

TOP NEWS OF J&K

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Lifelong dream to be in a Jurassic movie: Scarlett Johansson

Parliament nod to Waqf Bill a 'watershed moment': PM Modi

Our ties with US will never be the same: Canada's Foreign Minister



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BRIEFLY

Body of drowned teen retrieved from Power Canal

SRINAGAR, Apr 4 (Agencies): A 17-year-old boy who drowned in the power canal at Haknar Fraw in Ganderbal was recovered on Friday, officials said.

They said that a team of Jammu and Kashmir Police, State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) immediately launched a rescue operation to retrieve the body. After several hours of relentless efforts, the body was retrieved from the canal.

The deceased has been identified as Junaid Ahmad Khan (17), son of Abdul Wahid Khan, a resident of Haknar.

Meanwhile, police have registered a case in this regard and investigation has been taken up.

20-Month-Old girl passes away after falling from second storey

SRINAGAR, Apr 4 (Agencies): A 20-month-old girl passed away after falling from the second storey of her home in Papchan, Bandipora of north Kashmir.

The baby named Fajar Fatima, daughter of Suhail Musavir Illahi, according to the family relatives, was referred to a Srinagar hospital from Bandipora but passed away during the intervening night after surgery.

The relative added the family was told by doctors who were operating on her that her survival chances were nearly zero. The toddler's relatives said she passed away during the intervening night.

Her demise has cast a pall of gloom over the area as residents are mourning the devastating loss. Fajar was their only daughter of the couple so far.

MeT Predicts Dry Weather in J&K from April 4-7

SRINAGAR, Apr 4 (Agencies): The Meteorological Centre Srinagar on Friday Predicted a mix of dry and wet weather over the next few days in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to MeT Centre, Kashmir will see generally dry weather from April 4-7, followed by cloudy skies with a possibility of light rain and snow in higher

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NC-led alliance passes resolutions against Waqf amendment bill, asserts authority of elected govt



SRINAGAR, Apr 4 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday chaired an emergency meeting of National Conference legislative party and the allies, in which resolutions were passed to condemn the Waqf amendment bill and the "encroachment" on the powers of the elected government.

"Two important resolutions were passed in the legislative party meeting chaired by Omar Abdullah," said Tanvir Sadiq while addressing reporters after the meeting held at the residence of deputy chief minister at

Gupkar. "We have condemned the Waqf amendment bill. It is against the minorities. Everybody opposed it in one voice. In the second resolution passed today, we have said that anyone undermining the mandate of the elected government is disrespecting the people and their mandate," he said.

Sadiq said that their coordination with the Lieutenant Governor and New Delhi should not be misread. "We are trying to maintain dignity in governance, but that should not be taken as a sign of political weak-

ness or submission," he asserted.

Congress leader Nizam-ud-Din Bhat, who also attended the meeting, told reporters that both long-term and short-term issues were discussed in detail. "Some senior leaders couldn't attend, but I was mandated to represent the Congress alongside other leaders," he said.

"All MLAs in the government stand firmly behind the leader of the House. On sensitive matters like the Waqf Bill and public mandate, there is unanimous agreement that these

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Congress to challenge Waqf bill soon in Supreme Court

NEW DELHI, Apr 4 (Agencies): The Congress on Friday said it will "very soon" challenge in the Supreme Court the constitutionality of the Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2024 that was passed in Parliament.

The Waqf (Amendment) bill was cleared by Parliament early Friday, with the Rajya Sabha giving its nod.

In a post on X, AICC general secretary Jairam Ramesh said, "The INC will very soon be challenging in the Supreme Court the constitutionality of the Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2024".

"We are confident and will continue to resist all assaults of the Modi Govt on the principles, provisions, and practices that are contained in the Constitution of India," he said.

Ramesh said the INC's challenge of the CAA, 2019 is being heard in the Supreme Court.

The INC's challenge of the 2019 amendments to the RTI Act,

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Veteran actor-director Manoj Kumar dies at 87 after battle with liver ailment

MUMBAI, Apr 4 (Agencies): Veteran actor and filmmaker Manoj Kumar breathed his last on Friday at the Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital. He was 87.

Reportedly, the medical reports reveal that Manoj Kumar's death was caused by cardiogenic shock resulting from an acute myocardial infarction, a severe heart attack. The reports also indicated that he had been struggling with decompensated liver cirrhosis in recent months, which had worsened his health.

