

TOP NEWS OF J&K



JAMMU, FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

NATIONAL | 7

INTERNATIONAL | 8

It is important for youngsters to start reading books, says actor Kanwaljit Singh

Govt implements comprehensive technical, legal measures to deal with cyberattacks: Vaishnav

Australia to hold federal election on May 3, PM Albanese urges people to vote for Labor

e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-12 Issue-85 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

J&K Govt announces tax revised on Petrol, Diesel, Gas, effective Apr 1

JAMMU, Mar 28 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Government has revised the tax and cess rates on petrol, diesel, aviation turbine fuel (ATF), and natural gas.

The changes outlined by the Finance Department, will come into effect from April 1, 2025.

According to a notification, tax on motor spirit (petrol) will be 24% minus Rs 3.50 per litre, with an additional cess of Rs 2 per litre. Diesel oil will be taxed at 16% minus Rs 4.50 per litre, along with a cess of Rs 1 per litre.

The notification further states that aviation turbine fuel (ATF) will be taxed at 5%, while natural gas will be subject to 21% tax.

The order was issued under Section 3 and 3A of the Jammu and Kashmir Motor Spirit and Diesel Oil (Taxation of Sales) Act Samvat 2005, supersedes all previous notifications on the subject.

J&K Govt exempts Stamp Duty on property transfers within blood relations

JAMMU, Mar 28 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir government has waived stamp duty on property transfers through Gift Deeds within blood relations.

Notably, the stamp duty on property transfers within blood relations is a tax levied on gifting property between close family members.

The exemption, notified under S.O. 75 by the Finance Department, will come into effect from April 1, 2025.

According to the notification, the stamp duty waiver applies to transfers between father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, grandfather, grandmother, grandson, and granddaughter.

The order, issued under clause (a) of Section 9 of the Stamp Act, 1977 (XL of 1977), states that the government took this decision in the public interest.

Body of fourth cop sighted as security forces resume Anti-Terror Operation in Kathua

JAMMU, Mar 28 (Agencies): The body of another policeman was sighted using a drone on Friday near the spot where a gunfight took place earlier in a remote forested area in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

This is the fourth cop to be have died in the gunfight in which three terrorists are also confirmed to have been killed, officials said.

Heavy firing and deafening sounds of explosions continued for the second day as police assisted by the Army and CRPF moved this morning from different directions, after a night halt to sanitise the Safiyan area, they said.

On Thursday, three suspected Pakistani terrorists of proscribed Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit and an equal number of policemen were found dead after the day-long gunfight while one policeman was reported missing. Seven others, including a deputy superintendent of police, were injured in the gunbattle.



The officials said the security forces resumed the operation with the first light of the day, having the primary focus to retrieve the bodies of the deceased, finding a missing policeman and neutralising any other threat.

They said the joint security parties are moving cautiously to the targeted area as two more terrorists are believed holed up there. They were also presumed dead earlier but their bodies could not be

sighted by the drones.

The operation, centred near Jakhole village in the Ghati Juthana area of Rajbagh, against the terrorists started around 8 am on Thursday amid intensified operations led by police against the ultras who had recently infiltrated from across the International Border in Hiranagar sector, the officials said.

However, it was not immediately clear whether it was the same group that had been evading an earlier

dense foliage.

However, the SDPO — a DSP rank officer — was evacuated in an injured condition from the scene late Thursday evening, while three of his personal security officers were found dead while another body of a policeman was sighted this morning.

Besides the SDPO, three more policemen were admitted to Kathua hospital and their condition was stated to be stable. Two army personnel were also injured in the operation.

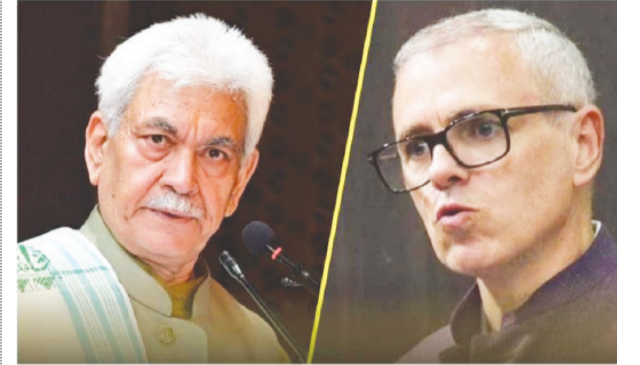
Earlier, a group of terrorists was intercepted on Sunday evening within a 'dhok', a local term for an enclosure in a nursery, in Sanyal village near the International Border with Pakistan in the Hiranagar sector.

A subsequent search operation, involving the police, army, NSG, BSF and CRPF, utilised advanced technical and surveillance equipment to track down and neutralize the terrorists.

Despite the massive

Turn to page 9

J-K LG, CM pay tributes to policemen martyred in Kathua encounter



JAMMU, Mar 28 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday paid rich tributes to the police personnel who lost their lives in an ongoing encounter in Kathua district.

"I bow to the valorous martyrs of J&K Police, who laid down their lives for our motherland. My deepest condolences to their families," the Lt governor said in a post on X.

In the ongoing encounter, he said several terrorists were neutralised.

"J&K Police & Security Forces are on the job. Operation in progress," the post, shared by the office of the Lt Governor, said.

Abdullah also con-

doled the death of the policemen.

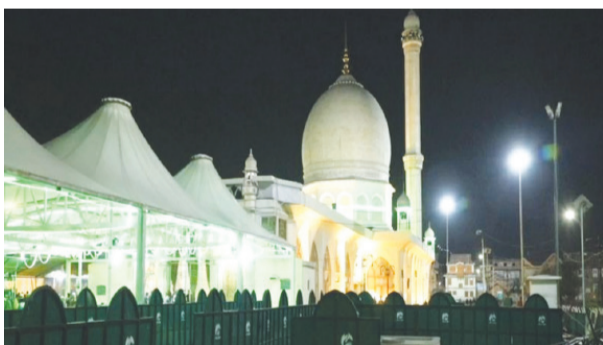
"Pride and grief intertwine as we remember Balwinder Singh Chib, Jaswant Singh, and Tariq Ahmed, who laid down their lives during an anti-terror operation in Kathua, Jammu & Kashmir," he said.

"My heartfelt condolences to their families. Their sacrifice in the line of duty will always be remembered. May the departed souls rest in peace, and heartfelt prayers for the swift recovery of those injured," the office of chief minister wrote on X.

Four police personnel and three terrorists were killed in the encounter in a remote forested area.

Turn to page 9

Shab-e-Qadar celebrated across Kashmir with religious fervour



SRINAGAR, Mar 28 (Agencies): Shab-e-Qadar, the night of power and blessings, was observed across Kashmir Valley with religious fervour as the revered Hazratbal Shrine in the summer capital here witnessed the largest congregation of devotees, officials

said on Friday.

As part of the festivities, and their religious duties, Muslims thronged mosques and shrines across the valley Thursday night for prayers and recitation of the Quran as the Muslim fasting month of Ramzan is about to end. Hundreds of Muslims

gathered at Hazratbal shrine on the banks of Dal Lake that houses the Holy Relic of Prophet Mohammad, officials said.

Large gatherings were also witnessed at several other mosques and shrines including at Dast-e-Geer Sahib and Sayed Yaqoob Shah shrines.

However, no congregation and prayers were allowed at the historic Jamia Masjid in Nowhatta locality of the city as the authorities ordered the closure of the grand mosque, the officials added.

Muslims across the

Turn to page 9

7.7-magnitude earthquake rocks Thai capital of Bangkok, prompting evacuations from swaying buildings

BANGKOK, Mar 28 (Agencies): A strong 7.7 magnitude earthquake rocked the Thai capital Friday, causing buildings to sway.

The U.S. Geological Survey and Germany's GFZ center for geosciences said the midday tremor was a shallow 10 kilometers (6.2 miles), with an epicenter in neighboring Myanmar, according to preliminary reports reports.

The greater Bangkok



area is home to more than 17 million people, many of whom live in high-rise apartments.

Alarms went off in buildings as the earth-

quake hit around 1:30 p.m., and startled residents were evacuated down staircases of high-rise condominiums and

Turn to page 9

GupShup

RESTAURANT

Where Hunger Meets Happiness

Are you a true desi chicken connoisseur? Look no further than Gupshup Restaurant, the only restaurant in Jammu and Kashmir to serve 100% Desi chicken (Jatka) cooked to perfection on a traditional Chullah.

Visit us at:
 Ban Bantala, Old Nagrota Highway, Jammu (J&K)
 +91-9086207123 | +91-9086072548

ORDER NOW

10TH DAY KRIYA AND KREM
With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Lalita Devi** W/o Late Shree Janki Nath Koul who left for her heavenly abode on Sunday, 23rd March 2025.
10TH DAY KRIYA will take place on 1st April 2025 from 11.00 AM onwards.
KREM on 2nd April 2025 from 10.00 AM onwards at home near old Talab matador Stand Muthi, Jammu
GRIEF STRICKEN
Santosh & Sushma, Vijay & Madhu, Kaka & Poli and Asha & Archana (Son & Daughter in Law
Mobile No: 9158113399, 9149731808




SMT LALITA DEVI

TENTH DAY KRIYA
With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and sudden demise of **Sh Santosh Kumar Tickoo**, S/o Late Janki Nath Tickoo and Sonibatni Tickoo of Batiyar Alikadal Srinagar, at present H.No 126, Dina Nagar, Bamai, Jammu.
Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 29th of march at Akhnoor Ghat and **Assembly** will be held at Muthi (Near Directorate of School Education) at 11 am.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt Savitry Tickoo (Wife)
(Son and Daughter in law)
Sahil and Prajikta Tickoo
Smt Vijay and Late Maharaj K Tickoo (Bro & Babi)
Smt Babli and Late Ravinder Tickoo (Bro and Babi)
Smt Vijay and Ramesh Kumar Fotedar (Sister & Brother in Law)




Sh Santosh Kumar Tickoo

TENTH DAY KRIYA
WITH PROFOUND GRIEF WE REGRET TO INFORM SAD AND SUDDEN DEMISE OF **SH. MOHAN LAL PANDIT** ON 21ST MARCH 2025. ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF AKINGAM (BONAPURA) ANANTNAG, AT PRESENT H.NO.9 PROFESSOR COLONY, YAMUNANAGAR.
TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 30.3.2025 (SUNDAY) AT YAMUNA NAGAR RIVER BANK, BACKSIDE CITY PALACE - AZAD NAGAR - GALI NO. 14 OPPOSITE GURU NANAK KHALSA COLLEGE.
GRIEF STRICKEN
SAMAST PANDIT FAMILY
9416050402, 9419148882



SH. MOHAN LAL PANDIT

TENTH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Nirmal Kanta (Retd. Master)** W/o Sh. Deepak Shivdar Prashar of Village Ultri presently at Shiva Nagar, Ward No. 16, Kathua on 20.03.2025. **Tenth Day** will be performed on 29.03.2025 (Saturday) at 11 am at our residence Shiva Nagar, Kathua. **Kriya** will be performed on 30.03.2025 (Sunday) at 11 AM at our residence. **Uthala** will be performed on 31.03.2025 (Monday) at 4 PM at our residence.
GRIEF STRICKEN :-
Mother-in-Law & Father-in-Law
Lt. Smt. Ram Pyari & Capt. Mohan Lal
Sh. Deepak Shivdar Prashar (Husband)
Brother-in-Law & Sister-in-Law
Smt. Nishi and Sh. Chandrakant Prashar
Smt. Krishna and Sh. Kamal Kant Prashar
Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law
Smt. Saroj & Sh. Ashwani Kumar Sharma
Smt. Anjana & Sh. Joginder Pal Sharma
Daughter & Son-in-Law
Smt. Neha & Sh. Dharendra Sharma



Smt. Nirmal Kanta (Retd. Master)

Son & Daughter-in-Law
Smt. Deepika and Sh. Nikhil Prashar
Grand Children : Deeksha, Deekshant, Dikshit and Dheevanshi Prashar.
Mob : 9905181817, 9906161812

10TH DAY / KRIYA/ UTHALA
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Sh Lokesh Sharma** S/o Late Sh Narinder Nath Sharma R/o H No. 10, Ward No. 9 Samba.
TENTH DAY will be performed on 29 Mar (Saturday) at 10 am at our residence Ward No. 9 Samba.
KRIYA will be performed on 01 Apr (Tuesday) at our residence
UTHALA will be performed on 04 Apr (Friday) at 3 to 4 PM at Geeta Bhavan Mandir, Ward No. 9 Samba.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt Ratna Devi (Mother)
Smt Arti Sharma (Wife)
Sh Sabhya Sharma (Son)
Smt Anila & Sh Vijay Sharma (Chachi & Chacha Ji)
Smt Suvichha & Dr Patanjali Sharma (Bhabhi & Brother)
(Sisters & Brothers in law)
Smt Madhvi & Adv. Bharat Bhushan Sharma
Smt Anuradha & Sh Sanjeev Vaid
N.N Trading House, National Highway Samba



Sh Lokesh Sharma

TENTH DAY KRIYA/KARAM
With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Shri Janak Singh, Raja Ji** (Kairalid Meer, Panchari Wale) S/o Late Sh. Anant Singh R/o H.No. 189, Upper Bazar, Near Gadha Dhar Mandir, Panjirthi, Jammu.
Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 28-3-25 (Friday) at 11:00 AM at Rani Park, Jammu.
Karam (13th Day) will be performed on 31-3-2025 (Monday) at 12:00 Noon at his residence (Panjirthi, Jammu)
IN GRIEF
Daughter-in-law & Son
Smt. & Sh. Yashvir Singh Katoch
Smt. & Sh. Rattan Singh - **Bhabhi & Brother**
Smt. & Sh. Lashman Singh - **Bhabhi & Brother**
Smt. & Sh. Rajinder Singh (Lecturer) - **Bhabhi & Brother**
Smt. & Sh. Karnail Singh - **Bhabhi & Brother**
Smt. Sushma Devi & Sh. Pardeep Singh - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Smt. Neelam & Sh. Pankaj - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
All Nears & Dears
Mob. Nos.: 9797730680, 7051844662, 9682502360, 9858145559, 8803739473



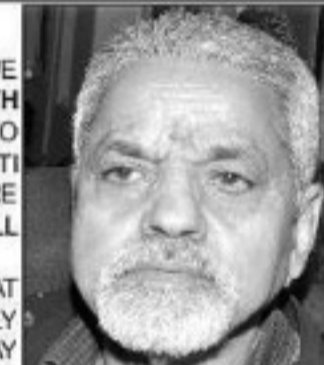
Shri Janak Singh (Raja Ji)

OBITUARY/ TENTH DAY KRIYA
With profound grief and heartfelt sorrow that we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Shakti Dhar**, lovingly referred to as Pyari Bhabhi, wife of the late Sh. Shanker Nath Dhar, formerly a resident of Sekidafar, Safakadal, Srinagar, Kashmir, she attained moksha on 24th March 2025 at her residence, "Plot No. 675, Flat No. G-2, Shalimar Garden Extension 1, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, (opposite Shalimar Garden Police Station).
The TENTH DAY KRIYA will take place on 2nd April 2025 at Muradnagar Ghat, followed by an assembly at 9.30 AM at the Shalimar Garden residence.
GRIEF STRICKEN FAMILY
Smt. Arjali Dhar (Daughter-in-law)
Sh. Vinod Dhar & Smt. Neelam Dhar (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Sh. Sanjeev Dhar & Smt. Anuradha Dhar (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Sh. Vishal Dhar & Smt. Manju Dhar (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Smt. Poonam & Sh. Ashok Ji Sadhu (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Smt. Versha & Sh. Puran Ji Raina (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Beloved Grandsons and Granddaughters
Entire Dhar and Bhan Families
Cherished Friends and Relatives
For further information, please contact: 7780916092 9810236341, 9811356701
May her soul find eternal peace, and may her legacy forever illuminate the hearts of those who knew her.



