF Grandmasters Series.

"His association with mind sports will further strengthen our mission to bring structure and recognition to these games in India. His support will accelerate our efforts to spread the message of strategic thinking, skill development, and cognitive excellence across India and beyond," Aggarwal said, according to the release.

Rahane, a seasoned cricketer known for his mental resili-

ence and leadership, played a pivotal role in India's historic Border-Gavaskar Trophy victory in 2020-21, where he led an injury-ravaged team to an extraordinary comeback against Australia. His calm demeanour, tactical acumen, and ability to strategize under pressure make him a perfect fit for the SOGF Grandmasters Series, where similar qualities define success in mind sports.

Building on the momentum of the South Zone Finals, where winners were awarded the prestigious Major Dhyan Chand Scholarship, the West Zone finalists will also compete for a spot in the SOGF Grandmasters National Finals, New Delhi. The scholarship, amounting to INR 28.80 lakh across all zones, was announced in Bengaluru to support mind sports talent, further elevating skill-based gaming in India.

The West Zone Finals will be a "phygital" (physical + digital) event, creating an immersive experience for players and audiences alike. Winners from each category will advance to the National Finals, where they will compete for the coveted SOGF Grandmasters title.

PCB announces Pakistan Super League schedule, clashes with IPL 2025

PSL 2025: The Pakistan Super League 2025 will take place from April 11 to May 18, clashing with the Indian Premier League to be staged from March 22 to May 25.

ISLAMABAD, Feb 28 (Agencies): The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has announced the schedule for the Pakistan Super League (PSL) 2025. Defending champions Islamabad United will face Lahore Qalandars in the opening match on April 11 at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium. The league stage will feature 30 matches, followed by the Qualifier, Eliminator 1, and Eliminator 2 on May 13, 14, and 16, respectively.

The grand finale will take place at Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore on May 18. Rawalpindi will host 11 matches, while Lahore will stage 13. Karachi and Multan will each host five games. Notably, all PSL 2025 matches will overlap with the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025, which runs from March 22 to May 25.

Salman Naseer, the PSL Chief Executive Officer, said, "We are thrilled to officially announce the schedule for the historic 10th edition of the HBL Pakistan Super League.

Over the past decade, the HBL PSL has grown into a globally recognised tournament, showcasing the best of Pakistan's cricketing talent. "The fans in this year's tournament will not only see high-profile international cricketers but will also witness 34 high-octane matches across four major cities—Karachi, Lahore, Multan, and Rawalpindi."

Earlier, due to clashes with the IPL, the PSL faced troubles in acquiring foreign cricketers. The PCB faced salary cap barriers to signing overseas players for the tournament. Back in January, the squads for the teams were finalised in the drafts.

David Warner, Kane Williamson, Daryl Mitchell, Rishad Hossain, Rilee Rossouw, Litton Das, David Willey, and Kyle Jamieson are amongst the foreign players in the upcoming championship.

Before the start of the PSL, an exhibition match in Peshawar on April 8 will also take place. The participating teams for the

match are yet to be announced.

Pakistan Super League 2025 schedule:
11 April – Islamabad United v Lahore Qalandars, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.
12 April – Peshawar Zalmi v Quetta Gladiators, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium; Karachi Kings v Multan Sultans, National Bank Stadium, Karachi.
13 April – Quetta Gladiators v Lahore Qalandars, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.
14 April – Islamabad United v Peshawar Zalmi, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.
15 April – Karachi Kings v Lahore Qalandars, National Bank Stadium, Karachi.
16 April – Islamabad United v Multan Sultans, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.
18 April – Karachi Kings v Quetta Gladiators, National Bank Stadium, Karachi.
19 April – Peshawar Zalmi v Multan Sultans, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.
20 April – Karachi Kings v Islamabad United, National Bank Stadium, Karachi.
21 April – Karachi Kings v Peshawar

Zalmi, National Bank Stadium, Karachi.
22 April – Multan Sultans v Lahore Qalandars, Multan Cricket Stadium.
23 April – Multan Sultans v Islamabad United, Multan Cricket Stadium.
24 April – Lahore Qalandars v Peshawar Zalmi, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.
25 April – Quetta Gladiators v Karachi Kings, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.
26 April – Lahore Qalandars v Multan Sultans, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.
27 April – Quetta Gladiators v Peshawar Zalmi, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.
29 April – Quetta Gladiators v Multan Sultans, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.
30 April – Lahore Qalandars v Islamabad United, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.
1 May – Multan Sultans v Karachi Kings, Multan Cricket Stadium; Lahore Qalandars v Quetta Gladiators, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.
2 May – Peshawar Zalmi v Islamabad United, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.