The legendary actor



was admitted to the hospital on February 21, 2025, when his health deteriorated.

Dr Santosh Shetty, CEO and Executive Director at Kokilaben Ambani Hospital, said in an official statement, "Veteran actor Shri Manoj Kumarji passed

away peacefully at the Kokilaben Ambani Hospital early this morning at around 3:30 AM, due to age-related health issues. He had been hospitalized for the past few weeks."

Following the news of his passing, tributes quickly flooded in from celebrities, politicians, and fans alike. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also expressed his sorrow, mourning the loss of the legendary actor-director. Taking to his X handle, he tweeted, "Deeply saddened by the passing of legendary actor

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Six injured in road accident on Srinagar-Jammu Highway

SRINAGAR, Apr 4 (Agencies): At least six people were injured in a road accident on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway near the Mirbazar area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Friday.

Officials said a vehicle lost control near Mir-

bazar on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway and hit the divider.

Six people were injured in the incident and were immediately shifted to GMC Anantnag for treatment.

"The injured have been identified as Nusrat (40), wife of Mohammad

Jabar Kasina; Sirat Jan (9), daughter of Mohammad Jabir Kasina; Sajjad Ahmad (19), son of Manzoor Ahmad; Azraar (14), son of Mohammad Khalid; and Abrar (13), son of Mohammad Jabir — all residents of Bakergal Chack, Qazigund," they said.

Tourist rush to Srinagar gardens brings joy and jams

SRINAGAR, Apr 4 (Agencies): As thousands of local and non-local tourists are visiting Srinagar gardens, the massive flow of traffic has resulted in heavy traffic jams in Srinagar.

Residents have expressed dismay at facing major inconvenience due to traffic jams on a daily basis.

Officials said that since Eid days, thousands of tourists have visited the famous Tulip garden and Mughal gardens across Srinagar. They said that only on Eid days over 75 thousand visited the Tulip garden.



Officials said that thousands of vehicles ply on roads along Boulevard and Downtown to visit these gardens, which has made traffic management difficult.

"In the last 8 days, around 2 lakh tourists visited Tulip garden. With an increase in tourist flow, there is a huge influx of vehicles in other gardens, too, which fall

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Authorities inspect Srinagar-Katra track ahead of Vande Bharat train inaugural run



BANIHAL, Apr 4 (Agencies): The Northern Railway and USBRL officials today inspected the railway track stretch from Srinagar to Katra before the scheduled

inauguration of Vande Bharat train by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on April 19.

Officials inspected the railway track and other facilities from Srinagar

to Katra in a special inspection rail car.

The inspection team was led by GM Northern Railway Ashok Kumar Verma. He also reviewed the arrangements for the Vande Bharat train inauguration at major railway stations between Srinagar and Katra.

Railway sources said GM Northern Railway undertook an inspection of the railway track, and the inspection train run was carried out from Srinagar to Katra. Railway sources said

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STOP...! MOSQUITO BREEDING PREVENT MALARIA, DENGUE & CHIKUNGUNYA

- Do not allow water to stagnate in and around your surroundings.
- Keep water tanks and other water containers tightly covered with lids.
- Get your Blood tested from Govt. Hospital/ Health Worker in case of Fever with chills, rigors and headache.
- Empty water coolers once in a week.

- Discard/destroy Junk items like old tyres etc.
- Empty air coolers, drums, flower pots and birds bath weekly.
- Use Mosquito repellent creams and Bed nets while sleeping.
- Use netted screens on doors and windows.
- Wear full body clothes to prevent mosquito bites.
- Improve basic sanitation.

Symptoms

- Dengue** : High fever, frontal headache, pain behind the eyes worsening with eye movement, muscle & joint pains, rash on the body, pain abdomen, nausea, vomiting, bleeding and low BP in severe cases.
- Chikungunya** : Fever, joint pains, muscle pain, fatigue, headache, rash.
- Malaria** : High grade fever with chills, sweating, headache, vomiting convulsions, weakness.