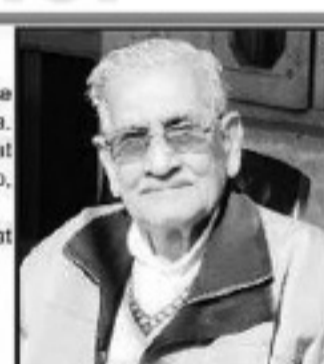
SMT. SHAKTI DHAR

OBITUARY
WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE REGRET THE SAD DEMISE OF **SH. RAJNATH BHAT** S/O LATE GOPI NATH BHAT R/O ICHEKOOT BUDGAM PRESENTLY AT JAGTI TOWNSHIP FLAT 86/10. WHOSE RITUALS ARE BEING PERFORMED AT COMMUNITY HALL LANE -4 BACK SIDE.
TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED AT AKHNOOR GHAT. **CONDOLENCE ASSEMBLY** WILL BE HELD AT MUTHI GHAT ON THURSDAY 3-4-2025 AT 11:00 AM SHARP.
GRIEF STRICKEN
SMT. REETA BHAT (WIFE)
SH. P. L. BHAT (BROTHER)
SAMAST BHAT PARIVAR
9876095519, 9419615929, 7006874549, 8082863994



SH. RAJNATH BHAT


KRIYA/UTHALA
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Rajeshwar Verma** S/o Lt. S.D Verma. **Kriya** will be performed on 28th March 2025 (Friday) at our residence H.No.83 Lane No. 2 Shiv Nagar, Talab Tilo, Jammu at 12 pm.
Uthala will take place on 31st march 2025 (Monday) at Shiv Mandir, Talab Tilo chowk at 4-5pm.
GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Son and Daughter-in-law
Sh. Sanjeev Verma & Smt. Veena (9419834307, 9419160630)
Daughters and Sons-in-law
Smt. Ritu & Sh. Updesh Kumar (DySp JK Police) (9419138776, 9419951222)
Smt. Anshu Manni & Sh. Ashok Manni (9797438727, 6006902185)
Grand Children: Urvashti, Riddima, Ujjwal, Akshara, Akriti



SH. RAJESHWAR VERMA

Nephew and Niece
Abhishek Sathia
Anmol Sathia
Sonali Sathia
Jashvardhan Sathia
Ravya Sathia

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA
WITH PROFOUND GRIEF WE REGRET TO INFORM SAD AND SUDDEN DEMISE OF **SH. AVTAR KRISHAN TIKU** S/O LT. SH. SHIV JI TIKU ON 23-03-2025. ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF 18-SHALLA KADAL, HABBA KADAL, SRINAGAR AND 25/1, BASANT NAGAR EXTENSION, BEHIND PETROL PUMP, JANIPUR, JAMMU.
PRESENTLY AT HIS RESIDENCE AT S-2, C-31, SHALIMAR GARDEN EXTENSION-2, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH.
TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 01-04-2025 (TUESDAY) AT MURAD NAGAR, GANGA GHAT, GHAZIABAD. **ASSEMBLY** WILL BE AT RESIDENCE AT 10.30 AM.
GRIEF STRICKEN
NEW STANDARD CLINICAL LABORATORY
SRINAGAR, KASHMIR AND
CLINICIANS CLINICAL LABORATORY JANIPUR, JAMMU
Mobile: 9873555699, 8448555699



SH. AVTAR KRISHAN TIKU

TENTH DAY KRIYA
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Arti Chowdhary**, W/o Sh. Moti Lal Chowdhary, originally from Nadyar Rainawari, Srinagar, Kashmir, presently at H.No. C-2/276, Jankapuri, Delhi, who left for her heavenly abode on 23rd March 2025.
TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 01.04.2025 at Chota Handwar, Murad Nagar Ghat at 7:00 AM and **ASSEMBLY** at 12:30 PM at our residence.
GRIEF STRICKEN
Sh. Moti Lal Chowdhary (Husband)
Shivan & Vishal Chowdhary (Daughter-in-law & Son)
Aishah Chowdhary (Son)
Aakhya Chowdhary (Granddaughter)
Family
Raj Dubai Kaul (Sister-in-law)
Usha & K. K. Chowdhary (Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law)
Suni & Paritosh Chowdhary (Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law)
Children
Ships & Abhishek Magazine
Aishya & Abi Agrawal
Nidhi & Rohit Thakur
Nahi & Pyush Chowdhary
Rohit Chowdhary
Grandchildren: Aishya, Aadyant, Rense, Prashan & Chowdharys, Rainas, Koush, Razdans, Bhat, Magazine, Thakur, Agrawals, Zutshis
Contact: 7804583276, 9973674295, 9555874295, 8078971316, 7306483876



SMT. ARTI CHOWDHARY

TENTH DAY
With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Sanjeet Singh JKP Bait No. 2093 J&K UT.**
Tenth Day Date - 18-03-2025 Friday 10 AM At residence R/O Nihalpur Simbal main road Kullian to Kripind House near Patanjali shop Teh R S Pura, Jammu.
Kriya Uthala at Home 31-03-2025 at Residence
Deeply Missed & Remembered By :
Father - Sh. Surinder Pal Singh Chouhan
Mother - Tara Banti Chouhan
Brother & Bhabhi - Manjeet Singh Chouhan & Monika Chouhan
Brother & Bhabhi: Jagjeet Singh Chouhan & Arti Rajput Sapna Chouhan W/o Lt. Sanjeet Singh Chouhan, (Daughters Sana Chouhan)
(Brother & Sister in law) 1 Prem Singh Chouhan, Swaraj Singh Chouhan, Madhu & Rina Chouhan (Nephew and Niece), Aman Chouhan, Daman Chouhan Prakaraj Rajput, Dakeshesh Singh Chouhan, Lucky Chouhan, Mega Chouhan, Mana Chouhan
R/o Nihalpur Simbal Main Road Kullian to Kripind House near Patanjali Shop Teh R S Pura, Jammu
Contact No. 9419204817, 8492877044, 9622179917



Sh Sanjeet Singh

TENTH DAY
With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh Vinay Tickoo** S/o Sh Bindraban Tickoo R/O Martand Mattan Kashmir A/P Ward No. 2, Lucky Vihar near Fatima Convent School Bishnah Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 27-3-2025.
Tenth Day will be performed on 5 April 2025 (Saturday) at Akhnoor Ghat and **Assembly** will be held at our residence at 12.00 Noon.
Grief Stricken
Mrs. Sunaina Tickoo -Wife
Smt Shakti & Sh Bindraban Tickoo -Mother & Father
Mrs Sheetal Tickoo & Mr Rohit Tickoo -Bhabhi & Brother
Contact No.: 7889356618, 8825080448




Sh Vinay Tickoo

10TH DAY KRIYA
With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Shanta Pandita** W/o Sh. Prithvi Nath Pandita (Lathi Sht Sopore) Baramulla A/p H.No. 128-G, Lane 4C, Anand Nagar, Bohni, Jammu on 21/3/2025.
10th Day Kriya will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat on 30th March 2025 (Sunday) at 7AM.
Assembly shall be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 11 AM.
DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:
Sh. Prithvi Nath Pandita - Husband
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Sh. Ashok Pandita & Smt. Soni Pandita
Sh. Baner Jee Pandita & Smt. Sony Pandita
Sh. Sanjay Pandita & Smt. Archana Pandita
Sh. Anil Pandita & Smt. Sneha Pandita
Mob.: 9419121195, 6006025936



Smt. Shanta Pandita

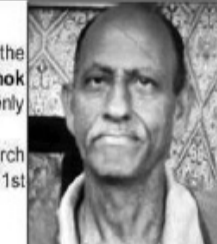
TENTH DAY/KRIYA
With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Shri Late Dhaminder Singh Sathia** H/o Smt Bindu Bala on 20/03/2025, presently residing at H. No. 1/0-10 Vishal Nagar Talab Tilo, Jammu.
Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 29-03-2025 at h/o 1-D-10 Vishal Nagar Talab Tilo & **Mourning Assembly** will be held at 11:00 Am, at their residence.
Parents
Sh. Sujan Singh Sathia
Smt. Bimla Devi Sathia
Smt. Bindu Sathia - **Wife**
Bhushika Sathia - **Daughter**
Pragati Sathia - **Daughter**
Brother and Sister in law
Sh. Arjun Singh Sathia
Smt. Madhu Sathia
Sh. Shivdev Singh Sathia
Smt. Reema Devi
Sisters and Brother in law
Smt. Veena Wazir
Sh. Joginder Singh
Smt. Manju Bhat
Sh. Balwinder Singh Bhat (SHO)



Shri Late Dhaminder Singh Sathia

Nephew and Niece
Abhishek Sathia
Anmol Sathia
Sonali Sathia
Jashvardhan Sathia
Ravya Sathia

FIFTH DAY
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Jija Ji Shri Ashok Gupta** H/o Smt. Veena who left for heavenly abode on 25th March, 2025.
5th Day will be held on Saturday 29th March from 10.30 to 11.30 am at Shiv Mandir Hall 1st Floor Housing Colony Udhampur.
Grief Stricken
Brothers & Sister-in-laws
H.K. Kudyar & Smt. Neelam Kudyar
B.L. Kudyar & Smt. Neelam Gupta
Som Raj Kudyar & Smt. Sushma
Sisters & Brother-in-laws
Rajan Verma & Smt. Darshani
Ajay Gupta & Smt. Anu



Shri Ashok Gupta

Nephew
Er. Ishaan Kudyar & Dr. Akriti
Sahil Kudyar & Smt. Neha
Sourabh Kudyar & Smt. Anju

10TH DAY/KRIYA/PAGRI
With profound grief & sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Sneh Lata (Nidhi)** (W/o Sh Ravi Kumar Sharma) Who left for her heavenly abode on **Wednesday, 19th March, 2025.**
10th Day - Friday, 28th March 2025, 9:00 AM
Kriya Karm - Saturday, 29th March, 2025
Uthala/Pagri - Monday, 31st March 2025, 2:00 PM
At our Residence Ward No. 8 near Shan Mandir, Samba (J&K)
IN GRIEF
Sh Ravi Sharma (Husband)
Kanav & Jatin - (Son)
(Sisters & Brothers in law)
Smt Veena Sharma W/o Late Sh Tirath Ram Sharma
Smt Kanchan & Sh Bhushan Sharma
Mob : 9086052587, 9906204914, 7006565105



Smt Sneh Lata (Nidhi)

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

VC SKUAST-J inaugurates annual workshop of KVKs to finalize action plan for 2025-26



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) Jammu organized the Annual Workshop of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) to finalize the Action Plan for the year 2025-26. The workshop, aimed at strengthening extension services, farmer capacity building and research-extension linkages was inaugurated by Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu.

In his inaugural address, Prof. Tripathi emphasized the critical role of KVKs in bridging the gap between research and farmers, ensuring technology transfer for improved agricultural productivity and income generation. He urged KVKs to enhance their outreach

programs and work in close collaboration with farming communities.

The workshop featured detailed presentations by KVK Heads, outlining their strategies and objectives for the year 2025-26. Faculty members and experts provided technical insights to align these plans with the specific needs of farmers in Jammu.

Dr. S.K. Gupta, Director Research discussed on strengthening research-extension farmer linkages. He emphasized the need for integrating modern scientific advancements with traditional farming practices to maximize efficiency and sustainability. Dr. Amrith Vaid, Director Extension spoke on innovative extension approaches and the importance of capacity-building initiatives for farmers. He highlighted the role

of KVKs in empowering rural communities through skill development, awareness programs and access to scientific knowledge.

The workshop witnessed active participation from Deans and Directors, including Dr. Rajinder Peshin, Dr. Sanjay Khar, Dr. Anil Kumar, Dr. Rajesh Katoch, Dr. Sudhakar Dwivedi, Dr. Sanjay Guleria, Dr. Susheel Sharma and Dr. J.S. Soodan, who shared insights on recent advancements in agriculture and their implications for the region.

The event served as a platform for fostering collaboration among scientists, extension professionals and farmers, ensuring that the finalized Action Plan for 2025-26 addresses the evolving challenges and opportunities in the agricultural sector.

JKMEF extends support to NHM workers' strike

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: The Jammu Kashmir Medical Employees Federation (JKMEF), under the chairmanship of Sushil Sudan, held a crucial meeting on Saturday to address the grievances faced by National Health Mission (NHM) employees.

The meeting expressed full solidarity with NHM employees, who are set to observe a two-hour pen-down strike on March 29, 2025.

Sushil Sudan, a member of the Apex Body Pharmacy Council of India, extended unwavering support to

the NHM employees in their longstanding struggle for regularization, salary enhancement, and the release of pending salaries. He emphasized the federation's commitment to addressing these issues and fulfilling the promises made to the employees by the government.

Jaswinder Singh, President of JKMEF, strongly urged the government to prioritize the legitimate and genuine demands of NHM employees. Highlighting the mental and financial distress caused to the workers, he appealed to the government to take immediate action to resolve these issues. Additionally, Singh

called upon employees of the health department to showcase full solidarity with NHM employees by actively supporting the two-hour pen-down strike.

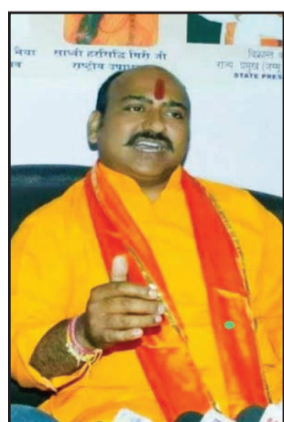
The meeting was attended by several prominent figures, including Prafult Singh, Badhur Singh, Bharat Bhushan Bhagat, Madan Sharma, Mr. Sanjay Choudhary, Shafkat Hussain, Mukhtyar Kholi, Anita Bhagat, Neelam Kumari, Suriya Akhtar, Surjeet Kumar, Ashwani Kumar Gupta, Rajinder Sharma, Kulwant Singh, Daleep Choudhary, Sunil Chauhan, Omkar Singh, Ajay Phool, and others.

Hindustan Shiv Sena warns Pakistan, attempts to disrupt peace will not be allowed to succeed Vikrant pays tribute to the soldiers martyred in Kathua Encounter

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: State President of Hindustan Shiv Sena Vikrant Kapoor has given a stern warning to Pakistan and said that it should desist from trying to disrupt peace in Jammu. He also said that such attempts of Pakistan will not be allowed to succeed at any cost. He said this after three terrorists were killed and three policemen were martyred in the day-long encounter in the forests of Sufan village of Juthana Panchayat under Kathua district.

Addressing a press conference in Jammu, State President of Hindustan Shiv Sena Vikrant Kapoor paid tribute to the policemen martyred in this encounter and expressed his sympathy to their families. Three policemen were martyred in this



encounter. He said that the government should deal with terrorists strictly.

He said that this attack is part of Pakistan's proxy war against India where it sends terrorists to Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab and also supplies drugs to ruin the youth of India. He demanded from the central government that the government should not show any leniency towards these terrorists. The people

of Jammu and Kashmir will eliminate these terrorists along with the Indian Army and security forces. Pakistan's efforts to disrupt peace in the Jammu region are unlikely to succeed due to the tough stand of the Government of India and the resilience of the local community.

He said that with the commitment of the present government to maintain peace and stability, it is unlikely that Pakistan's nefarious designs will succeed. He said that the entire country stands with the families of the martyred soldiers in this hour of grief. During the press conference, senior Hindustan Shiv Sena leaders Sunil Dabotra, Rakesh Bhardwaj, Baba Ram Kaith, Abhishek, Himanshu, Amit, women wing leader Jyoti Devi and others were also present.

Kazmi, Keshav, Sahil release Navratri Special Devotional Bhajan "Nabha Aali Mata"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: Adding a melodious touch to the festive spirit of Navratri, Senior Journalist Sohail Kazmi, prominent social activist and Chairman of Samvedna Society Keshav Chopra, along with BJP Co-Convenor of Sanskriti and Art Culture Cell Sahil Mahajan, released the devotional Bhajan "Nabha Aali Mata".

The soul-stirring bhajan, sung by Vijay Malhotra and composed by Promo Devi, has been launched on the YouTube channel "Vijay Malhotra" and is already captivating the hearts of devotees.

The music of the bhajan was given by Dr. V Kaith, produced by Dr. Sandeep, and directed by K.K. Malhotra. The devotional track celebrates the divinity of



Mata Nabha Aali and seeks to inspire devotion during this auspicious season.

While addressing the audience, Sohail Kazmi lauded the entire team for their exceptional efforts in creating the devotional album. He emphasized that such initiatives not only preserve cultural heritage but also provide opportunities for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir to

showcase their talent on broader platforms.

"This is a step forward in promoting local artists and music, and I congratulate the team for this beautiful contribution," he said.

Keshav Chopra expressed his admiration for the team's dedication and called on the people of Jammu and Kashmir to support local artists. "Encouraging and uplifting our local

talent is vital for their growth and success. This bhajan is a testament to the immense talent our region possesses," he added.

Sahil Mahajan praised the artists for their devotion and creativity, stating that such efforts strengthen cultural roots and divine connections. "I am always here to support the artists of J&K. They can reach out to me anytime for

any assistance," he said while hailing the organizers' efforts in promoting divinity through music.

The event witnessed the presence of several renowned personalities, including singers Nidhi Sharma, Vikas Kumar, Pallavi, Naresh Kumar, Atul Mangotra, and Sahil Dogra, among others. The gathering was a celebration of devotion, creativity, and the spirit of Navratri, showcasing the richness of Jammu and Kashmir's artistic community.

The devotional bhajan "Nabha Aali Mata" is a heartfelt offering to the divine and serves as a source of spiritual inspiration during Navratri. With its melodious composition and meaningful lyrics, it is bound to resonate deeply with devotees across the region and beyond.

PHDCCI organizes two-day workshop on IPRs, Trade and Promotion in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: PHD Chamber of Commerce with the support of the Office of the Development Commissioner MSME, Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India on Friday organized a two-day workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) at Hotel Radisson Blu, with the event being moderated by Kanchan Zutshi, Director, PHDCCI.

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Chowdhary inaugurated the workshop, who explained the significance of intellectual property rights using global examples like Apple, KFC, and McDonald's, showcasing how effective IP strategies contribute to worldwide success.

He praised local entrepreneurs, particularly lavender farmers and Basmati rice producers, for their efforts in registering their brands.

Taking a firm stance on industrial growth and employment, the Deputy CM addressed concerns



over past governance, stating that while many industries were established in J&K, they failed to generate employment for local youth. He assured that his government will enforce policies ensuring local hiring and greater support for indigenous businesses.

The inaugural function was led by Rakesh Wazir, Chair, PHDCCI Jammu Chapter, who set the tone for the event, emphasizing the critical role of branding, innovation, and intellectual property protection in enhancing the competitiveness of businesses in Jammu &

Kashmir.

He highlighted PHDCCI's commitment to supporting entrepreneurs and fostering an ecosystem where businesses can thrive through effective IPR strategies.

He urged businesses to protect their intellectual property as a means of gaining a competitive edge, noting that branding and IP security are key to long-term success.

Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce, J&K, provided an overview of government policies aimed at fostering industrial development.

He emphasized that IPR can be a powerful tool for economic progress, urging businesses to invest in innovation and brand protection to create long-term value.

Arun Kumar Manhas, Director, Industries & Commerce, Jammu, discussed the importance of IPR awareness among local businesses and stressed that IP protection can significantly contribute to sustainable industrial growth in the region. He also encouraged entrepreneurs to leverage government schemes designed to assist in patenting and trademark registration.

Dr. H.P. Kumar, Former CMD, NSIC, and Advisor, PHDCCI, spoke about the strategic importance of IPR in driving industrial growth, especially for MSMEs.

G. Velladurai, IEDS, DFO, MSME (UTs of J&K, Ladakh), shared key insights on government initiatives available to support small and medium enterprises in securing their intellectual property rights.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Sham Lal Kesar, who expressed gratitude to the Deputy Chief Minister, distinguished dignitaries, and industry representatives for their valuable contributions.