3 May – Quetta Gladiators v Islamabad United, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.
4 May – Lahore Qalandars v Karachi Kings, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.
5 May – Multan Sultans v Peshawar Zalmi, Multan Cricket Stadium.
7 May – Islamabad United v Quetta Gladiators, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.
8 May – Peshawar Zalmi v Karachi Kings, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.
9 May – Peshawar Zalmi v Lahore Qalandars, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.
10 May – Multan Sultans v Quetta Gladiators, Multan Cricket Stadium; Islamabad United v Karachi Kings, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.
13 May – Qualifier 1, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.
14 May – Eliminator 1, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.
16 May – Eliminator 2, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.
18 May – Final, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.

Vivek Bali meets Actress Divya Khosla



Top News Report

JAMMU / MUMBAI, Feb 28: Vivek Bali, a prominent political leader from J&K, recently met with acclaimed actress and director Divya Khosla Kumar in Mumbai.

The meeting was a chance encounter during the shoot of famous brand Kiara Jewellery under the banner of Mediamax Entertainment Pvt. Ltd. and it blossomed into a delightful conversation about the future of Indian cinema.

Divya Khosla Kumar, known for her versatility as an actress and director, has been making waves in the film industry with her impressive performances and directorial ventures.

Her passion for storytelling and her commitment to promoting new talent have earned her widespread recognition and admiration.

Armaann Tahil, a talented actor who has been making a name for himself in the Film Industry, was also present at the meeting.

Armaann has proven himself to be a talented and dedicated actor. His ability to bring characters to life has earned him widespread recognition and critical acclaim.

Ada, Creative Director, Kiara Jewellery brought her unique perspective and creative vision to the whole project.

Avi Panday - The producer has a Music label and produced short films & coming up with Two film projects which is set to Release in 2025.

Arun Khanna, Creative Producer - brought his wealth of experience and expertise to the meeting. As a seasoned producer, Arun has been instrumental in shaping the narrative of several successful films, Television commercials &

series.

Manisha Kaushal - CEO, was also present at the meeting. Under her leadership the banner has emerged as a leading production house, known for its commitment to quality and innovation.

As a testament to the warmth and camaraderie that developed during their meeting, Vivek Bali extended an invitation to Divya Khosla Kumar & others to visit Jammu and Kashmir, with the aim of exploring potential filming locations and collaborating on future projects.

Divya, who was visibly enthused by the prospect, expressed her eagerness to visit the region and explore its cinematic possibilities.

This invitation marked the beginning of a promising new chapter in their professional relationship, one that holds great promise for the future of Indian cinema.

Panun Kashmir, Y4PK to hold Adhikaar Rally on March 23

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: In an unprecedented online meeting, attended by voices from across the community, it was unanimously decided to hold a mass protest—Adhikaar Rally—on March 23rd, the anniversary of the Nadimarg Massacre.

This rally will be a direct challenge to those responsible for our genocide, those who betrayed us, and those who continue to erase our struggle. It will mark a historic assertion of Kashmiri Hindus' right to justice, recognition, and reclamation of their homeland.

Announcing the rally, Digamber Raina, General Secretary, Youth 4 Panun Kashmir, stated that the time for silence is over.

He called the rally a warning to collaborators and political opportunists who have enabled the continued persecution of Kashmiri Hindus.

Dr. Agnishekhar, Founder & Convenor, Panun Kashmir, emphasized that the Adhikaar Rally is not just a protest, but a historic reckoning.

He stated, "For too long, the perpetrators of our genocide have walked free while successive governments have failed to act. The time has come to break this cycle of denial. This rally will be a decisive moment in our struggle, a firm declaration that Kashmiri Hindus will not rest until justice is served and our right to return with full constitutional guarantees is ensured."

Rahul Kaul, Chairperson, Apex Y4PK, emphasized that this rally will demand official recognition of the genocide and immediate action from the Government. He declared that Kashmiri Hindus will no longer allow their history to be rewritten.

Vithal Chowdhary, President, Y4PK, warned that traitors within the system who continue to suppress Kashmiri Hindu voices will be exposed. He called for urgent intervention to end decades of betrayal and injustice.

Shama Raina, Kashmiri Vahini, highlighted the unheard stories of Kashmiri Hindu women, calling on all human rights defenders to support the community's fight for dignity and recognition.

Ashwani Bhat, Senior Member, Panun Kashmir, condemned the state's indifference, asserting that Kashmiri Hindus will no longer live as refugees in their own nation.

Pintoo Ji Pandita, Community Leader, stated that the time for false promises is over, warning that if the Government fails to act now, the consequences will be irreversible.