Visit nearby Health Institution if any of above diseases is suspected. Investigations & Treatment are free of cost in Govt. Institutions



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DTP/1-62/25

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10TH DAY/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Sh. Shiv Kumar Sharma (Banathia)** S/o Late Sh. Ishwar Sharma resident of 545/2, Rani Talab, Digiana, Jammu who passed away on 27-03-2025 (Thursday).

10th Day will be performed on 04-04-2025 (Friday) at our residence.

Uthala will be performed on 05-04-2025 (Saturday) at Digiana Pully Park Temple Complex (near Police Post Digiana) from 16.30 hrs to 17.30 hrs.

Grief Stricken

Smt. Sushma Sharma (Wife)
Son and Daughter-in-Law

Col. Shishir Kumar Sharma and Lt. Col. Aditi Sharma

Daughter & Son-in-Law

Sh. Kunal Sharma & Smt. Bhawana Sharma
Sh. Ramnesh Sharma & Smt. Neha Sharma

Iszna, Amya, Riash, Aadish, Sanvi

M.No. 9055502220,9858616363



Sh. Shiv Kumar Sharma (Banathia)

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Sdn. Isher Kour Ji Wd/o Lt. S. Raghbir Singh Ji (Nagni Wale)** R/o Master Hakim Singh Colony, Camp Gole Gujral, Jammu on 28.03.2025.

Arambhta of Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 04/04/2025 at 09:30 am at our residence.

Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 06/04/2025 at 10:00 a.m at our residence.

ANTIM ARDAS will be performed at Gurudwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha, Munshi Chak, Gole Gujral Jammu on 06/04/2025 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Grief Stricken:

Sdn. & S. Kulwant Singh

(ex Gen. Secy. JKMTCC & Ex President Gurudwara Sachkhand Gole Gujral)

Sdn. & S. Jaspal Singh

Sdn. & S. Manmohan Singh (Former Dy. Comptroller, SKUAST-Jammu)

& All Nagni Family

Ph: 9796638300, 9697526242, 9419226131



Sdn. Isher Kour Ji

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and ultimate demise of our beloved **Dr Maninderpal Singh S/o S. Gurmeet Singh** Rl. Med. Deptt., who left for heavenly abode on 28-03-2025.

ARAMBH SRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB on 04-04-2025 (Friday) at 9:00 AM at our residence Moh Khorner near Pippa Wala Gurudwara Poonch.

BHOG SRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB on 06-04-2025 (Sunday) at our residence at 9:00 AM.

KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDAS will be held on 06-04-2025 (Sunday) at Gurudwara Sahib pital wala, Moh. Khorner Poonch from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM followed by Guru Ka Langar.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

S. Jodh Singh (Grandfather)

S. Gurmeet Singh (Father)

Sdn. Darshan Kour (Mother)

S. Ravinder Singh (Uncle)

Sdn. Indpreet Kour (Aunt)

S. Narinder Singh (Uncle)

Sdn. Jatinder Kour (Bhaji)

BROTHER AND BHABHI

S. Jasvinderpal Singh and Sdn. Manmeet Kour

Binaavret Kour (Sister) And S. Vardanveer Singh (Brother)

NIECE: Maviyn Kour



Dr Maninderpal Singh

TENTH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Late Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta** S/o Late Sh. Krishan Dutt (Master) (Chigli Chour, Ramnagar wala) R/o At Present Rathian Udhampur who left us for heavenly abode on 25th March 2025.

Tenth Day will be performed on 3rd April 2025 (Thursday) at 12:00 noon.

Kriya will be performed on 6th April 2025 (Sunday) at our residence Rathian, Udhampur at 10:00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Gayatri Devi (Wena) - Wife

Mr. Avneet Gupta - Son

Brothers & Sister-in-law

Sh. Girdhari Lal & Smt. Nirmla Devi

Late Sh. Jagdish Gupta & Smt. Charchala Devi

Sh. Bhushan Kumar & Smt. Karanjan Gupta

Sh. Sanjay Gupta & Smt. Kanu Gupta

Sister & Brothers-in-law

Late Sh. Girdhari Lal Gupta & Late Smt. Shakuntla Devi

Sh. Sudesh Gupta & Smt. Rama

Sh. Naresh Gupta & Smt. Sneha Lata

Contact Nos.: 9898541287, 969723519



LATE SH. ASHOK KUMAR GUPTA

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved **Sdn. Harjeet Kour Ji (Retd. Teacher)**, wife of the late S. Avtar Singh Tegh Ji (Retd. Bank Manager, Punjab & Sind Bank), resident of House No. 32, Sector 12, Guru Nanak Nagar, Jammu. She left for her heavenly abode on 30/03/2025.