The National IP Yatra Programme, through this workshop, has set the stage for enhanced awareness, policy reforms, and proactive measures to strengthen the intellectual property framework in Jammu & Kashmir, paving the way for sustainable industrial and entrepreneurial growth in the region.

Pakistan trying to revive militancy in border districts of Jammu: Kesri



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: The recent spurt in militant activities in Kathua district of Jammu region indicates that Pakistan is trying to revive militancy in Jammu region. All this indicates that the militant handlers and some smaller outfits which are mostly their offshoots are trying to revive militancy in hilly districts," said Kesri and added militant commanders operating in Kashmir were desperately trying to re-establish their network in Jammu Districts.

Addressing media persons during press conference in Jammu today, Kesri said Pakistan

is changing its strategy to foment trouble in Jammu and Kashmir by sending highly trained and well-equipped terrorists Jammu region.

"While the trained terrorists appear to be using the Line of Control (LoC) to enter India and hide inside the forest, their commanders are also trying to establish their bases in Jammu region. The security forces have assessed that terrorists are using narco smugglers along with the LoC and up to Punjab to fund their activities and procuring weapons.

Kesri further said that Indian government, intelligence agencies and security forces are monitoring the shift in tactics by Pakistan and "it's only a matter of time before a security strategy is in place to deal with this new threat," Kesri said. Kesri strongly condemned Pakistan, saying it's a nation that nurtures terrorism and disrupts peace in Jammu and Kashmir. He accused Pakistan of

consistently attempting to destabilize the region through its proxies.

Kesri praised the Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir Police for their bravery in eliminating terrorists. He expressed pride in the security forces, who risk their lives to protect the

nation. Kesri also paid tribute to the martyred soldiers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Kesri emphasized that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and no power can separate it from the country. He urged the people of Jammu and

Kashmir to remain vigilant and work together with the security forces to eliminate terrorism. The press conference was attended by several other leaders, including Praveen Gupta, Sanjeev Kumar, Dheeraj Kumar, Balwant Saini and Darshana Devi.

Renewal & new arm licence process should not be delayed at any cost: Dr Abhijeet Jasrotia

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 27: Expressing deep concern over the heinous terrorists' act by the stooges of Pakistan which claimed the precious lives of our brave police personnel, Dr. Abhijeet Singh Jasrotia battled for the renewal and the issuing of new arm licenses to the appropriate people who fulfil all the norms and regulations.

Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia, Spokesperson, J&K BJP accompanied by Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge, J&K

BJP and Parduman Singh, senior leader, asked for the strengthening of second line of defense in the region in a press conference held at BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Dr. Abhijeet Singh Jasrotia, said that the brave police personnel made the supreme sacrifice in the encounter at Jathana, Kathua. He said that our forces also neutralized many terrorists in the encounter and praised them for the valiance and the effort.

He said that the irreplaceable loss to the martyrs' families cannot be filled,

but the activists of BJP will always be present beside them. He praised the security personnel for their spirit of sacrifice and said that this essence keeps saving us from the nefarious designs of Pakistan.

"Due to the extreme pressure by the Indian security forces, Pakistan is trying to modify its terrorism strategy and shift focus from Kashmir to the other parts, our forces are fully capable to respond effectively to this evil design by the stringent measures like Balakot", said Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia.

EDITORIAL

Enough is Enough

Terrorism remains one of the gravest challenges faced by humanity in modern times. It knows no borders, no religion, and no morality. However, when a nation like Pakistan continues to act as both a sanctuary and a propagator of terrorism, it becomes imperative to call it out with unequivocal firmness. For decades, Pakistan has nurtured terror organizations, enabling them to unleash chaos not only in India but across the world. It is time to deliver a strong, unambiguous message: enough is enough. The world cannot and will not tolerate this anymore.

Pakistan's history of using terrorism as a state policy is no secret. From the formation of extremist organizations in the 1980s under the guise of jihad against Soviet forces in Afghanistan, to its unrelenting support for groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed, and the Taliban, Pakistan has consistently weaponized terror to achieve its strategic objectives. Its obsession with destabilizing India has turned Pakistan into a hub for terror activities, with organizations operating freely under the patronage of the state.

Despite mounting global evidence and numerous dossiers presented by India to international organizations, Pakistan has either denied its role or shifted blame. The 2008 Mumbai attacks, the 2016 Pathankot attack, and the 2019 Pulwama bombing are just a few examples where the perpetrators had direct links to Pakistan. Yet, instead of dismantling these terror networks, Pakistan continues to provide them with logistical, financial, and ideological support.

Pakistan's support for terrorism has inflicted immense suffering on innocent people, not just in India but globally. It has led to countless loss of lives, devastated families, and disrupted economies. In Kashmir, Pakistan has fueled insurgency, recruiting vulnerable youths and indoctrinating them with hatred. The narrative of "freedom" that Pakistan propagates is nothing but a façade to mask its nefarious agenda of weakening India.

Moreover, terrorism has not spared Pakistan itself. The monster it created has turned against its own citizens, with terror groups like the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) launching attacks within its borders. Pakistan's failure to address this blowback demonstrates the perilous consequences of playing with fire.

India has always advocated for peace and dialogue. However, peace cannot be achieved when one party refuses to abandon its treacherous path. The honorable Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, aptly stated, "Terror and talks cannot go together." Pakistan cannot be allowed to preach peace on international platforms while fostering terrorism in its backyard.

The international community must demand accountability from Pakistan. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has repeatedly placed Pakistan on its grey list, but stronger actions are needed. Countries must impose sanctions, cut economic aid, and isolate Pakistan diplomatically until it demonstrates tangible and irreversible steps to combat terrorism.

The fight against terrorism requires global solidarity. Nations must unite to ensure that terror sponsors like Pakistan face consequences for their actions. The United Nations and other international bodies must go beyond issuing statements and take concrete steps to curb terror financing, dismantle terror networks, and hold state sponsors accountable.

The United States, European Union, and other influential powers must reconsider their relationships with Pakistan. Military aid and financial assistance must come with strict conditions, ensuring that the funds are not misused to support terror activities. Nations that continue to tolerate Pakistan's duplicity risk being complicit in the destruction caused by terrorism.

For India, the path forward lies in strengthening its security apparatus and international partnerships. India has already demonstrated its resolve through surgical strikes in 2016 and the Balakot airstrike in 2019. These actions sent a clear message: India will not hesitate to defend itself.

At the same time, India must continue exposing Pakistan's duplicity on global platforms. From the United Nations to the G20, India must amplify its voice against terrorism, rallying the world to take collective action.

To Pakistan, the message is simple yet stern: Stop fostering terrorism. Abandon your ambitions of destabilizing India, for they will bring nothing but ruin. Instead of investing in terror, invest in education, healthcare, and the well-being of your people. The path you have chosen is not only immoral but also unsustainable.

India is a peaceful nation, but it will not compromise on its sovereignty and security. If Pakistan continues to sponsor terrorism, it will face the consequences of its actions. Terrorism is a dead end – for those who practice it, those who sponsor it, and those who tolerate it.

Why are Delhi officials giving its MLAs the cold shoulder?

By: Dilip Cherian

What a tangled web! The BJP holds the reins both at the Centre and in Delhi, and you'd think this alignment would make the bureaucratic machinery hum like a well-oiled machine, right? Well, not quite. Recently, Delhi Assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta penned a letter to chief secretary Dharmendra, highlighting a rather curious issue: Government officials are giving the cold shoulder to MLA communications. Calls go unanswered, letters unacknowledged, and messages left on read. It's as if Delhi's babus have activated their "Do Not Disturb" mode regarding elected representatives.

Now, for the past decade, Delhi's administration has been the stage for a bureaucratic tug-of-war. The question of whether to follow the directives of the Delhi government or the lieutenant governor has been a perennial conundrum. This power struggle has often led to administrative delays, legal battles, and policy gridlocks, affecting governance and public service delivery in the capital. In May 2023, the Centre amended the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) Act of 1991, extending the LG's powers over bureaucratic appointments and transfers. This move was seen as an attempt to tighten the Centre's grip on Delhi's

administration.

Fast forward to today, and it seems the bureaucracy is still grappling with this new power dynamic. The habit of looking towards the L-G for direction appears deeply ingrained, making the transition to a more MLA-responsive approach akin to teaching an old dog new tricks. This bureaucratic aloofness isn't just a matter of hurt egos. When officials sideline MLAs, they effectively sideline the voices of the people those MLAs represent. It's a classic case of the left hand not knowing (or ignoring) what the right hand is doing, leading to inefficiencies and a disconnect between policymaking and ground realities.

It's evident that a cultural shift within the bureaucracy is needed – one that respects and acknowledges the role of elected representatives. Kerala's DGP race: who will take the top job? The stakes are high as the race to become Kerala's next Director General of Police (DGP) intensifies. The state government is searching through a list of senior IPS officers in an attempt to find the ideal candidate, as Shaik Darvesh Saheb is scheduled to retire in June. But as with any important appointment, qualifications and experience aren't the only factors involved.

Nitin Agrawal, a 1990-batch officer who just returned from a stint as BSF chief, is the most senior member of

the group. Next up is Ravada A. Chandrasekhar, a member of the 1991 class who is presently employed with the Intelligence Bureau. Will he even be interested, though, given that he will be retiring next year? The younger generation is not far behind. Kerala's Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau is led by Yogesh Gupta (1993 batch), and the state's law and order chief, Manoj Abraham (1994 batch), is renowned for his tech-driven policing. Both 1995-batch officers S. Suresh and M.R. Ajith Kumar are also involved; the latter may lose his chances due to corruption charges. Merit is important, but political factors are often as important. The UPSC will select three names from a shortlist submitted by the state government. The government will then make the final decision. Don't be shocked if political inclinations, prior connections, and personal ties to the ruling party play a role in the selection process, considering Kerala's history of DGP appointments. Speculation is rife in Thiruvananthapuram's power corridors as the final decision is anticipated in June. Who is going to win? States are holding on to their best babus. There was a time when Central deputation was the dream gig for IAS and IFS officers. A plush posting in Delhi, power corridors buzzing with influence, and a chance to shape national policy. But

now, big states like Maharashtra and UP seem to be keeping their best officers in the state. Meanwhile, Odisha and AGMUT cadre are more than happy to send theirs to the Centre. What gives? The reality is simple: States need talent more than ever. With growing governance challenges – from infrastructure overhauls to welfare schemes—losing top babus to Delhi feels like a self-inflicted wound. Why send your best players to the national team when your own squad is struggling? Then there's the career calculus. Central deputation once promised prestige, but states are now offering equally powerful roles, direct access to top politicians, and cushy post-retirement gigs. Many officers believe that it's better to be a kingmaker at home than deal with the turf wars of Delhi. And let's not forget the political angle. Many state governments don't exactly trust the Centre with their officers. The fear? Once they leave, they might return as Delhi loyalists, not state insiders. Given the Centre-state tensions in today's political climate, that's a real concern. So, while the Centre keeps nudging states to send more officers, states are digging in their heels. And if you're a babu with a choice, the question is clear: Why go to Delhi when you can rule your own backyard?

Great German mathematician Christoph Gudermann

By: Vijay Garg

Christoph Gudermann (1798 – 1852) was a German mathematician noted for introducing the Gudermannian function and the concept of uniform convergence, and for being the teacher of Karl Weierstrass, who was greatly influenced by Gudermann's course on elliptic functions in 1839–1840, the first such course to be taught in any institute. Gudermann worked on geometry and special functions. He taught Weierstrass. Gudermann was born on this day (March 25) in 1798.

Short Biography:-
Christoph Gudermann's father was a school teacher. Christoph was academically able in his schooling so, as many able boys at this time did, it was intended that he should train to become a priest. He attended the University of Göttingen but there, among the whole range of subjects he studied, he became interested

in mathematics.

Gudermann then followed in his father's footsteps by becoming a school teacher. He obtained a post as a teacher of mathematics in a secondary school in Kleve in 1823 and taught there until 1832 when he was appointed to the Theological and Philosophical Academy in Münster. His first appointment in the Academy in Münster was as an extraordinary professor, but later he was promoted to ordinary professor of mathematics there.

Gudermann worked almost exclusively on spherical geometry and special functions but he is not remembered for any original mathematical results in these areas. This is not to say that he did not do useful original research but just that he suffered the fate that many mathematicians have suffered, namely that a comprehensive theory was developed later which meant that his contributions fused into the theory. His own contributions tended to be a whole series of special

cases (although this could not have been obvious at the time) which were forgotten later when the general results which included them were found.

In his more extensive work on the theory of special functions Gudermann published several papers beginning in 1830 which extended work which was developed by Euler, Landen, Legendre, Abel and Jacobi. He summarised his contributions in two monographs published in 1833 and 1844. A third monograph, which he promised to write on the topic, was not written because of his early death.

Gudermann is best known, however, as the teacher of Weierstrass between 1839 and 1841 while Weierstrass worked for his secondary school teacher's certificate. Gudermann, at this time, was particularly interested in the theory of elliptic functions and in the expansion of functions by power series. In particular his use of power series in the study of the hyperbolic func-

tions is of importance. This was to influence later developments in the subject. He introduced the notation sn , cn and dn which became standard for the hyperbolic functions.

Not only did Gudermann undertake research in the theory of elliptic functions but he was one of the first to teach the topic. Weierstrass spent the academic year 1839-1840 taking Gudermann's course on elliptic functions. Much of the article [3] is devoted to studying Gudermann's work and how it influenced the direction that Weierstrass's research would take, in particular it played an important role in Weierstrass's habilitation thesis.

*(Vijay Garg Retired
Principal Educational
columnist street kour
Chand MHR Malout
Punjab)*

Director, Gowan India, visits SKUAST Jammu to strengthen industry-academia linkage



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: Sarvesh Anand, Director of Gowan India, visited Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu and held discussions with Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, and other senior university officials to explore potential collaborations under the university's Industry-Academia linkage initiative.

Dr. Shailendra Choure, Director, Saraswati

Agrochemicals India Pvt. Ltd., was also present, and the meeting was coordinated by Prof. Sanjay Guleria, Incharge, Counselling and Placement Cell.

The discussions focused on key areas such as efficacy evaluation and residue estimation of new agrochemicals developed by Gowan India, facilitating student placements to enhance industry exposure, and initiating joint research efforts in emerging areas like bio-

agricultural technologies.

Additionally, it was agreed to organize regular industry engagement sessions to equip students with insights into evolving industry trends and requirements.

This collaboration is expected to strengthen SKUAST-Jammu's industry partnerships, enhance career prospects for students, and contribute to agricultural advancements through joint research and innovative product development.

CEC Tashi Gyalson chairs meeting on land-related issues in Leh



Top News Report

LEH, Mar 28: Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson chaired a meeting regarding various land-related issues.

The meeting was attended by ACR Leh, Tehsildar Leh, Girdawar/Patwari Saboo, and Girdawar/Patwari Leh.

Discussions focused on key concerns including land regularization and conversion policy, additional land required around King Singay Namgyal memorial circle for traffic decongestion, land required for road widening around various locations and other civilian land related issues.

Officials engaged in a

detailed discussion on these land related matters and CEC emphasized the need for a coordinated approach to address these issues effectively.

Officials were directed to assess the concerns thoroughly and propose feasible solutions in the best interest of the public.

CEC chairs meeting to improve tourism amenities



Top News Report

LEH, Mar 28: Chairman/CEC, Advocate Tashi Gyalson, chaired a meeting in the presence of DC/CEO, Santosh Sukhadeve, to discuss improvements in the tourism amenities.

The meeting was attended by CPO Leh Tsewang Gyalson, ADC Leh Ghulam Mohd, Director NIELIT Phunstog Toldan, DIO, NIC

Tashi Tundup, ALTOA President Tsewang Dorjee, and members.

They held a thorough discussion on improving and restructuring the existing permit system, opening new tourist destinations, and promoting tourism.

Further, to streamline the permit issuance process, the Chairman recommended that local travel agents manage permit issuance to

ensure the safety and security of tourists, with an incentive offered for their role. Additionally, the meeting discussed allowing tourist access to Galwan Valley through guided tours only once it is opened for tourism.

The meeting aimed to enhance tourism, ensure tourist safety and security, and support local tourism businesses.

Government Council Model School Ayu Sabu receives New School Bus from LAHDC Leh

Top News Report

LEH, March 28: In a significant contribution to education in the region, LAHDC has donated a new school bus to Government Council Model School Ayu Sabu. The bus was inaugurated and flagged off by Hon'ble Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson.

The event was attended by Deputy Chairman Tsering Angchuk, DC/CEO, LAHDC Leh Santosh Sukhadeve, CPO Tsewang Gyalson, Superintendent Engineer PWD Dorjey Gyatso, CEO Sonam Wangchuk, SP Rigzen Sangdup, ZEO (Education), and Headmaster Gurmet Zangpo, along with parents, teachers, and students and other officials.

The school administration and parents expressed their gratitude to the H'CEC and the Council for providing the school bus and other solar power project and various infrastructure improvements. Additionally, they acknowledged the efforts of the Education Department in strengthening government schools. Appreciation was also extended to various departments for recent improvements in school facilities.

Some concerns regarding the school's development were also brought up with the attending officials.

CEC Tashi Gyalson congratulated the school on receiving the new bus and reiterated that education remains a top priority for the Council. He announced

that the Government council model school is now open to students beyond Sabu, including Leh, due to its strong academic record.

He assured that the school would receive the best faculty, infrastructure, and security. He also gave assurance to completing the construction of a compound wall, finishing the solar power project, and expediting other pending work.

Deputy Chairman Tsering Angchuk acknowledged the school's various concerns and assured full support in improving infrastructure. He emphasized the importance of continuously enhancing school facilities and said the matter would be taken up with higher authorities.