Rajesh Kachroo, Jammu, Panun Kashmir, called upon Jammu's youth and nationalist forces to mobilize in large numbers, ensuring that the rally's message resonates across the nation.

The Adhikaar Rally is a final demand for justice. Every Kashmiri Hindu, every patriot, and every seeker of truth must stand together on March 23rd.

Mission Statehood holds protest, demands restoration of Article 370, Statehood



Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: Under the leadership of Sunil Dimple, activists of Mission Statehood Jammu Kashmir staged a massive protest today, demanding immediate steps to restore Jammu and Kashmir's statehood and special status under Article 370. The protestors called upon all political parties to pass a bill and debate the matter in the upcoming assembly session.

Addressing the rally, Sunil Dimple urged National Conference President Dr. Farooq Abdullah to ensure that his party does not dilute its stand on Article 370 and directs its MLAs to raise the issue in the assembly.

He further demanded that Dr. Abdullah nominate four members to the Rajya Sabha, including one Dogra representative from Jammu.

Dimple also pressed Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to pass a bill in the assembly, addressing Article 370 and Jammu and Kashmir's special status.

He called upon BJP National President JP Nadda and all BJP MLAs to push for elections to four Rajya Sabha seats and deliberate on the prolonged delay in restoring Jammu and Kashmir's Dogra statehood.

Sunil Dimple raised strong concerns about the sale of liquor in Jammu and Kashmir, accusing an "outsider liquor mafia" of colluding with local businessmen and BJP leaders to dominate the liquor industry.

He urged the Chief Minister to ban liquor sales in the region and instructed the excise department to halt the issuance of new wine shop tenders in March

2025.

He further demanded that the government restart the Darbar Move from April, resume the biannual shifting of the secretariat, and provide relief to the public by ensuring 12 free LPG cylinders annually and Double ration supply to citizens.

Dimple warned that his movement would expose all political parties and MLAs who do not support the liquor ban bill in the assembly. He called upon all 90 legislators to unite in passing the bill, emphasizing that the people of Jammu and Kashmir would not tolerate any delays.

The protest witnessed the participation of several prominent leaders, including Swarn Lal, Arun Verma, Vijay Viridi, Mohan Lal, Vikas, Deepak, Babu Singh, and many others.

Seminar on 'Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership' organized at GDC Ramnagar



Top News Report

RAMNAGAR, Feb 28: The Department of Physics, in collaboration with the Science Club and IQAC of Government Degree College (GDC) Ramnagar, organized a One-Day Seminar on the theme "Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership in Science and Innovation for Viksit Bharat" under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Bhavnish Chand Anthal, Principal, GDC Ramnagar.

The seminar commenced with a warm welcome address by Dr. Kewal Kumar, Convenor, Science Club, who emphasized the role of science and technology in shaping the future of

India. The keynote lecture was delivered by Dr. Rakesh Kumar Pandit, HOD Physics and IQAC Convenor, who provided an insightful discourse on the contributions of Sir C.V. Raman.

He elaborated in detail on the discovery and significance of the "Raman Effect" on February 28, 1928, highlighting its impact on the field of physics and its recognition with the Nobel Prize in 1930.

A major highlight of the seminar was the participation of seven science students from different science departments, who shared their perspectives on the theme "Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leader-

ship in Science and Innovation for Viksit Bharat." They put forth valuable suggestions on how young minds can contribute to realizing the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Adding to the intellectual depth of the event, two documentaries were screened for the audience. The first documentary focused on the life and contributions of Sir C.V. Raman, while the second showcased the historical significance of Nalanda University, one of the world's oldest centers of learning.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Prof. Sumita Rao, HOD Zoology, who expressed gratitude to all participants, organizers, and dignitaries for making the event a success.

The seminar was graced with the esteemed presence of faculty members, including Dr. Pankaj Sharma, Prof. Manmohan Singh, Prof. Ritika Mahajan, Dr. Sham Singh, and Dr. Puyesh Kant Sharma, along with students who actively engaged in the discussions and deliberations.

GDC Nagrota celebrates National Science Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, Feb 28: The students of GDC Nagrota visited the exhibition organized by the Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh Geo-Spatial Directorate, Survey of India on National Science Day.

The visit provided the students with a first hand experience of the process of map making using state of art technology.

Students also witnessed the display that was put up of different kinds of maps/digital map prepared by Survey of India & modern instruments




used for mapping i.e Drone instruments Global Positioning System (GPS), CORS technology.

The visit was an enriching experience and a good exposure for the students. Principal of the College Prof. Anjali Mahajan addressed the

students on National Science Day and interacted with them to share their experience of the visit.

The staff members accompanied were Dr. Ritu Diwan, Prof. Parveen Singh, Prof. Ashiq Hussain Parray, Dr Sunil Kumar.



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