Shri Akhand Path Sahib will commence on 04/04/2025 at 10:00 AM at our residence.

Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib will be held on 06/04/2025 from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM at our residence.

The Antim Ardas will be performed at Gurudwara Fateh Singh, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, on 06/04/2025 from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

S. Harbhajan Singh Tegh (Retd Dy. Director Horticulture) (Brother-in-law) & Sdn. Indrajeet Kour (Retd Teacher) (Bhabhi)

Sdn. Avneet Kour (Daughter) & S. Bhupinder Singh (Bhola)

Sdn. Baldeep Kour (Daughter) & LLS Dabir Singh (Mangu)

S. Jandarpal Singh Tegh, J.P (Son) & Sdn. Guneet Kour

Sdn. Pushajit Kour (Sister-in-law) & LLS Nihal Singh

Sdn. Sarabjit Kour (Sister-in-law) & S. Daljit Singh

S. Amarjeet Singh (Nephew)

Sdn. Surjeet Kour (Sister) & LLS S. Parameet Singh

Sdn. Charanjeet Kour (Sister) & LLS S. Gurmeet Singh

S. Satpal Singh (Brother) & Sdn. Rajinder Kour

S. Harinder Singh (Brother)

Grand Childrens: Gunveen, Simran, Kunwar, Avleen, Ronak, Aryan, Karan

Bhai Parivar and all Nears & Dears

Mob No: 9419192641, 7006618893, 9797778976



SDN. HARJEET KOUR JI (RETD. TEACHER)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and with great heart-felt sorrow it is to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Karamyogin Smt. Ram Rani W/o late Shri Ram Chand Pandita** on 01.04.2025 originally resident of Krangsoo Anantnag presently at H.No.84-A/1 Shastri Nagar near Godrej Service Centre, Jammu.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat on 09.04.2025 (Wednesday) and assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu at 11 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Sham Lal Pandita, Devar

Smt. Shama G w/o Late Sh. Kashi Nath Pandita, Devrani

Sh. Mohan Lal Pandita & Smt. Bita Pandita, **Son & Daughter in law--** 9149434475

Sh. Aular Krishna Pandita & Smt. Kiran Pandita, **Son & Daughter in law--** 7051132897

Sh. D. N. Pandita & Smt. Reeta Pandita, **Son & Daughter in law --** 8825016855

Smt. Nancy Kumari & Sh. Ashwani Kumar, **Daughter & Son in law --** 7006042069

Sh. Dalip Pandita & Bunty Pandita, **Grand Son & Grand Daughter in law--** 9015409584

AND SAMAST SHANKER PANDIT PARIWAR.



Karamyogin Smt. Ram Rani

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

MASWAR & VAHARWAR

One year have passed since you left us for heavenly abode, your love was a beacon that still shines brightly in our lives. We miss you every moment.

Your love was constant source of warmth and comfort for us. Praying to almighty for your eternal peace and lot of perpetual light shine upon you. **MASWAR and VAHARWAR** of Smt Dulari Peer W/o Lt Dr P N Peer of Vicharnag at present H No. 25 Lane No 3 Bharat Nagar Bantialab on 4th and 5th April respectively.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:

Smt Shoba Peer (Devrani)

Rohit Peer & Preeti Peer - **Son & Daughter-in-law**

Dr T K Bhat & Ratni Bhat - **Son-in-law & Daughter**

Smt Basanti Raina - **Daughter**

Sons-in-law & Daughters

Sunil Choudhary and Paritosh Choudhary

Vinod Bhat and Surekha Bhat

Ph. 9419131404, 6005637895



Smt Dulari Peer

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA SAHIB BANDAGI

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Dr. Kiran Bala Gupta** wife of Er. Rajesh Kumar Gupta who left for heavenly abode on 27 March 2025.