DC Santosh Sukhadeve

praised the school for its growing strength and reaffirmed the administration's commitment to improving government schools. He emphasized that strong schools are built through collaboration between teachers, parents, and the community, urging everyone to actively participate in students' education.

Headmaster Gurmet Zangpo highlighted the role of education in shaping young minds. He encouraged teachers to focus on quality teaching and parents to stay involved in their children's education.

With collective efforts from the government, educators, and the community, Government Middle School Ayu Sabu aims to reach new heights in academic excellence and overall development.

Ahead of Eid-Al-Fiter market checking conducted in Kund



Top News Report

KULGAM, Mar 28: On the direction of District Development Commissioner Kulgam Athar Aamir Khan, Naib Tehsildar Kund, Qazi Irshad, SHO Police Station Kund, along with TSO Kund and Representatives of Animal and Sheep Husbandry Department conducted a surprise market checking in the main market of Waltangoo kund and its adjacent areas.

The checking was aimed at to ensure availability of quality products and to curb black marketing, profiteering of essential commodities ahead of Eid-Al-Fiter.

During the market checking, the veg-

etables, fruits shops were inspected and the unhygienic, rotten vegetables, fruits, expired items were destroyed on the spot.

Besides, huge amount of collected by officials from the erring shopkeepers and violators on the spot.

Meanwhile Naib Tehsildar Kund instructed various departments to conduct market checking frequently ahead of Eid-Al-Fiter for public benefit. He said already a meeting was chaired in this regard for discussions regarding market checkings were deliberated upon.

General public has applauded this timely inspection of markets by police & civil administration.

CEC felicitates awardees from Wanla Village

Top News Report

LEH, Mar 28: Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson felicitated the distinguished awardees from Wanla village for their outstanding achievements in various fields.

Among the awardees, Dr. Konchok Dorjee, Assistant Professor of Botany from Wanla village's Gyagar-pa house, was felicitated for receiving the State Award 2024 in the category of Teaching and Research.

He is currently serving at Government Degree College Nubra and has made notable contributions to his field.

Rigzin Dorjee Wanla, Phuntsog Pa Tongpa, was felicitated for recently receiving the prestigious LG Gold Medal Award in wood carving. A highly skilled artist, he has also been honoured with State and District awards for his outstanding craftsmanship.

Veteran Havaladar

Chhewang Stanzin (Retd) from Wanla Hinju Zomal Pa was also felicitated for being conferred with the Chief of Army Staff Veteran Award for his commendable work in solarising buildings, contributing significantly to sustainable development in the region.

Additionally, Tashi Dolma, a Class 10 student from High School Wanla, was recognized for her selection in the INSPIRE Manak Award under the Science & Technology category, showcasing her innovative potential in scientific research.

CEC Tashi Gyalson extended his heartfelt congratulations to all the awardees for their remarkable achievements and wished them continued success in their respective endeavors. He emphasized the importance of such contributions in inspiring the younger generation and bringing pride to Ladakh.

CEC attends closing ceremony of Khelo India City Open Archery Tournament

Top News Report

LEH, Mar 28: Ladakh witnessed the successful conduct of the first-ever Khelo India City Open Archery Tournament, organized by the Archery Association of Ladakh in collaboration with the Archery Association of India, SAI, NTPC, and Khelo India. The tournament saw over 250 participants, including archers from different parts of Ladakh, competing in three categories—Indian Round, Compound, and Recurve.

The opening ceremony was attended by Deputy Chairman Tsering Angchuk, who encouraged the participants and lauded the efforts of the organizers in promoting archery in Ladakh.

The closing ceremony was graced by Chairman/CEC Advocate Tashi Gyalson as the chief guest, while ADC Ghulam Mohd attended as the guest of honour. The event was also attended by Hon'ble Councillor Panamik Tsering Sangdup, University of Ladakh Dean Dr. Jigmet Dachen, DYSSO, and other dignitaries.

Speaking at the event,



H'CEC Tashi Gyalson commended the Archery Association of Ladakh for its commitment to developing the sport and providing local athletes with a platform to showcase their talent.

He also appreciated the members of the Archery Association for their voluntary efforts in advancing the sport, noting that their dedication has been instrumental in taking archery forward in the region.

He acknowledged that it is because of their hard work and commitment that Ladakh is now witnessing participation at the national level, marking a significant achievement for the sport.

CEC reaffirmed LAHDC Leh's dedication to promoting archery as a professional sport

and assured continued support through various initiatives aimed at encouraging and nurturing young archers in Ladakh.

The Archery Association of Ladakh expressed gratitude to CEC Tashi Gyalson and LAHDC Leh for their unwavering support, which has enabled local athletes to gain exposure at competitions beyond the region, further strengthening the archery culture in Ladakh. The tournament concluded with a prize distribution ceremony, where the winners were awarded for their outstanding performances. Dignitaries felicitated the top performers with prizes, recognizing their skill, dedication, and hard work.

Chairman LAHDC Leh inspects Bakula Rinpoche Shradhanjali Park

Top News Report

LEH, Mar 28: Chairman/CEC LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson, conducted an inspection of the Bakula Rinpoche Shradhanjali Park in the presence of Shri Michael D'Souza, Administrative Secretary, PWD and DC/CEO LAHDC, Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve.

Accompanying them were Chief Engineer, PWD (R&B/PMGSY); ADC Leh; District Superintending Engineers from PWD, Hydraulic, PHE/I&FC, and PDD Choglamsar; LBA President Chering Dorjay Lakrook; LGA President Gyen Tsering Angdus; Chogje Lama Uchos, and members of the Bakula Rinpoche



Memorial Committee. During the inspection, CEC emphasized the importance of the project and called for regular monitoring to ensure its timely completion.

The project is set to be inaugurated on May 19, on the auspicious occasion of the birth anniversary of Ngawang Lob-

zang Thupstan Chognor, the 19th Kushok Bakula Rinpoche.

Concerned departments have been directed to work diligently and coordinate effectively to ensure its smooth execution, as this initiative stands as a prestigious undertaking for Ladakh.

The cast of Khakee: The Bengal Chapter shares how director Neeraj Pandey has got each detail right

Khakee: The Bengal Chapter may not have won everyone's hearts, but its stellar cast is certainly winning accolades. Be it the Bengali heavyweights, like Prosenjit Chatterjee and Jeet, the talented Ritwik Bhowmik, or non-Bengali actors like Aadil Zafar Khan and Chitrangada Singh, in an exclusive interaction, they share what it means to be part of a Neeraj Pandey series. And how the acclaimed filmmaker got Bengal's inimitable flavour right.

Prosenjit won't go as far to suggest that The Bengal Chapter is an out-and-out authentic representation, but a fictionalised story set in his home state. He adds, "Culturally rich Bengal has always been shown in a softer way. But, yes, the series does bring out a new facet of the state, including violence, which has so far been romanticised on screen." On nailing his part of a vile politician with a fair degree of sophistication, the Jubilee star says, "I always take on the challenge of bringing out the grey shades of my character." For Aadil, the rigorous process of workshops, dialect training and more helped him get into the skin of tempestuous Ranjit. Indeed, as one of the dialogues in the series talks about sympathy as the keyword to suc-



cess, they admit that there has to be a symphony among the ensemble cast. Prosenjit quips, "One actor out of tune and the entire rhythm goes for a toss." In particular, to crack the bonhomie bordering on bromance between Aadil's and Ritwik's onscreen characters of Ranjit and Sagor, the two actually became great friends. As Aadil puts it, "In Ritwik I got a brother for life." As to why twists and turns-laden crime thrillers capture audiences' attention, Chi-

trangda observes, "Perhaps, our lives lack thrill otherwise. So, we seek excitement vicariously." The lovely actress, who has previously worked with many stalwart filmmakers like Sudhir Mishra, lauds Neeraj Pandey for his vision. She states, "Both are nearly the same school of filmmaking, who would not unnecessarily beautify or glamourise things, certainly not just for the heck of it. They don't shy away from stating the way it is." The cast was not daunted by

possible comparisons with the first outing of the Khakee franchise, which won unqualified admiration of critics and audiences alike. Jeet believes, "If you are afraid of criticism, then do something else." Similarly, Ritwik, the Radhe of Bandish Bandits, too was not unnerved by this 360-degree switch from a gentle musician to a baddie in his reel roles. Ritwik shares, "Rather than thinking of how the audiences would react to my Sagor, I was quite excited about etching him."

Whether for Jeet this has been a perfect Hindi web series debut, he would not say as he doesn't think there is anything called perfectionism. However, he does feel that even though Bengali is one of the most widely spoken language the world over, for Khakee: the Bengal Chapter Hindi was more suitable.

On the beauty of OTT, both Chitrangada and Jeet opine that the medium is brimming with possibilities. Says Chitrangada, "This is the place to be, OTT is gaining such a distinct voice. It's an explosion of creativity out there." Indeed, the Netflix series, which is a wonderful alchemy of actors from so many regions across the country, stands as testimony to her assertion.

Whatever is destined is destined, says Salman Khan



"Jitni umar likhi hai, utni likhi hai," a philosophical Salman Khan said in his first comments about death threats from the Lawrence Bishnoi gang and the heightened security that has significantly restricted his movements. The security protocol has impacted his daily routine, Khan said.

"Bhagwan, Allah sab unpar hai. Jitni umar likhi hai, utni likhi hai. Bas yahi hai. (It is up to Bhagwan, Allah. Whatever is destined is destined. That's all)," Khan said in a rare interaction in which he opened up about his personal life and the many challenges after the death

threats.

"I cannot do anything about it (security). Khallas. So I go from Galaxy (home) to shoot to Galaxy, no detours," he added.

The 59-year-old could earlier be seen cycling around the city unhindered by his security team. His security concerns escalated in 2018 when incarcerated gangster Bishnoi openly threatened to kill him during a court appearance in Jodhpur over the actor's involvement in the infamous 1998 blackbuck poaching case.

Since then, Khan has faced multiple threats. In April 2024, two shooters, allegedly

from the Bishnoi gang, fired gunshots outside his Bandra residence before being arrested. After this, security was enhanced with bullet-proof glass protecting his balcony and CCTV cameras keeping watch on the road outside. Two months later, Navi Mumbai Police claimed to have discovered a plot to kill the actor when he travelled to his farmhouse at Panvel near Mumbai.

Security around the actor was further tightened following the murder of politician Baba Siddiqui, who was known to be a close friend of Salman, in October 2024. Asked about the elaborate security around him, Khan said, "You guys are sweet; that's why they are sweet to you. I don't wish for them to be sweet with those people who are not sweet. It's not when I'm with the press, but when I'm without the press. This security cramps my style," Khan said in the interaction ahead of the release of his film Sikan-

It is important for youngsters to start reading books, says actor Kanwaljit Singh

At this moment, he is the man we all love to hate, at least all of us who have watched him in the film Mrs. The despicable father-in-law to Sanya Malhotra's character! Yes, we are talking about veteran actor Kanwaljit Singh. But the actor we met recently in Chandigarh bore none of the misogynistic traits. In a white crisp shirt and brown pants, he looked more like a scholarly figure, as he talked about his love for books. To put it into context, Kawaljit represented the organising body of Shoolini Literature Festival at Solan.

Kanwaljit said, "I am happy to be a part of the Lit Fest, which has given access to students to be a part of the festival as it is important for young minds to leave their mobile phones and start reading books, which can enrich their vocabulary and knowledge."

Star attraction
The fifth edition of the festival will feature an



impressive line-up of personalities, including filmmaker Imtiaz Ali, thespian Kanwaljit Singh, singers Usha Uthup, singer Ila Arun, VJ Maria Goretti Warsi, actor Shruti Seth, lyricist Raj Shekhar, diplomat Vikas Swarup, business leader Harit Nagpal, writer SR Harnot and many more. These renowned authors, artists and thinkers will engage in thought-

provoking discussions, readings, and performances.

One of the highlights of the three-day festival, from March 28 to 30, is the introduction of the Shoolini Sahitya Samman, an award that recognises outstanding contributions to literature.

The festival will also feature the release of books by authors from Shoolini University.

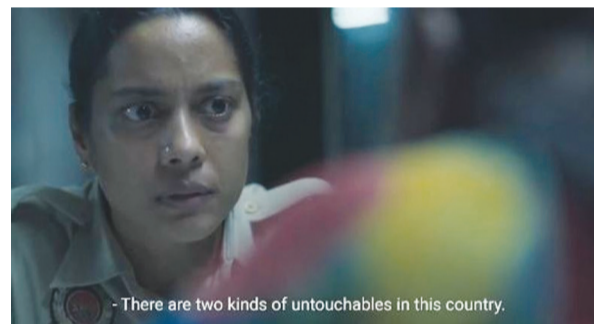
UK Oscar entry 'Santosh' in stalemate with Indian censors, release uncertain

Globally acclaimed Hindi film "Santosh", Britain's official entry at the Oscars and one of the most talked about titles last year, may not make it to Indian theatres following hurdles in its censor certification.

Though there was no official comment from the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), a member termed it "a classic case of gross disagreement" between the producers and the board.

"They are unrelenting. They want zero modifications, and CBFC wants the modifications. They went to the revising committee for the second time, made more modifications, and lost their January release date... there has to be a middle ground," the member said.

"Santosh", directed by British Indian filmmaker Sandhya Suri, known for documentaries such as "I For India" and "Around India with a Movie Camera", is a police procedural thriller set in north India. The film, starring Shahana Goswami and Sunita



Rajwar, was initially set for an India release on January 10.

A co-production between United Kingdom, Germany and France, it revolves around a widow who gets her late husband's job of a police constable. She and her senior inspector are soon sucked into a high profile investigation into the rape and murder of a Dalit teenager.

"Santosh" premiered in the Un Certain Regard category at the Cannes Film Festival in May last year. In India, it was showcased at the Mumbai MAMI film festival and the Dharamsala International Film Festival.

It was named UK's official Oscar entry last year but failed to make it to

the final five. The film's distribution in India is being handled by PVR Inox Pictures.

In an interview, Suri said the censor board in India demanded radical cuts so lengthy and wide-ranging that they would be impossible to implement. She said the list of cuts included several pages and including concerns about themes relating to police conduct.

"It was very important to me that the film is released in India so I did try to figure out if there was a way to make it work," said Suri.

"But in the end it was just too difficult to make those cuts and have a film that still made sense, let alone stayed true to its vision," she said.

Goswami, who plays the lead role in the movie, said she never thought it would run into a problem.

"It is disheartening... The changes are not something that we feel comfortable to make because it would alter the film. I think that's just a decision that's got made by elimination... it's nobody's desire to not have the film come out here. But at this point, that's kind of where it stands. I do feel sad about it," Goswami said.

"Santosh", she said, does not target any particular person or a group but presents the reality of society.

"There's no reason why this film should create any difficulty," she said. CBFC member, filmmaker Vivek Agnihotri, has come out in support of the movie.

"I don't know about the cut list. I'm against banning any kind of creative work. My films have been cancelled," the director, known for controversial movies such as "The Tashkent

Files" and "The Kashmir Files", said.

He said "Santosh" is a highly-acclaimed film and he is looking forward to watching it.

"It is a British entry to Oscar. I've no idea why it has been censored. It should be released in India. I'm not aware of the technicalities (of this film). We should be welcoming these films. CBFC has no mandate to ban anything; they are not a law-making authority, but they can make suggestions," Agnihotri added.

In an earlier interview, Suri had said the film's release in India is of "supreme importance" to her.

"It just ended up that I made a film on the Indian police. Actually, it is a very accessible film and the actors are so great. I had an amazing run in the cinemas in France. I did not make this film for viewers only outside of India... There are things which an Indian audience will definitely pick up that others might not," she said in October last year.

Hrithik Roshan to make directorial debut with 'Krrish 4', YRF comes on board as producer

Superstar Hrithik Roshan is set to make his directorial debut with "Krrish 4", the next installment in his blockbuster superhero franchise, the makers announced on Friday.

The much-anticipated film will be produced by Yash Raj Films (YRF) in association with Rakesh Roshan's Filmkraft Productions and is scheduled to go on floors early next year.

Hrithik, who has headlined all three previous films in the franchise, takes over the directing duties from his father Rakesh Roshan.

"I'm passing the baton of the director of 'Krrish 4' to my son, Hrithik Roshan, who has lived, breathed and dreamt about this franchise since its inception with me! Hrithik has a clear and a very ambitious vision of taking Krrish's journey forward with the audience for the next decades. I couldn't be more prouder to see him wear the director's hat for a film that means the world to us as a family."

"Krrish" has entertained audiences the world over and Hrithik will now reveal the next chapters of this superhero saga and take the vision I created so many years ago to greater heights," Rakesh Roshan said in a statement.

The director, also known for directing sev-



eral successful films including "Khoon Bhari Maang", "Karan Arjun" and "Kaho Naa... Pyaar Hai", welcomed Yash Raj Films' head Aditya Chopra to the franchise.

"It was he who convinced Hrithik to sit in the director's chair. Adi and Yash Raj Films have the knowledge, understanding and technological might to produce this film and add great value to this project."

"Hrithik and Adi coming together as a producer-director pair with me behind them is a rare and deliciously creative combination! I'm sure they will turn 'Krrish 4' into a theatrical experience that has never been made in India. The dream is to make India proud globally with a larger than life experience like 'Krrish 4'," he added.

The franchise began with 2003's "Koi... Mil Gaya", which followed Rohit Mehra (Hrithik), a young man with cognitive disabilities who gains superhuman intelligence and strength after befriending an alien named Jadoo.

The film was a major success and laid the foundation for India's first superhero universe that began with its follow-up "Krrish" in 2006. It followed Rohit's son, Krishna Mehra, who inherits superhuman abilities and takes on the superhero identity of Krrish.

The third chapter, "Krrish 3", was released in 2013 and also turned out to be a box office success.