10TH DAY will be held on 5th of April 2025 (Saturday) at shri Amar Kshatriya Rajput Sabha Samba near Veer Bhoomi Park from 10 to 11 AM followed by Satsang

KRIYA will be performed on our residence at Ward No. 6 Samba at 12 Noon on 8th of April 2025 (Tuesday)

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Smt. Kamla Devi (Mother in law)

Er. Rajesh Kumar Gupta Retd. Xen (Husband)

Tushar Gupta (Son)

Daughter and Son in law

Dr. Sonakshi Gupta & Sajan Mahajan

Dr. Sonali Gupta & Sahil Sharma

Varinder Gupta and Snigdha Gupta (Brother in law & Sister in law)

Sister in law & Brother in law

Neelam Gupta and Suresh Gupta

Kanchan Gupta and Jugal Kishore Gupta

Uncle and Aunt

Yash Pal Gupta and Lalita Gupta

Baldev Raj Gupta & Urmila Gupta

Grand children's: Kabir, Arika



DR. KIRAN BALA GUPTA

CONTACT:- 9419233857, 7889911015, 9858501150

MASWAR & VAHARWAR

One year have passed since you left us for heavenly journey. Physically you are not with us but we all feel your presence in every moment of life. Your loving memories are still fresh in our hearts. We pray to Mahadev for eternal peace to noble soul.

MASWAR & VAHARWAR of our beloved **Late Smt. Jaikishori Pandita (Rani)** will be performed on 5th and 6th of April 2025 at our residence H.No. 49 lane 4/A Laxmi Vihar Tomal Bohri.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY

Sh Badi Nath Pandita -Husband

Rajni and Rajesh Pandita -**Daughter in law and Son**

Vijay Pandita -**Son**

& Samast Pandita & Ganjoo Parivar



Late Smt. Jaikishori Pandita (Rani)

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Kamta Koul W/o Shri Brij Lal Koul** on 30-03-2025 originally resident of Goja Mohalla Anantnag currently residing at H.No. 60, Manorama Vihar, Main Lane, Bohri.

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 08-04-2025 (Tuesday) at Akhnoor Ghat and **Assembly** will be held at Muthi Ghat at 11.00 am.

Grief Stricken

Sh. Brij Lal Koul- **Husband** (7051034248)

Sh. H.K. Koul & Chandan Koul (9419155802)

Sh. A.K. Koul & Veena Koul - (9419173531)

Sh. Vinod Koul & Poonam Koul (6005030317)

Sons & Daughter-in-Laws

Sh. Deepak Koul & Urmilla Koul (9858124266)

Sh. Dheeraj Koul & Nisha Koul (9312782588)

Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law

Sh. Behari Lal Koul & Kiran Koul (8275858917)

Daughter & Son-in-Law

Smt. Deepali Jad W/o Late Sh. Sanjay Jad (09336054966)



Smt. Kamta Koul

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved and respected mother **Smt Santosh Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. Pran Nath Bhat** originally resident of Nagam Chadoora Budgam. A/p 316 A, Shantidool Apartment Vasundhara Enclave New Delhi. Left for heavenly abode on 29-03-2025. (March 29th 2025).

10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 7th April 2025 (Monday) at Murad Nagar Ghaziabad at 6.00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Mr Ravinder Bhat & Dolly Bhat -**Son & Daughter in law**

Daughter in Law

Mrs Renu Bhat

Mrs Ritu Bhat

Daughters & Son in Law

Mrs. Jyoti Peer & Mr Ravinder Peer

Mrs Anjali Kaul -**Daughter**

Grand Children: Ankush, Esthaan, Anant, Shuhul



SMT SANTOSH BHAT

Samast Bhat Parivar

Contact Details: 9971711926, 8800459514,

9419211052, 9818673789.

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 Bishnah.

From:

Tickoo Pariwar

Contact No.: 7889356618, 8825080448



Sh Vinay Tickoo

TENTH DAY KRIYA/UTHALA

With deep sorrow & heartfelt grief, we regret to inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved **SH. ABHINANDAN ABROL**, S/o Sh. Mohan Lal Abrol, R/o H.No 195 Mast Garh Near Dhakki Sarajan (Link Road Chowk Parade) Near Lakshmi Narayan Temple, Jammu City, who left us for his heavenly abode on 28th March, 2025.