Saif Ali Khan's 'Jewel Heist: The Heist Begins' to premiere on Netflix on April 25



Actor Saif Ali Khan's latest movie "Jewel Thief: The Heist Begins" will make its debut on Netflix on April 25, the streamer announced on Friday. Also starring Jaideep Ahlawat, the heist film is directed by Kookie Gulati and Robbie Grewal. "Pathaan" fame filmmaker Siddharth Anand has produced the movie with his wife Mamta Anand, under their banner Marflix Pictures.

"The bigger the risk, the sweeter the steal. Aa raha hai the incredible- Jewel Thief. Watch Jewel Thief, out 25 April,

only on Netflix," Netflix posted on its official social media pages along with the movie's poster.

"Jewel Thief - The Heist Begins" features Saif as a jewel thief, who is hired by a powerful crime lord to steal the world's most elusive diamond - The African Red Sun.

"His perfectly planned heist then takes a wild turn. Chaos, twists, and unexpected alliances unfold in this high-stakes race making it a deadly game of deception and betrayal," according to the official logline.

The film also stars Kunal Kapoor and Nikita Dutta.

"Jewel Thief - The Heist Begins" reunites Anand and Saif after 17 years. The duo previously collaborated on "Salaam Namaste" (2005) and "Ta Ra Rum Pum" (2007).

The movie is Saif's first release since the knife attack at his residence on January 16. The 54-year-old actor was stabbed six times by an assailant, who was later arrested.

PM Modi to travel to Thailand, Sri Lanka from Apr 3-6

NEW DELHI, Mar 28 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark on a two-nation tour of Thailand and Sri Lanka next week with a broad focus on boosting regional cooperation under India's newly announced 'MAHASAGAR' policy and vision for a stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

In the first leg of the tour, Modi will visit Bangkok from April 3 to 4 to participate in the sixth BIMSTEC Summit being hosted by Thailand. It will be the prime minister's third visit to Thailand, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Friday.

From Thailand, Modi will travel to Sri Lanka for a three-day trip to hold talks with top leadership of the island nation.

"The prime minister's visit to Thailand and Sri Lanka, and his participation in the 6th BIMSTEC summit will reaffirm India's commitment to its 'Neighbourhood First' policy, 'Act East' policy, 'MAHASAGAR' vision, and vision of the Indo-Pacific," the MEA said.

Modi announced the vision of 'MAHASAGAR' or "Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Secu-



urity and Growth Across Regions" for India's engagement with the Global South during his recent visit to Mauritius.

Besides India and Thailand, the BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) comprises Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal and Bhutan.

At the Bangkok summit, the BIMSTEC leaders are expected to deliberate on ways and means to infuse greater momentum in cooperation among the member nations.

"The leaders are also expect-

ed to discuss various institution and capacity building measures to augment collaboration within the BIMSTEC framework," the MEA said in a statement.

India has been taking a number of initiatives in BIMSTEC to strengthen regional cooperation and partnership, including in enhancing security, facilitating trade and investment, boosting connectivity and collaborating in food, energy, climate and human security, it said.

On the bilateral front, Modi is scheduled to have a meeting with the Thai prime minister on April 3.

The MEA said the two prime ministers are expected to review bilateral cooperation and chart the way for future partnership between the countries.

India and Thailand are maritime neighbours with shared civilisational bonds which are underpinned by cultural, linguistic, and religious ties.

From Thailand, PM Modi will travel to Sri Lanka on April 4 on a three-day state visit.

In Colombo, Modi will hold discussions with Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Disanayaka.

The two leaders will review progress made in the areas of cooperation agreed upon in the joint vision for "fostering partnerships for a shared future" that was adopted during the Sri Lankan president's visit to India, the MEA said.

Modi will also have meetings with senior dignitaries and political leaders in Colombo.

"As part of the visit, the prime minister will also travel to Anuradhapura for inauguration of development projects implemented with Indian financial assistance," the MEA said.

India can't change fanatic mindset of Pakistan, says Jaishankar in Lok Sabha



NEW DELHI, Mar 28 (Agencies): External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, speaking in Lok Sabha on Friday, highlighted incidents involving attack on minorities in Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The minister said New Delhi is tracking "very closely" the treatment of minorities in Pakistan and making its position "well known", but the country cannot change the "fanatical and bigoted mindset" of a neighbour.

Replying to a supplementary query during the Question Hour, Jaishankar pointed to 10 incidents involving attacks on Hindus in Pakistan in February.

Seven of these incidents related to abduction and forced conver-

sion, two other cases related to abduction, and one in which there was "police action" against students celebrating Holi, the external affairs minister said.

He informed the House that there were also three cases related to atrocities against members of the Sikh community. In one case, a Sikh family was attacked; in another case, a Sikh family was threatened for reopening an old Gurdwara, and yet another case involved the abduction and conversion of a girl from the Sikh community, the minister said.

He added that two other cases involved members of the Ahmediya community, and another case in which a Christian person of

unstable mind was charged with blasphemy.

Jaishankar said India takes up such cases at the international level also.

"Like in Pakistan, we track the welfare and well-being of minorities in Bangladesh as well ... In 2024, we had 2,400 incidents relating to attacks on minorities and in 2025, 72 incidents ... I have taken it up with my counterpart there. The foreign secretary also took it up when he visited Bangladesh. This continues to be a matter of concern for our government," Jaishankar said, responding to another supplementary question.

Responding to a query on whether India plans "tough action" on the lines of earlier prime minister Indira Gandhi's stance against Pakistan, Jaishankar said New Delhi is making its position "well known" but "we as a government and a country cannot change the fanatical and bigoted mindset of a neighbour." "Even Indira Gandhi could not do it," he observed.

Sacrifices of martyrs protect freedom that we take for granted today: Priyanka Gandhi

WAYANAD, Mar 28 (Agencies): Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said on Friday that the sacrifices of martyrs protect the freedom that we take for granted today.

Speaking at the inauguration of 'Smriti Mandapam' built at Edavaka panchayat in this hill district, in memory of 'Veer Jawan' Thalachira Janeesh, an army man who lost his life during an anti-terrorist operation in Kashmir.

The Wayanad MP on the second day of her three-day visit to her constituency, added that when a family member is martyred that sadness stays with the family members for the rest of their life.

"But you get comfort from the support of the community, you get love from the people around you, and from those who care to remember him," she said.

Thalachira Janeesh, who joined the army at

the age of 20 was martyred in 2003 during an anti-terrorist operation in Rajouri district of Kashmir and he was awarded the Sena Medal posthumously in 2004.

"Even 22 years later, his mother has still tears in her eyes because we can never give back what she lost. As a mother and daughter of a martyr myself, I fully understand the depth of her pain," Priyanka said. Memorials like this are important to remind us that our freedom, democracy, and way of life come at a great cost, made possible by the sacrifices of brave heroes, she said.

"When Mahatma Gandhiji used to talk about freedom, he talked about the freedom of each and every Indian. A strong, vibrant and effective Panchayat system is his dream. It was a dream that my martyred father Rajiv Gandhi attempted to fulfil when he passed

the Panchayati Raj Act during his tenure," she added.

"Here in Kerala, our panchayats are an example for the whole of India," Priyanka claimed. She hailed the Edavaka panchayat which has been declared zero waste panchayat terming it a 'biggest achievement in today's age'.

She also congratulated the Harita Karma Sena members stating that like our great martyrs, their service to society also strengthens democracy and strengthens India.

Earlier on the day, Priyanka laid the foundation stone of various developmental projects of the Thavinjal Grama Panchayat at Thalapuzha here.

She said that the Thavinjal panchayat has a lot of scope for tourism as it has natural beauty and a lot of assets in that way.

"I am very happy to see projects like this which



will help you to attract more tourists and build the tourism industry here," she added.

She also hailed the waste recycling system of the local body.

"I am also delighted to see the work you are doing for waste recycling. Very often tourist places are littered with garbage, and we forget that we need to preserve these places. But you are doing a very good work in waste recycling," she added.

IC Balakrishnan MLA

and T Siddique MLA also attended the programme.

Priyanka will also attend the inauguration of 50 acre Kattunayikka Unnathi Cultural Centre at Vadakkanad, the inauguration of the ATTOI (Association of Tourism Trade Organisations India) Tourism Convention at Saptta, Sultan Bathery, and the inauguration of the newly constructed college ground at MAMO College Manassery, Mukkam today.

Atishi questions BJP Government over budget transparency

NEW DELHI, Mar 28 (Agencies): Former Delhi chief minister and Leader of Opposition in the Assembly Atishi on Friday attacked the BJP Government over the source of funds for the state budget.

Speaking at a press conference, Atishi said, "It is unclear where the money shown in the budget is coming from."

She also criticised the Government for not presenting the Economic Survey during the budget session, calling it a deviation from long-standing practice. "The Economic Survey is a technical document that provides financial clarity. It has been presented in the Assembly for decades, but this time, the BJP government did not table it," she said.

Atishi said that if the survey had been presented, it would have clarified whether the government's claim of a 20 per cent budget increase from the previous year was accurate.



She also asserted that during Arvind Kejriwal's tenure, the government never faced financial losses.

"Now, with the BJP in power, they are claiming the government is in deficit," she added.

The ruling party is yet to respond to Atishi's claims.

On Tuesday, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, who also holds the finance portfolio, presented the budget for the financial year 2025-26 with an outlay of Rs 1 lakh crore, marking a 31.5 per cent increase from the previous year.

3 Nepalese citizens killed, 4 critical as SUV overturns in UP's Balrampur

BALRAMPUR, Mar 28 (Agencies): Three Nepalese citizens were killed and four others critically injured when their SUV headed to Varanasi overturned here while trying to avoid a cyclist, police said on Friday.

They said the four injured have been taken to the Bahraich District Hospital for treatment.

Tulsipur Circle Officer (CO) Brij Nandan

Rai said the accident occurred in the Jarwa police station area late on Thursday evening when the vehicle carrying 10 people, including the driver, from Nepal's Dang district was headed to Varanasi.

"The driver lost control of the vehicle while attempting to avoid a cyclist near Nagai Basaidih village. The vehicle overturned, resulting in the immediate death

of one Praveer Khatri (70)," the officer said.

Six other passengers sustained serious injuries and were taken to the hospital.

Yuvraj (38) and Dhanbali (80) succumbed to injuries during treatment and the remaining four are in critical conditions, said the officer.

Police have sent the bodies for post-mortem and initiated investigations.

Boiler blast at a paper mill in Uttar Pradesh kills three

GHAZIABAD, Mar 28 (Agencies): Three labourers were killed in a boiler explosion at a paper mill in the Bhojpur police station area here on Friday, police said.

The incident occurred around 6 am when the workers were on duty at the mill.

"All of a sudden the boiler blasted due to which the three labourers were flung in the air and fell 50 feet away," a police source said.

The workers sustained severe injuries, with their body parts strewn around, the source said. The deceased have been identified as Yogendra, Anuj, and Awdhesh. Their ages are yet



to be ascertained.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Rural Surendra Nath Tiwari said, "The factory owner, Aneesh, resides in Modinagar. The mill manufactures lamination paper."

"The family members of the deceased wagers have reached the spot.

Further investigation is underway," Tiwari added.

Govt implements comprehensive technical, legal measures to deal with cyberattacks: Vaishnaw

NEW DELHI, Mar 28 (Agencies): Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Friday said the government has taken comprehensive technical and legal measures to deal with cyber attacks, which have become a "big challenge".

During Question Hours proceeding in Rajya Sabha, the minister informed that the government is also creating awareness among people to deal with this challenge.

"Cyberattacks are a big challenge for us," Vaishnaw said.

To face this challenge, the government has taken comprehensive legal and technical measures, besides creating awareness to prepare citizens.

The minister stated that India has a robust cybersecurity policy and the same is being implemented very carefully.

India's ranking in the global cybersecurity index has improved from 30-40 to the top 10 now,



he added.

On the legal front, he said Parliament has passed the Digital Personal Data Protection Act and also strengthened provisions in the existing IT laws.

Moreover, the minister said, the new Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita Act has provisions for punishments for cyber-crimes.

On the technical side, Vaishnaw said the Union Home Ministry has created the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) to deal with cybercrimes in a coordinated and effective manner and added that this has given good results.

The minister highlighted that India was able to thwart major cyberattacks during the G20 summit and Ram temple inauguration ceremony.

In a written submission, the minister informed the House that the total number of cybersecurity incidents increased to 20,41,360 in 2024 from 15,92,917 in 2023 and 13,91,457 in 2022, as per the information reported to and tracked by CERT-In.

"The government is cognizant of the increas-

ing frequency and sophistication of cyberattacks in the country. The government has taken several legal, technical, and administrative policy measures for addressing cyber security challenges in the country," Vaishnaw said.

The government has also institutionalised a nationwide integrated and coordinated system to deal with cyberattacks in the country, he noted.

These include the National Cyber Security Coordinator (NCSC) under the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) to ensure coordination amongst different agencies.

Under the provisions of section 70B of the Information Technology (IT) Act 2000, the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) is designated as the National agency for responding to cybersecurity incidents.

National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) implemented by CERT-

In serves as the control room to scan the cyberspace in the country and detect cybersecurity threats.

It facilitates coordination among different agencies by sharing with them the metadata from cyberspace for taking actions to mitigate cybersecurity threats.

Cyber Swachhta Kendra (CSK), a citizen-centric service provided by CERT-In, is the Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre and helps to detect malicious programs and provides free tools to remove the same. It also provides cybersecurity tips and best practices for citizens and organisations.

Under the provisions of section 70A of the IT Act 2000, the government has established the National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIIPC) for protection of critical information infrastructure in the country.

US no longer a reliable partner, old relationship is over: Canadian PM Carney

Vows to fight Trump's tariffs with retaliatory trade actions

TORONTO, Mar 28 (Agencies): Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said he would speak with US President Donald Trump in the coming days after the latter announced 25 per cent tariffs on auto imports.

Carney, who hasn't spoken with Trump since becoming Canada's new leader nearly two weeks ago, said the US president reached out to schedule a call.

"We will be speaking soon, certainly in the course of the next day or two," Carney said, adding that Trump has to respect Canada's sovereignty.

"That's not much to ask, but apparently it's a lot for him," he said.

Trump has declared a trade war on Canada and continues to call for the United States' northern neighbour to become the 51st US state, a position that has infuriated Canadians.

"It is clear that the United States is no longer a reliable partner. It is possible that, with comprehensive negotiations, we will be able to restore some trust, but there will be no turning back. We will need to dramatically reduce our reliance on the United States. We will need to pivot our trade relationships elsewhere," Carney said.

The former central banker was sworn in as Canada's new prime minister on March 14. It's unusual for a US president and Canadian prime minister to go so long without talking after a new leader takes office.

Carney, who replaced Justin



Trudeau as Canada's leader and the head of the Liberal Party, is at the start of a five-week campaign after calling an early election for April 28.

The governing Liberals had appeared poised for a historic election defeat this year until Trump declared a trade war and challenged Canada's sovereignty.

The crisis has created a surge in patriotism among Canadians, with many in the country feeling that Carney is the best person to lead the country at the moment.

Trump has acknowledged himself that he has upended Canadian politics.

Carney called the tariffs unjustified and left the election campaign to chair his special Cabinet committee on US relations in Ottawa.

"We will fight the US tariffs with retaliatory trade actions of our own that will have maximum impact in the United States and minimum impacts here in Canada," Carney said.

He said many Canadians are

feeling worried and anxious about the future.

He also said that over the coming years, Canadians must fundamentally reimagine the economy in a drastically different world.

More than 75 per cent of Canada's exports go to the US.

"The old relationship we had with the United States based on deepening integration of our economies and tight security and military cooperation is over," he said.

Carney is asking Canadians for a clear and strong mandate given "the biggest crisis in our lifetimes".

Automobiles are Canada's second-largest export and the sector employs 125,000 Canadians directly and almost another 500,000 in related industries.

Carney announced this week a USD 1.4 billion 'strategic response fund' that will protect Canadian auto jobs affected by Trump's tariffs.

Trump previously granted a one-month exemption on his

stiff new tariffs on auto imports from Mexico and Canada for US automakers.

In the auto sector, parts can go back and forth across the Canada-US border several times before being fully assembled in Ontario or Michigan.

Trump previously placed 25 per cent tariffs on Canada's steel and aluminum and is threatening sweeping tariffs on all Canadian products—as well as on all of America's trading partners—on April 2.

The president has plunged the US into a global trade war—all while on-again, off-again new levies continue to escalate uncertainty.

The tax hike on auto imports starting April means automakers could face higher costs and lower sales.

"This is not an industry that is Donald Trump's to steal or take," said Lana Payne, the national president of Unifor, the union that represents auto workers in Canada.

Payne said Carney should tell Trump that if US automakers are going to sell cars and trucks in Canada, they are going to have to build in Canada.

Opposition Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre said Trump needs to "knock it off" when asked by journalists about the president's repeated attacks.

"We will never be the 51st state but we can be friends again with the United States if he (Trump) reverses course," Poilievre said.

Bangladesh's Chief Advisor Yunus, Chinese President Xi discuss bilateral issues

BEIJING, Mar 28 (Agencies): Bangladesh's Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus and Chinese President Xi Jinping held a meeting in Beijing on Friday and discussed bilateral issues, including trade and investment.

Shariqul Alam, Press Secretary to the Chief Advisor, termed the meeting between the two leaders as "most important and successful." He said that Yunus highlighted Bangladesh's historical ties with China.

"Professor Yunus' meeting with Xi Jinping was the most important and successful. The meeting was very cordial. Professor Yunus highlighted Bangladesh's historical connection with China and mentioned the 50-year anniversary of the diplomatic relations between our two countries," Alam said.

"He (Yunus) discussed about our issues with China and the important thing is that the Chinese President responded positively about each issue and said China is fully supportive about Professor Yunus's government", the Press Secretary to the Chief Advisor said.

According to Alam, Xi Jinping said he will encourage Chinese investors to invest in Bangladesh.

"An important aspect of this visit was to invite Chinese investors to Bangladesh. Professor Yunus mentioned it at the meeting. Xi Jinping responded saying that he will encourage Chinese investors to invest in Bangladesh," the Press Secretary to Yunus said.

He said that discussions have been held on undertaking a project on the Teesta River in Bangladesh with Chinese assistance. Alam expressed hope that Bangladesh's relations with China will move to a new scale and a new chapter will be opened.

"There was a discussion on water resource management and the issue

of Teesta also came up", he said without elaborating.

Both India and China have shown interest in implementing the water management project on the Teesta river.

In a statement, China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated, "Xi Jinping pointed out that the friendly exchanges between the Chinese and Bangladeshi peoples have a long history, and the ancient Silk Road has closely linked the two countries. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations, the two sides have always supported each other, treated each other as equals, and cooperated for mutual benefit. China's good-neighboring and friendly policy towards Bangladesh remains highly stable and continuous."

According to the statement, Xi Jinping emphasised that China and Bangladesh should continue to deepen political mutual trust and firmly support each other on issues involving each other's core interests and major concerns.

China expressed willingness to work with Bangladesh to promote high-quality joint construction of the "Belt and Road", explore cooperation in various sectors like digital economy, green economy, marine economy, infrastructure construction, water conservancy, enhance cultural exchanges, and promote mutual understanding and friendship between the people, according to Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs statement.

During the meeting, Yunus said that Bangladesh and China have a "profound friendship, and they have always understood, respected and trusted each other. China is a reliable partner and friend of Bangladesh." He said that Bangladesh supports the one-China principle and opposes "Taiwan independence".

Former Australian police officer avoids prison after killing 95-year-old woman with stun gun

MELBOURNE, Mar 28 (Agencies): A former Australian police officer avoided a prison term when sentenced Friday for killing a 95-year-old nursing home resident with a stun gun, in an outcome that disappointed the woman's family.

Kristian White was sentenced to 450 hours of community service and placed under the supervision of a corrections officer for two years for manslaughter.

"Mr. White made by what any measure was a terrible mistake," Justice Ian Harrison said in the New South Wales state Supreme Court.

Prosecutors had called for a prison term in the killing of Clare Nowland, a great-grandmother who suffered dementia, but the judge said such a punishment was disproportionate.

"It is ... at the lower end of seriousness of crimes amounting to wrongful death," Harrison said.

A jury convicted White last year, and he was fired from the New South Wales police in December. He had faced a potential maximum sentence of 25 years in prison for manslaughter.

Staff called police to a nursing home in Cooma on May 17, 2023, because Nowland was wandering through the building with a walker and holding a steak knife.

White fired his Taser at her within minutes of confronting her. She fell back and

hit her head on the floor. She died in a hospital a week later from an inoperable brain bleed.

The judge said: "A frail and confused 95-year-old woman in fact posed nothing that could reasonably be described as a threat of any substance."

Outside court, the victim's son Michael Nowland expressed his family's disappointment that White had not been sent to prison.

"It was very disappointing for the family, because — well, a slap on the wrist for someone that's killed our mother," the son said. "It's very, very hard to process that."

In a letter to Nowland's family presented to the court, White gave his "sincere apologies for my actions."

"I deeply regret my actions and the severe consequences it has caused to not only Mrs Nowland but also to your family and the greater community," White wrote.

"I take full responsibility for my actions. I felt and still feel horrible about what happened," he added.

White did not speak to the media as he walked from the Sydney court Friday.

His lawyer Warwick Anderson told reporters outside court the couple was relieved that White had avoided jail.

"They're going to take their time and move on with their lives," Anderson said.

Australia to hold federal election on May 3, PM Albanese urges people to vote for Labor

CANBERRA, Mar 28 (Agencies): Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has announced that the federal election will be held on May 3 and urged people to vote for the Labor Party.

In a post on X, Albanese stated, "On 3 May, vote Labor to keep building Australia's future."

Both major parties have been engaged in campaigning for most of the year already. However, Albanese visited Governor-General Samantha Mostyn on Friday to request the election and kick off the official campaign, Australia, local media outlet 9 News reported.

Anthony Albanese's call for an election comes just days after the government handed down the federal budget. The announcement also comes after opposition leader Peter Dutton's budget reply speech on Thursday night, which analysts termed an attempt to overshadow.

In his speech on Friday morning, Albanese said, "Over the last few years, the world has thrown a lot at Australia." He stated, "In uncertain times, we



cannot decide the challenges that we will face, but we can determine how we respond."

He stressed that the Labor Party is focused on the cost of living, including energy bill relief, childcare support, and Medicare, as reported by 9 News.

Australian PM said, "At this election, I'm asking for the support of the Australian people to keep building on the hard work that we have done and the strong foundations that we have laid," 9 News reported.

He also addressed the possibility of disinformation and mis-

information around the election campaign after social media firms' abandonment of fact-checking, along with allegations of election interference around the world.

Albanese said, "Anyone who tries that, I say back off." He further said, "We have an extraordinary capacity to look after our nation."

The Labor Party currently holds 77 seats in the House of Representatives while the opposition has 53 seats. Elections in the first two months of the year indicated two-party-preferred

swings towards the Coalition, which implies that Labor is at risk of becoming the first Australian government to be removed from power after just one term since 1931.

Polls in the first two months of the year indicated people were in favour of two-party swings towards the Coalition, with Labor facing the risk of becoming the first Australian government to be removed from power after just one term since 1931. However, the government has performed better in recent weeks in opinion polls than it had at the start of the year.

In his remarks on Friday morning, Albanese said he intends to lead a "majority government" and serve a full term if he is re-elected as Australia's PM, 9 News reported.

Dutton has not yet issued a statement on the election announcement. However, Dutton's Liberal Party's official Instagram page shared an image stating "It's on".

The caption of the post reads, "On May 3rd, you can vote to get Australia back on track."

US defence chief says stronger deterrence needed against China in disputed sea

MANILA, Mar 28 (Agencies): US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth said Friday that the Trump administration would boost military ties with the Philippines to strengthen deterrence against "threats from the communist Chinese" and ensure freedom of navigation in the disputed South China Sea.

Hegseth spoke during a meeting with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. in the Philippines, his first stop in his first trip to Asia to reaffirm Washington's "ironclad" commitment to the region under Trump. Ahead of the visit, China called the United States a "predator" and an unreliable ally.

Trump's "America First" foreign policy thrust has triggered concerns in Asia about the scale and depth of US commitment to the region.

Hegseth's decision to make the Philippines his first stop in Asia, followed by Japan — both US treaty allies facing territorial disputes with China — was the strongest assurance yet by the US under Trump to maintain a security presence in the region.

"Deterrence is necessary around the

world but specifically in this region, in your country, considering the threats from the communist Chinese," Hegseth told Marcos. "Friends need to stand shoulder to shoulder to deter conflict, to ensure that there is free navigation whether you call it the South China Sea or the West Philippine Sea."

"Peace through strength is a very real thing," Hegseth said. He praised the Philippines for standing "very firm" to defend its interests in the contested waters.

China claims virtually the entire South China Sea, a major security and global trade route. The Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan also have overlapping claims to the resource-rich and busy waters, but confrontations have spiked between Chinese and Philippine coast guard and naval forces in the last two years.

Chinese forces have used powerful water cannons and dangerous maneuvers in the high seas to block what Beijing said were encroachments by Philippine ships into China's waters. Chinese military aircraft have also approached Philippine patrol



planes at alarmingly close distance to drive them away from the Scarborough Shoal, a hotly disputed fishing atoll in the disputed waterway.

Under the previous Biden administration, the US has repeatedly warned that it is obligated to help defend the Philippines if Filipino forces, ships and aircraft come under an armed attack in the Pacific, including in the South China Sea.

Hegseth echoed that pledge by expressing "the ironclad commitment" of Trump

and him "to the Mutual Defence Treaty and to the partnership."

Marcos told the US defense chief that by visiting the Philippines first in Asia he "sends a very strong message of the commitment of both our countries to continue to work together to maintain the peace in the Indo-Pacific region, within the South China Sea."

"We have always understood the principle that the greatest force for peace in this part of the world would be the United States," Marcos said.

Ahead of Hegseth's visit, Chinese Defence Ministry spokesperson Wu Qian said China opposes "interference from outside countries" in the South China Sea.

"US-Philippines military cooperation must not harm the security interests of other countries or undermine regional peace and stability," he said Thursday in a monthly news conference.

He added without elaborating that the United States has "an astonishing record of breaking its promises and abandoning its allies" throughout its history.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson

Guo Jiakun separately warned the Philippines in a news conference on Tuesday "that nothing good could come out of opening the door to a predator. Those who willingly serve as chess pieces will be deserted in the end."

Hegseth's visit to the Philippines comes a month before the longtime treaty allies hold the "Balikatan," Tagalog for shoulder to shoulder, their largest annual combat exercises that include live-fire drills. In recent years, the exercises have been held near the South China Sea and the sea border between the Philippines and Taiwan.

The defense secretary projected composure and camaraderie, as he's receiving harsh criticism for texting attack plans to a Signal group that included top-level US security officials and the editor-in-chief of The Atlantic magazine.

Clad in a sweatshirt and shorts, he joined American and Filipino forces in physical training, including push-ups, in a gym. He shook hands and posed smiling with military personnel while they flashed the thumbs-up in pictures posted by the US Embassy on X.

AIKS delegation meets Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar to discuss Kashmiri Pandit rehabilitation



Top News Report

NEW DELHI, Mar 28:
A delegation from the

All India Kashmiri Samaj (AIKS) met Sh. Manohar Lal Khattar, Hon'ble Minister of Housing and Urban Development,

Government of India, to discuss key issues concerning the Kashmiri Pandit community. The meeting, held in

New Delhi, focused on the rehabilitation and return of Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley and securing a permanent address or asset for AIKS.

Ravinder Pandita, President of AIKS, described the half-hour meeting as "quite fruitful," highlighting the productive exchange of ideas and Minister Khattar's constructive suggestions. The Minister encouraged the delegation to present well-planned proposals for consideration and assured support from

the Government of India for their initiatives.

During the meeting, the AIKS delegation presented the Minister with a book on Sharda and a portrait of Sharda Peeth, a historic site in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), as a symbol of the cultural and spiritual heritage of Kashmiri Pandits.

The delegation included Vijay Kashkari, Vice President, AIKS, Dalip Kaul, Advisor, AIKS, Ajay Pandita and Kusum Lata.

The members expressed gratitude for the Minister's positive response and emphasized the need for collaborative efforts to ensure the rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits and the preservation of their cultural identity.

The meeting marks a significant step toward addressing the long-standing concerns of Kashmiri Pandits, with a focus on building a roadmap for their dignified return to the Valley. AIKS looks forward to presenting detailed proposals and working closely with the government to achieve these goals.

Army para athletes shine at 2nd Khelo India Para Games 2025

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: Para Athletes of the Army Paralympic Node (APN), Bombay Engineer Group & Centre, Khadki, and the Army Marksmanship Unit delivered an outstanding performance at the 2nd Khelo India Para Games, held in New Delhi from March 20 to 26, 2025.

A total of 24 Para Athletes represented the Indian Army in Para Athletics and Shooting, securing an impressive 15 medals, including 4 Gold, 7 Silver, and 4 Bronze.

Demonstrating exceptional resilience, indomitable spirit, and competitive dominance, the athletes showcased their prowess with clean sweeps in two events — F-57 Shot Put and T-64 200m — securing all

three podium positions in each.

Among the standout performances, Gunner Naresh clinched two gold medals in T-64 200m and 400m (blade category), while Naik Rajvir secured two silver medals in the T-64 100m and 200m events. Sapper Shubham Juyal added to the medal tally with a silver in F-57 Shot Put, finishing ahead of Paralympics medallist Subedar Hokoto Sema, signalling the emergence of a promising new generation of Army Para Athletes.

In Shooting, Naib Subedar Amir Ahmad Bhat won a silver medal in the 25m Pistol event, and Sepoy Anandhakrishnan H earned silver in the 50m Rifle Prone event, reaffirming the Army's growing excellence in Para

Shooting disciplines.

The Indian Army's continued commitment to nurturing talent through initiatives like the Army Paralympic Node and Mission Olympics was evident through the athletes' spirited and disciplined performances at this national-level event.

Young Dramatists Society Srinagar observes World Theatre Day 2025

Top News Report

SUMBAL, Mar 28: The Young Dramatists Society Srinagar and Inder Cultural Forum, in collaboration with Government Degree College Sumbal, organized an impactful event on World Theatre Day 2025, themed "Theatre as a Tool Against Drug Abuse."

The event, held at Government Degree College

Sumbal, brought together theatre artists, academicians, students, and social activists to highlight the role of theatre in addressing the pressing issue of drug abuse.

Through thought-provoking performances, discussions, and interactive sessions, the program emphasized the power of theatre as a medium for social awareness and change. Prominent theatre personalities, Mohammad Amin Bhat President Adbee Markaz Kamraz presided the function, Abdul Ahad Farhad (Broadcaster and writer) and Rashid Rahil (Journalist) was Guest of Honour, Majeed Majazi (Famous Theatre personality) hosted the programme. Prof. (Dr.) Shabeen Iqbal Shawl, Principal Degree College Sumbal was Chief Guest of the function,

The event underscored the importance of using creative storytelling to educate and inspire communities, particularly youth, to resist substance abuse. The performances by young dramatists vividly depicted the harsh realities of addiction and the pathways to rehabilitation, leaving a lasting impact on the audience.

Young Dramatists Society, a key organizer, stated, "Theatre has historically been a powerful instrument of social change. Today, we reaffirm its potential by addressing the menace of drug abuse and promoting a message of hope and resilience." The event concluded with a pledge by attendees to work collectively in spreading awareness and supporting those affected by drug addiction.

Principal GDC Sumbal and Dr. Shaista Ahmad Convenors Cultural Committee GDC Sumbal and Rashid Rahil Chief Editor Asian Mail Group has been felicitated award of honour.

After concluding the programme Mushtaq Baqal, Altaf Hussain and Javid Gilani briefly present their vote of thanks on behalf of the group Young Dramatists Society to the audience.

Ramban residents protest against chronic traffic chaos at Jula Bridge

Adv. Fairoz Khan demands immediate end to Maitra Diversion



Top News Report

RAMBAN, March 28: In a powerful display of public frustration, residents, commuters, and civic organizations of Ramban staged a massive protest on Friday, at Masjid Market, demand-

ing an urgent resolution to the worsening traffic congestion caused by the continued diversion of vehicles through Maitra onto Jula Bridge.

The protest, led by Senior Congress Leader and Advocate Fairoz Khan, garnered

extensive support from the Auto Union, Beopar Mandal, Ramban Bar Association, Students' Union, and various civil society groups. Protesters voiced their anger over the long-standing diversion policy, particularly over the past one month, which has resulted in severe traffic gridlocks, disrupted daily life, and negatively impacted local businesses.

Addressing the gathering, Adv. Fairoz Khan strongly criticized the authorities for their inaction, stating:

"The people of Ramban have had enough. For the past

one month, we have been pleading with officials to halt this reckless diversion through Maitra onto Jula Bridge. Instead of solutions, we are met with apathy. This is not just an inconvenience—it's a crisis choking our economy, endangering commuters, and robbing people of their time and peace. We demand immediate action to restore normal traffic flow and a long-term plan to address this issue. If our voices go unheard today, this will be the first of many protests."

Protesters demanded the immediate cessation of traffic diversion

through Maitra onto Jula Bridge, urgent infrastructure intervention to decongest the area and ensure smooth traffic flow, and a transparent dialogue between authorities and stakeholders to implement sustainable, long-term solutions addressing the root causes of the crisis.

The ongoing congestion has led to hours-long traffic jams, severely affecting students, patients, and daily commuters. Protesters argued that despite the National Highway being a single stretch at only one location—Mehar—traffic could be managed efficiently without forcing

vehicles through Maitra. Growing frustration over the alleged mismanagement of Ramban's highway infrastructure has raised serious concerns among residents, who question the wasteful expenditure of public funds amounting to thousands of crores while crucial road projects remain incomplete. Demonstrators also raised concerns over alleged corruption in infrastructure projects. A major grievance is the arbitrary toll collection from vehicles passing through Maitra, despite a High Court ruling stipulating that vehicles not utilizing municipal

infrastructure should not be charged. Protesters emphasized that if Maitra is to remain a key transit route, authorities must allocate sufficient funds to develop a proper road network capable of handling heavy traffic loads.

The slow progress in constructing the only proposed bridge in the area has further fueled public anger. Protesters demanded the immediate acceleration of the project, emphasizing that the lack of proper infrastructure is exacerbating the crisis.

In response to the demonstration, a detailed meeting was convened, attended by Public representatives led Adv. Fairoz Khan with administration led by ACR Ramban, DySP Ramban, Teh-

sildar Ramban, SHO Ramban, and DTI Traffic Ramban. After thorough discussions, it was unanimously agreed that traffic will not be diverted through Maitra onto the National Highway until Eid, with only emergency services allowed. Post-Eid, the committee will reconvene with the administration to devise a long-term, sustainable solution to the issue.

Additionally, the protesters urged the Chief Minister Omar Shaib and the Lieutenant Governor to personally intervene, emphasizing that Ramban deserves justice. Following these assurances, the protest was temporarily called off, with the commitment that further action will be taken if no permanent resolution is reached.

From Page No:1

Body of fourth cop sighted as security forces resume Anti-Terror Operation in Kathua

search operation, the terrorists managed to escape the initial cordon, the officials said, adding it is assumed that the same group could have been possibly spotted near Jakhole, approximately 30 km from the initial encounter site.

The search teams discovered evidence on Monday, including

four loaded magazines of M4 carbine, two grenades, a bulletproof jacket, sleeping bags, tracksuits, food packets, and materials for constructing improvised explosive devices (IEDs) near the Hiranagar encounter site.

The terrorists were moving through the forest area towards the Billawar side when a police party headed by a SDPO moved in after getting specific information but came under heavy firing, resulting in the day-long gunfight. Reinforcements from the police, army, and CRPF were immediately deployed to the area, while the special forces of the army were also airdropped to neutralise the terrorists.

Police believe the terrorists infiltrated on Saturday, possibly via a ravine route or a newly constructed

tunnel from across the border.

Director General of Police, Nalin Prabhat and Inspector General of Police (Jammu Zone) Bhim Sen Tuti have been overseeing the anti-terrorist operation from Kathua for the past four days, the officials said.

The People's Anti-Fascist Front, a proxy outfit of Pakistan-based terrorist group Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), claimed responsibility for the encounter.

Army's rising star corps, whose troops are involved in the operation, lauded the police personnel involved in the operation.

"Rising Star Corps salutes the valor & indomitable spirit of the brave (J&K) Police personnel who made the supreme sacrifice fighting valiantly during the ongoing OP (operation) Safiyan in Kathua.

Their courage and dedication will always be remembered," the Army said in a post on X.

J-K LG, CM pay tributes to policemen martyred in Kathua encounter

of Kathua. The operation started early Thursday and was continuing when last reports were received.

Shab-e-Qadar celebrated across Kashmir with religious fervour

swaying buildings

world perform night-long prayers on the 26th night of Ramzan to celebrate the first revelation of Holy Quran to Prophet Muhammad. Preachers and religious scholars highlighted the teachings of Islam and various aspects of the life of the Prophet Muhammad and urged Muslims to follow the same.

7.7-magnitude earthquake rocks Thai capital of Bangkok, prompting evacuations from

hotels in densely populated central Bangkok. They remained in the streets, seeking shade from the midday sun in the minutes after the quake.

There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties. The quake was forceful enough to send water sloshing out of pools, some high up in high-rises, as the tremor shook.

The epicenter of the earthquake was in central Myanmar, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) east of the city of Monywa.

There were no immediate reports of the effect of the earthquake in Myanmar, which is in the middle of a civil war.

Army conducts Integrated Multi-Domain Exercise in Eastern Theatre



reconnaissance aircraft, armed helicopters, UAVs, loitering munitions, and space-based assets were employed to achieve total situational awareness and rapid target engagement.

Once simulated targets were identified, they were swiftly neutralised through coordinated strikes using fighter aircraft, long-range rocket systems, medium artillery, swarm drones, kamikaze drones, and armed helicopters—all executed in an electronically contested environment that simulated modern battlefield conditions. Lieutenant General Ram Chander Tiwari, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command, and Air Marshal Surat Singh, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Air Command, reviewed the exercise and commended the troops for

their operational excellence and high degree of professionalism.

This integrated tri-service drill builds on the momentum of Exercise Poorvi Prahaar held in November 2024, which focused primarily on the integrated application of aviation assets. Exercise Prachand Prahaar has now taken that concept further by validating a fully integrated approach to surveillance, command and control, and precision firepower across the three services.

The exercise stands as a testament to the Indian Armed Forces' growing emphasis on jointness, technological superiority, and readiness to tackle multi-domain threats. It reinforces India's resolve to deter and, if necessary, decisively respond to any emerging security challenge along its strategic frontiers

Top News Report

ARUNACHAL PRADESH, Mar 28: In a powerful demonstration of joint operational capability, the Indian Army today conducted a Tri-Service Integrated Multi-Domain Warfare Exercise in the Eastern Theatre, deep in

the high-altitude terrain of Arunachal Pradesh. The exercise, named Ex Prachand Prahaar, was held from 25 to 27 March 2025 and brought together the Indian Army, Indian Air Force, and other elements of the Indian Armed Forces in a synergised combat drill designed to simu-

late future warfare.

Carried out under the aegis of the Eastern Command, the exercise showcased the seamless integration of advanced surveillance, strike capabilities, and multi-domain operational planning. Cutting-edge platforms such as long-range maritime

Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Card celebrates milestone: Over 2 Million Cards Issued

Top News Report

JAMMU, March 28: Tata Neu and HDFC Bank on Friday announced a significant milestone: the Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Card has surpassed 2 million cards issued, solidifying its position as one of India's preferred rewards credit cards.

This achievement underscores the card's remarkable success in delivering value and a seamless rewards ecosystem to customers across the country.

Since its launch in August 2022, the Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Card has made significant strides, loved by its users for offering the most simple and transparent rewards ecosystem in the Indian credit card market.

With a significant share of new cards issued (over 13% net new

cards issued in Q3 FY25-RBI), it has rapidly gained the trust and loyalty of customers across the country. "At Tata Digital, we are dedicated to revolutionizing the credit card experience by making benefits more rewarding and transparent for our customers," said Gaurav Hazrati, Chief Business Officer, Financial Services, Tata Digital.

"Crossing 2 million Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Cards issued is a strong testament to the trust our customers place in NeuCard.

We remain committed to continuously enhancing the NeuCard experience, delivering even greater value to our growing community of NeuCard holders."

Every transaction with the Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Card

unlocks a universe of rewards, including up to 10% savings, accelerated NeuCoin earnings, and exclusive privileges across travel, fashion, electronics, groceries, and more. The card's seamless, technology-driven experience, featuring digital onboarding, instant approvals, and contactless payments, caters to the modern digital lifestyle.

Parag Rao, Country Head – Payments, Liability Products, Consumer Finance and Marketing, HDFC Bank, "As India's leading card issuer, it is our endeavour to create a customised offering for every customer segment, providing best-in-class payment solutions. We are delighted that the Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Card, with its digital-first approach and strong

value proposition, has been able to enhance the user experience and transform everyday spending into rewarding moments.

"Cardholders enjoy up to 10% back as NeuCoins on non-EMI spends on Tata Neu and up to 5% back as NeuCoins on partner Tata Brands (including in-store), 1.5% back as NeuCoins on eligible non-Tata and merchant EMI spends, and additional rewards on UPI transactions. Complimentary domestic airport lounge access, and the coveted IHCL Silver Membership for cardholders further enhance the card's appeal.

The Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Card is available in both RuPay and Visa variants, making premium digital payments accessible and rewarding for customers across India.

Career guidance seminar organised for children at Khellani



Top News Report

DODA, Mar 28: In a dedicated effort to empower and guide the youth, Indian Army organized a Career Guidance Seminar at PM Shri Government Higher Secondary School, Khellani. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from 75-100 students, including both boys and girls, eager to

explore various career opportunities.

The seminar aimed to enlighten students about diverse career paths, including entry into the Armed Forces, and inspire them to work towards a bright and promising future.

During the interaction, the Indian Army emphasized the importance of education, perseverance, and career

awareness while reiterating its commitment to mentoring and supporting local youth in their aspirations.

The event also saw the presence of school faculty and community representatives, who appreciated the Indian Army's initiative in shaping the future of young minds through such meaningful engagements.

Medical Patrol conducted for local youth at Dhabrot and Songri

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Mar 28: In continued efforts to support local communities, the Indian Army carried out a medical patrol for bakkarwals and locals in the remote areas of Dhabrot and Songri villages, Rajouri district.

The initiative aimed to provide essential medical care to the residents, particularly the elderly, children and women of the Bakarwal community and other local inhabitants.

The medical team, comprising experienced medical staff and Nursing Assistants conducted health check-ups of more than 95 villagers comprising approx 42 women, 25 children and 28 elderly people, distributed medicines and educated the locals on hygiene and preventive healthcare.

The initiative



addressed common ailments and provided much-needed medical assistance to the local population with limited access to healthcare facilities.

This outreach program reflects the Indian Army's commitment to strengthening the bond with the civilian population. By ensuring the

well-being of remote communities, the Indian Army continues to foster trust and cooperation while upholding its role as a pillar of national service.

The locals expressed their heartfelt gratitude for the humanitarian efforts, which reaffirmed the Indian Army's dedication to their welfare and continuous support.

MG Astor, India's first car with AI personal assistant is now 'The Blockbuster SUV'



MG Astor is also the first SUV in India to get a personal AI assistant and a host of 14 Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) features.

MG Astor also offers a series of advanced tech features – Ventilated Seats in the front row, Wireless Charger, Wireless Android Auto & Apple Car Play, and Auto-dimming IRVM for additional security and convenience, along with an updated i-SMART 2.0 with Advanced User Interface for a holistic

driving experience and 80+ connected features for a seamless and convenient driving experience.

Among its standout features is the JIO Voice Recognition system, enabling advanced voice commands for Weather, Cricket updates, Calculator, Clock, Date/Day information, Horoscope, Dictionary, News and knowledge.

The Anti-Theft feature, coupled with Digital Key functionality, ensures security even without a network connection.

Fans celebrate legendary singer Lal Chand Yamla's 111th birth anniversary

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: The 111th birth anniversary of Legendary Singer Lal Chand Yamla was celebrated by his fans in a brief function at Surya Vihar here on Saturday. R.L.Kaith told the fans that Lal Chand Yamla was born on March 28, 1914 in a Chanjotra family at Chakk No. 384 in Lyallpur District of Pakistan and after the partition of India in 1947, he relocated Jawahar Nagar Camp, Ludhiana. His songs still resonate with his admirers across

the globe.

To his credit, Yamla has hundreds of songs including the famous 'Das mein ki Pyar wichon khatya', 'Satgur Nanak Teri Leela nyaari ae', 'Satguru Nanak Aja', 'Jag Deya Chanana Tu', 'Chitta Ho Giya Lahoo', 'Jewani Meri Rangili', 'Sacha Souda', 'Jodi Vech Ke', 'Mukh Tera Chann', 'Aar Tanga Paar Tanga', 'Jorhi Rab Ne Mila' and 'Whisky Di Botal Wargi'. There have been so many singers in Punjab but Lal Chand Yamla was completely unique, added Kaith.

Park Hospital Mohali completes 100 robotic joint resurfacing surgeries



Top News Report

CHANDIGARH, Mar 28: Park Hospital, Mohali on Friday announced the successful completion of 100 robotic joint resurfacing surgeries.

Addressing a press conference here today, Dr Bhanu Pratap Singh director ortho and robotic joint replacement surgery, said that Park has a state-of-art robotic arthroplasty center of excellence.

He further said that the hospital is also offering free robotic technology to the patients till April 30. The initiative aims to make advanced health-

care accessible to every section of society.

Dr Anil Kapoor Vashisth and Dr Aman Garg, both ortho consultants were also present during the occasion.

Dr Bhanu said "The number of knee replacement surgery is increasing day by day in India. If we look at the statistics, every year more than 2.5 million people undergo this procedure in India."

With recent advancement in technology, the robotic knee replacement surgery is now being performed in 12-15 minutes with no requirement of blood transfusion, no sutures,

no drains. The Surgery is performed with small cuts and the patient can walk after 4 hours of surgery.

Park Hospital is North India's biggest super specialty hospital network with 19 hospitals, 3500 beds, 800 ICU beds, 14 cath labs, 45 modular OTs and over 1000 doctors. The hospital is the only hospital in the region which is equipped with a Robo suite.

Early Signs of Osteoarthritis are pain while walking or climbing stairs, pain while lying down, periodic inflammation, stiffness after a period of inactivity, knees becoming bent and bowed, and crepitus—a creaking, crunching, grinding sensation when you move the joint.

Advantages of robotic knee replacement surgery are enhanced precision, customized surgical plan, smaller incisions, reduced pain and faster recovery, and improved implant longevity.

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: JSW MG Motor India, has announced a bold new stance for the MG Astor as 'The Blockbuster SUV' with its MY2025 Edition. This marks a paradigm shift highlighting the brand's commitment to bringing an auto-tech masterpiece for its customers – blending exciting performance, sophistication, innovation and technology all into one package.

The Astor 'Blockbuster SUV' caters to discerning customers and early adopters with its MY2025 edition. The MG Astor is now the only SUV in its segment to offer a panoramic sunroof under Rs 12.5 lakh

(ex-showroom) with its new Shine variant.

Further, the Select variant comes in with six airbags and premium Ivory Leatherette seats, for enhanced safety and comfort. SUV enthusiasts can visit their nearest JSW MG Motor India dealerships to enquire and book 'The Blockbuster SUV' at a starting price of Rs 9.99 lakh (ex-showroom). The 2025 MG Astor is available with 1.5L MT & CVT and 1.3 Turbo AT powertrains.

Commenting on the development, Rakesh Sen, Director Sales and Operations, JSW MG Motor India, said, "Taking on a bold new stance, the MG Astor is the perfect car for early

adopters looking for a perfect SUV. For those who seek more than practicality – the desire for elevated driving experience & sophistication. We understand that they are on the lookout for a car that reflects their rise, balances their aspiration with pragmatism, and turns every commute into a journey. The MG Astor delivers precisely that - a Blockbuster in motion."

"The Blockbuster SUV' comes with over 50 Safety features, with the premium interiors and panoramic sunroof elevating the memorable driving experience to a new level of comfort. With a host of features paired with a pleasurable driving experience,

Pooran's blitz powers LSG win

LSG's explosive batting dismantles SRH despite Head's resilient 47-run knock

HYDERABAD, Mar 28 (Agencies): Shardul Thakur's four-wicket haul and a sensational display of power-hitting from Nicholas Pooran set up a five-wicket win for Lucknow Super Giants over Sunrisers Hyderabad in an IPL match here.

Shardul continued his dream comeback returning with figures of 4/34 to help LSG restrict a power-packed SRH to 190 for nine before Pooran (70 off 26; 6x4s, 6x6s) displayed his 360 degree hitting skills.

Pooran shared quick-fire match-winning 116 runs for the second wicket with Marsh (52 off 31) to help LSG chase down the target in 16.1 overs.

LSG didn't have the best start to their chase as they lost Aiden Markram early. But thereafter, it was the effortless hitting from Mitchell Marsh and Nicholas Pooran that helped LSG surge ahead.

Pooran in particular was at his attacking best as he mostly dealt in sixes, clobbering Simarjeet and Abhishek Sharma for huge sixes during his knock, mostly towards the square boundary.

SRH just found it difficult to stop Pooran as he didn't even spare Cummins, hitting him



for two fours in his first over to reach 77 for 1 in the powerplay. Pooran brought up the fastest fifty of this season in just 18 balls with another huge six over square leg of Adam Zampa.

Pooran's magnificent knock was cut short by Cummins, trapped in front of the wickets in the ninth over.

After Pooran's dismissal, Marsh took the onus on him and brought up his half-century of just 29 balls.

LSG skipper Rishabh Pant (15 off 15) could not do much but Abdul Samad played an entertaining cameo to get his side home.

Earlier opting bowl, Shardul (4/34) gave LSG a fiery start, removing Abhishek Sharma and last match centurion Ishan Kishan in consecutive balls in the third over.

Shardul sent packing Sharma with a short delivery before getting Ishan Kishan caught behind off an innocuous delivery down the leg side.

Travis Head (47 off 28), however, looked in ominous form as he took the attack to the opposition and used his brute power to deal in boundaries and sixes.

Head was particularly brutal against Avesh Khan, who sprayed the ball on both sides,

with the Australian hitting him for two sixes and one four to pick up 18 runs in the fourth over.

Head, however, was lucky as he got two reprieves.

Head skied Ravi Bishnoi's first ball down the ground, and Pooran stationed at long-on had all the time in the world to get under the ball and take a simple catch but the West Indian put it down.

The missed chance proved costly as Head slammed Bishnoi over covers for a maximum.

Bishnoi had another chance to claim the wicket of Head in the fifth ball of the sixth over but he failed to latch on to a difficult return catch. But Head's luck finally ran out when fast bowler Prince Yadav disturbed his timbers to pick up his first IPL wicket.

Henrich Klaasen (26 off 17) was looking dangerous but got out in a bizarre fashion, run out by Yadav off his own bowling as a straight drive from Nitish Reddy ricocheted on to the stumps from the bowlers follow through.

SRH skipper Pat Cummins (18 off 4) hit three sixes of his first three balls before departing.

Former India spinner Harbhajan Singh picks current best player in T20 format



NEW DELHI, Mar 28 (Agencies): Former India spinner Harbhajan Singh has put a tag of the best T20 player on Nicholas Pooran in the present scenario following his impeccable dominance that assisted Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) in breaching Sunrisers Hyderabad's (SRH) fortress in the ongoing edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025.

Pooran has ignited the ongoing edition of the cash-rich league with his sheer blitzkrieg with the bat. With his explosive 70(26), he was the backbone of Lucknow's successful 191-run chase as the Super Giants sealed a 5-wicket win in Hyderabad.

Impressed with Pooran's consistent swashbuckling displays in the ongoing edition of the cash-rich league, Harbhajan classified the Caribbean batter as the best T20 format player.

"Currently Nicholas Pooran is the best player of T20 format. Period!" Harbhajan wrote on X.

The 29-year-old began his campaign

by slamming 75 from 30 deliveries against Delhi Capitals, even though his valiant effort went in vain, courtesy of Ashutosh Sharma's heroism. Pooran couldn't salvage a victory for his side as DC escaped with a narrow one-wicket win in Vizag.

With his recent exploits on the field, Pooran is the Orange Cap holder in the ongoing 18th edition of the tournament. He has 145 runs to his name in two matches, with a staggering average of 72.50 while striking ferociously at 258.92.

Pooran also became the second player after former KL Rahul to cross the 1000-run mark for the franchise. He achieved the feat in just 31 matches, averaging 45.54 with a stellar strike rate of 184.53. The belligerent stroke player boasts 1002 runs in 31 matches, only bettered by Rahul's 1410 in 38 matches.

The 29-year-old known for his effortless power-hitting has breezed past the fifty-run landmark in fewer than 20 deliveries four times, the highest by any player in the cash-rich league.

Australia's power hitters Travis Head and Jake Fraser-McGurk are tied in the second spot, achieving the feat three times each. Pooran raced to his fifty in a mere 18 deliveries, the second-fastest for LSG behind his own 15-ball effort against Royal Challengers Bengaluru in 2023.

"Players, BCCI need to find balance": Saba Karim gives his take on reduction of family time during overseas tour

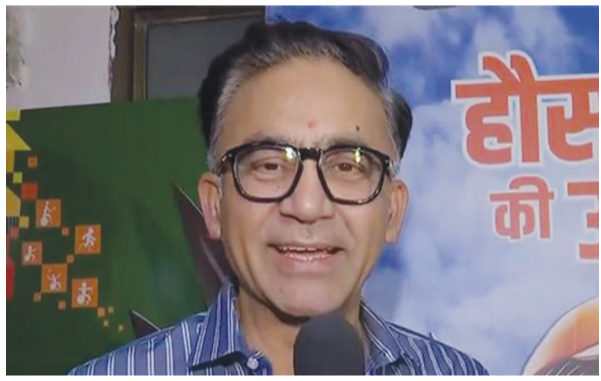
NEW DELHI, Mar 28 (Agencies): Former BCCI national selector Saba Karim weighed in on the board's SOP, which relates to the significant reduction in a player's time with family during overseas tours. He firmly believes that BCCI and players should strike the "right balance."

The Board of Control for Cricket in India's (BCCI) rule limits the time players' families can stay with them during tours. While prolonged separation can be challenging for families, restricting their presence to a certain period helps players focus on the game.

According to the rule, players' immediate families, including their partners and children, can stay with them for 14 days after the first two weeks of a tour lasting over 45 days. On shorter tours, players can be accompanied by their families for up to a week.

Recent reports have suggested that players are not content with the rule. Saba Karim acknowledged that it is important for players to be with their families. However, he also believes there should be a right balance.

"Every player has a different mindset. The BCCI has made some rules which have been followed for many years. In between, they were



not followed properly. I think players and BCCI need to find a balance. It is necessary for players to be with family. I hope the BCCI and players will find the right balance," Saba told agency.

Recently, India stalwart Virat Kohli voiced his opinion that every player from the Indian team would want to have their family around and spend time with them during overseas tours.

"I do not think people have an understanding of what value it brings to a large extent. And I feel quite disappointed about that because it is like people who have no control over what is going on are kind of brought into conversations and put out at the forefront that, 'oh, maybe they need to be kept away,'" Virat said at the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) Innovation Lab Indian Sports Summit.

"I want to be able to be normal. And then you can really treat your game as something that

is a responsibility. You finish that responsibility, and you come back to life. Like, there could be different situations happening in your life all the time. And that allows you to be absolutely normal. Not in a vague sense, but in a very real way that you finish your commitment, your responsibility, and then you come back to your house, you are with family," he added.

Saba went on to discuss the ongoing Indian Premier League. He expects new talent to emerge in the 18th edition of the cash-rich league, considering the likes of Ashutosh Sharma, Vignesh Puthur, and Vipraj Nigam grabbing the spotlight with their dazzling performances.

"We will see many more this season. It is just the beginning. I think this is going to be the most explosive season ever. Season 18 will find many new stars. They will create memories that we will cherish forever," he added.

Madhuri Kindo strives to fulfill brother's dreams through her hockey career

NEW DELHI, Mar 28 (Agencies): In a story of determination and familial bond, 23-year-old Madhuri Kindo, a rising star in Indian women's hockey, has once again been named in the core probable group of the ongoing Senior Women's National Coaching Camp.

This is the second time the Odisha-born goalkeeper has been selected for the prestigious camp, having first been included in 2024. While she is yet to make her senior team debut, Kindo is determined to carry forward the hopes and dreams of her family, especially her elder brother, Manoj, who was an accomplished hockey player at the national level.

Kindo's journey in hockey began when she was only eight years old, playing casually in her village of Kadobahal, Rourkela. Manoj, who is three years older than Madhuri, currently plays for the Army Hockey Team, and Kindo sees her career as a continuation of his legacy.

"I started by watching my elder brother, Manoj, who used to play hockey at the national level for Odisha. Watching him inspired me to pick up the stick. He couldn't fulfill his dream of representing India at the highest level, and now, through my efforts, I want to live that dream for him," she said, as quoted from Hockey



India.

Hailing from a humble background, Kindo's father is a farmer, and her mother a homemaker. Despite some minor financial challenges, her family has always supported her hockey career. "My father always believed in me, and my aunt (her father's sister) was the first one to encourage me to pursue hockey seriously. Without their backing, I wouldn't have come this far."

"My parents have always told me not to worry about the future but to give my best in the present. I want them to be proud, and I want people to know them because of me," she added.

Kindo's professional journey took shape when she joined the Panposh Sports Hostel in Rourkela in 2012, where she began honing her skills under the guidance of her coach, Amulya Nanda Bihari.

By 2021, she had broken into the Indian Junior Women's team, participating in international competitions, including the 2023 Junior Asia Cup, where the Indian team clinched Gold medal, and the 2023 Junior World Cup. Her performances in these tournaments earned her recognition and eventually led to her inclusion in the senior national camp in 2024.

Interestingly, Madhuri began her hockey journey as a defender, but her transition to goalkeeping came after one of her coaches at the Sports Hostel noticed her height and agility. Initially, the switch seemed intimidating, but she quickly found her footing in the role. Madhuri soon realised that goalkeeping wasn't just about physical skills; it required leadership and mental toughness—qualities she was eager to cultivate and embrace fully.

As a goalkeeper, Kindo has a unique perspective on the game and said, "Being the goalkeeper, you see the entire field, and I've learned how to handle my team, motivate them when we're under pressure, and encourage them to keep pushing."

One of her major learning moments came during her time in the junior team when she played a vital role in securing a gold medal in the Junior Asia Cup.

"Winning that tournament was a moment of immense pride for me, my family, and my entire village. After the victory, so many people from my village, including the Sarpanch, came to my home to congratulate my parents. It made me realise that I have the ability to bring pride to my family and that I can make my mark on the senior stage as well," she added.

Moreover, Madhuri's brother Manoj was overjoyed with the title win. As someone who had nurtured her love for hockey, he was filled with pride. "It felt like he was living his dream through me. He messaged me right away, saying how proud he was and that my success was like his own," Madhuri recalled.

Madhuri's dedication has already yielded memorable moments. In 2023, at the FIH Junior Women's World Cup,

Madhuri delivered four back-to-back saves in a tense penalty shootout against New Zealand, helping India secure victory.

"That moment made me believe in myself. Knowing I could stand strong when my team needed me most—it's something I'll never forget," she said.

Madhuri, who has represented Odisha in numerous national tournaments at various levels, idolises Indian Women's Hockey Team goalkeeper Savita, a living legend in the sport. "Savita di is my role model," Madhuri explains.

"When I was part of the junior camp, I would watch her play over and over again—her saves, her leadership, her composure. Even now, when I train with her, I'm learning so much about handling pressure and motivating the team. She's like an elder sister to me," she said.

Madhuri's short-term goal is clear: to make her debut for the Indian senior team. But her ambitions reach far beyond. "My dream is to win an Olympic medal for India. I want to play for as long as I can, and I want to give my parents and my brother the recognition they deserve. They've given me everything, and now it's my turn to give back," she concluded.

Yuva All Stars Championship: Sonipat edge past Jaipur, Yuva Mumbai split points with Yuva Paltan

HARIDWAR, Mar 28 (Agencies): Chandigarh Chargers defeated Yuva Yoddhas to qualify for the next round. The Sonipat Spartans and Warriorz K.C. won their respective matches, while the exciting contest between Yuva Paltan and Yuva Mumbai ended in a thrilling tie on Day 22, as per the Yuva All Stars Championship press release.

Sonipat Spartans beat Jaipur Pink Cubs 42-40 in the first encounter. The Pink Cubs picked up a few early points in the match, but the Spartans took a 20-17 lead at half-time. Sonipat inflicted an All Out on Jaipur to take a five-point lead, but the Jaipur-based club reduced the deficit to three

points following a Super Raid.

Both sides inflicted an All Out in the second half, but the Spartans had the last laugh, winning the match by two points. Ankit Kumar Rana was the pick of the Raiders with 13 raid points. Sonipat are second in Pool B with 54 points, while Jaipur are atop Pool A with 74 points.

The Chandigarh Chargers got the better of the Yuva Yoddhas in the second match. The Yoddhas were leading 23-16 at the end of the first half, courtesy of one Super Raid, one Super Tackle, and an All Out. The Uttar Pradesh-based club inflicted an All Out on the Chargers to take a nine-point lead, while Chandigarh inflicted an All Out



on their opponent to level the scores 30-30.

The scores were level at 39-39 with just over a minute to go on the clock. The Chargers bagged two points in the last four raids to win the match 41-39. Sawan Khatri was the star performer with 12 points. The Chandigarh are fourth in Pool B with 47

points, while the Yoddhas have retained the top spot with 59 points.

Later in the day, Warriorz K.C. came back from behind to beat Palani Tuskers 33-26. The Tuskers inflicted an early All Out on the Warriorz to take a seven-point lead, but the Bengal-based club took a one-point lead following an All Out on Palani. In the second half, the match went neck to neck just before the Tuskers got all out and handed Warriorz K.C. an eight-point lead. They held onto the lead comfortably and won the match by seven points. Punit Kumar was the star raider with nine points. Warriorz K.C. and Palani Tuskers are second and third in Pool A with 69 and

42 points, respectively.

In the Maharashtra Derby, Yuva Mumbai and Yuva Paltan played out a 34-34 tie. Mumbai got off to a quick start, picking up some early points and inflicting an All Out on Paltan. They were leading 18-13 at half-time. Pune inflicted an All Out in the second half to reduce the deficit to two points and inflicted another All Out to take a four-point lead.

They were leading for a long time, but Abhimanyu Raghuvanshi's successful raids towards the end forced the game into a tie. He was the star performer with 13 raid points. Yuva Mumbai and Yuva Paltan are third and fifth, respectively in Pool B.

Sat, Kavinder discuss present security situation in J&K Hail Modi Govt's Kashmir Policy as more Hurriyat Groups repose faith in New Bharat

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta on Friday met with BJP J&K President Sat Sharma and discussed the prevailing security scenario in Jammu and Kashmir, emphasizing the need for sustained vigilance and proactive measures to maintain peace and stability in the region.

In the meeting, the BJP stalwart lauded the Modi government's firm and strategic approach towards Kashmir, asserting that it has successfully brought even the staunchest separatists into the national mainstream. He welcomed the recent decision of two more Hurriyat groups to denounce separatism and place their faith in Modi-led Bharat, calling it a landmark shift in the region's political landscape.

Kavinder said "This development comes as a major breakthrough,



as only days ago, two other affiliates of the separatist conglomerate also distanced themselves from the ideology of secessionism. The BJP government has never compromised on the unity and integrity of the nation. Earlier, vested interests incited people, and certain governments even encouraged such elements. However, that atmosphere no longer exists. Today, Kashmir is witnessing an era of peace and stability, and the people are content. If individuals and groups

have realized the futility of separatism and wish to integrate with the mainstream, they are welcome."

Kavinder emphasized the importance of maintaining stability and ensuring that anti-national elements do not regain any foothold in the region. He reiterated that the progress achieved under the Modi government must be safeguarded against any attempts to disrupt peace.

The former Deputy Chief Minister emphasized that this transfor-

mation is a direct outcome of the unwavering commitment of the Home Ministry and the Government of India under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He credited the abrogation of Article 370, a stringent crackdown on terror funding, and the proactive outreach to all sections of society as key contributors to this paradigm shift.

Kavinder Gupta further asserted that the message is clear—Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India, and there is no space for

separatist narratives anymore. He expressed confidence that the ongoing peace-building measures would pave the way for greater development, economic prosperity, and long-term stability in the region.

Sat Sharma said that the days of political appeasement and turning a blind eye to anti-national activities are over.

The Modi government has ensured that the people of Kashmir are no longer held hostage by vested interests. The future of Jammu and Kashmir lies in peace, development, and national integration, he affirmed.

Sat Sharma urged the people of the region to continue supporting the government's initiatives aimed at fostering progress and prosperity. He reiterated that the BJP remains committed to safeguarding national interests while ensuring holistic development for Jammu and Kashmir.

Dimple leads anti-Pakistan protest Kathua terrorist attack



Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood Jammu Kashmir, led an intense anti-Pakistan rally on the National Highway BC Road, Rehari Chungi, in response to the tragic martyrdom of three Special Operations Group (SOG) personnel and injuries sustained by seven others, including a DSP, during a militant encounter in Sanyal village, Kathua.

Addressing the gathering, Dimple strongly condemned the loss of these brave soldiers and blamed Pakistan for waging a proxy war against India. He called for decisive action, urging the government to hand over Jammu and Kashmir to the army, as was done in 1990, to curb rising militancy.

Dimple expressed concern over Kathua district, including Billa-war, Basohli, and Bani, alleging that these areas have become militant hubs. He criticized the security forces' inability to stop militants from infiltrating into Indian territory and demanded stricter measures to prevent cross-border infiltration.

In a bold statement, Dimple announced a reward of Rs 10 lakh for anyone who would capture or kill wanted terrorist Hafiz Saeed. He also advocated for a full-scale war to reclaim Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK), Gilgit, and Baltistan, asserting that these regions should be reintegrated into India.

Dimple urged the Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police and security forces to launch an

"Operation All-Out" to eliminate ISI modules, sleeper cells, and militant operatives in the region. He criticized the BJP for its alleged failure to address the issues in Jammu and Kashmir over the past decade, claiming that militancy has escalated even after the abrogation of Article 370.

He called for liberation efforts in POK, Gilgit, and Baltistan, offering support to their people in their struggle for freedom and inclusion in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The rally witnessed participation from other senior leaders, including Happy, S. Harjiet Sunny Kumar, Rocky Kapoor, Narender Chowdhury, Sanjay Kumar, Sanjeev, Ashok Kumar, Gola Raja, and others, who echoed Dimple's demands and sentiments.

DFSS calls for unity against terrorism

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: In a heartfelt display of solidarity, workers of Dogra Front and Shiv Sena (DFSS), led by their president Ashok Gupta, organized a massive rally in Jammu city to pay homage to the brave police personnel who made the ultimate sacrifice defending the nation. The rally was marked by slogans of unity and respect for the martyrs.

"I bow to the valorous martyrs of J&K Police, who laid down their lives

for our motherland. My deepest condolences to their families," said Mr. Gupta during the rally.

He emphasized the need to dismantle the network of Over Ground Workers (OGWs) who provide logistical and local support to terrorists. "Without the OGW network, terrorists cannot sustain themselves or hide in jungles for long," he said.

Gupta further urged the nation to stand together, setting aside politics, to tackle the menace of terrorism. He advocated for a

strong offensive against Pakistan, which he accused of fostering terrorism in India.

"It is highly unfortunate that while Pakistan sends militants to spread fear, some individuals here advocate dialogue with the terror nation. As our Prime Minister Narendra Modi has stated, 'Terror and talks cannot go hand in hand,'" he added.

The rally saw the participation of prominent members of the party, including Abhishek, Ashish, Rahul, Ashu, Surinder, Prem, Rampal,

Naresh, Kunal, Bantu, Vikky, and many others, who expressed their

unwavering support for the security forces and their families.

ICAI announces Major Changes in Examination System - CA Final to be held thrice a year

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: In order to align with global best practices and provide students with greater opportunities, the 26th Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has taken a historic decision to hold the CA Final exam three times a year.

This examination was being held twice a year. Last year, ICAI took a decision to hold the Intermediate and Foundation course exams three times a year and now the CA Final exams will follow suit.

Now, all three levels—CA Final, Intermediate and Foundation will have an equal number of attempts each year, providing students more opportunities to sit in the exam.

These exams will be held in the month of January, May and September. Additionally, the Post Qualification Course

in Information Systems Audit will also undergo a transformation. Earlier conducted twice a year in June and December, the Assessment Test for this course will now be held three times a year - February, June and October, further increasing access and convenience for members.

On this decision of the Council, CA Charanjot Singh Nanda, President, ICAI said, "These epoch-making decisions will significantly benefit both students and members, offering them enhanced opportunities for success. This move marks a new era in the way we support and guide our future Chartered Accountants. ICAI is working 24/7 for the growth of its members and students. This historic decision will ensure that both students and professionals have abundant opportunities to excel in their careers."

Helping Hands Jammu's Scholarship students shine with outstanding marks

Top News Report

JAMMU, Mar 28: Helping Hands Jammu continues to support underprivileged students, particularly those without parents or from single-parent households, by providing them with educational scholarships.

This year, several scholarship recipients have achieved remarkable academic success, proving that determination and the right support can lead to excellence.

Among the top achievers, Pihu Gupta from JIMS, Jammu, secured

an impressive 98%, Jasmeet Singh from Akhnoor scored 86%, and Meenu Sharma from Cluster University achieved 64%. Many other students have also performed exceptionally well in their respective examinations.

Helping Hands Jammu remains steadfast in its commitment to empowering such students through continuous educational support.

The organisation is always ready to provide scholarships to deserving students so they can continue their education without financial burden.

On this proud occasion, the Founder of Helping Hands Jammu, Sourav Sharma shared a heartfelt message, "Education is the strongest tool for change, and we will always stand by these bright students. Their achievements inspire us to expand our scholarship programmes and support even more children in need." The organisation congratulates all the successful students and encourages society to contribute towards the education of underprivileged children, ensuring a brighter future for all.



Government Of India Certified Course

MASTER MATHEMATICS

with the Power of Vedic Maths

Enhance Your Child's Interest in Maths!
20+ years Experienced Trainer

100% LIVE

249 Days Course

Rs. 249/- only

249 Days of Learning
79 LIVE Classes
3 Sessions Per Week

- Speedy Calculations
- Mental Maths for class 5th onwards
- Creative Problem-Solving
- Helpful for all entrance exams (UPSC/PCS/CLAT/Banking/JEE/Army etc.)

Book Your Spot:
7087312888, 7087313888, 7087871871

Link in Description



SCAN QR CODE TO PAY