TENTH DAY will be performed on Friday 4th April, 2025 at 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

VENUE

Monthly Baithak organized by Music Deptt, IMFA, JU

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: The Music Department of the Institute of Music and Fine Arts (IMFA), University of Jammu (JU), organized its monthly Baithak on Friday at the Department of Dance, celebrating the rich cultural traditions of Indian classical arts.

The event was graced by esteemed Chief Guest Suresh Sharma, retired Session Judge, social worker, and receiver of Panchvaktar Mahadev Mandir, along with his wife, Prof. Shruti Sharma, a prominent educationist.

Deepak Kumar, renowned theatre artist, attended as the Special Guest. The occasion began with a solemn tribute to Padma Shri Manoj Kumar, the legendary film actor popularly known as Bharat Kumar, who passed away earlier today.

The Baithak commenced on a spiritual note as Vedic students from Panchvaktar Mahadev Mandir presented an enlightening Ved Path, emphasizing the deep connection between Indian classical music and the Vedas, especially the



Samaveda, which laid the foundation of musical notes and rhythm in Indian tradition. These sacred chants not only bring spiritual elevation but also stand as the earliest documented examples of structured sound and melody. This was followed by a series of vibrant performances by students from various departments.

Poojan Kumar presented a soulful vocal recital, while Raghav accompanied on the Tanpura. Danish Verma captivated the audience with his Sitar performance, and Hilal Farooq played a mesmerizing piece on the Violin. The rhythmic synergy of Peeyush Verma and Varun Kalo-

tra on Tabla added depth to the performances, complemented by Jatin Kumar on Harmonium. In the dance segment, Sonia and Manu showcased their expressive movements.

The event was eloquently anchored by Pragya Sharma. The aura of the occasion was enhanced by the Ved Path recitation by Rudransh, Naksh, Samarth, Rishi, Akhil, Rahul, Vidushi, Vishal, Pariksh, and Krishna.

The welcome address was delivered by Rajkumar Sharma, who emphasized the significance of sustaining these monthly cultural gatherings. The vote of thanks was presented

by Dr. Priya Dutta, Head of the Music Department, who highlighted how she, along with dedicated faculty members and with the support of Principal Prof. Shohab Malik, is working towards reviving and nurturing this age-old tradition of Baithak in an institutional setting.

Suresh Sharma, in his address, appreciated the efforts of the Music Department and encouraged the students to continue their artistic pursuits with dedication. He remarked, "It is heartening to see young artists deeply engaged in preserving our classical heritage. Such platforms are vital in fostering a cultural

renaissance."

Deepak Kumar, speaking on the occasion, emphasized the vital role of the IMFA Music Department in propagating, promoting, and spreading awareness about our rich cultural heritage among the masses.

He stated, "Music and performing arts are the soul of our tradition. Through these initiatives, we not only safeguard our heritage but also pass it on to the next generation in its most authentic form."

The event was attended by distinguished faculty members, including Dr. Sumeet Madan, Dr. Rishi Shaminotra, Bindu Sharma, Rajesh Kumar, Dr. Jasmeet Kour, Vijay Kumar, Shivani Kapoor, Chandhari Kesar, Amit Anand, Mohit Kumar, Prabhat Bali, and Ajay Kumar. On this occasion, certificates were also awarded to the participants in recognition of their performances. The Monthly Baithak once again proved to be a harmonious blend of music, tradition, and cultural learning, keeping the spirit of Indian classical arts alive among the youth.

Sawhney urges urgent action to address rising unemployment in J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: Anirudh Sawhney, State General Secretary, J&K Youth Congress, on Friday in a statement, expressed deep concern over the alarming unemployment crisis in Jammu and Kashmir, highlighting the region's staggering urban youth unemployment rate of 32%, the highest in India. He highlighted that unemployment is not just an economic issue; it's a crisis that threatens the future of our youth and the stability of our society. He demanded that the administration and government must address this crisis on a priority basis and provide relief to the youth of Jammu in the form of job creation and accessibility.

Speaking on the issue, Sawhney said that over 3.7 lakh young individuals are officially registered as unemployed in Jammu and Kashmir, and the situation is even more dire for highly educated youth, including PhD holders and postgraduates, who are struggling to find meaningful employment. He further empha-

sized the dire need for comprehensive reforms to address the root causes of this crisis. He pointed out that the lack of industrial infrastructure, limited private sector growth, and an over-reliance on government jobs have contributed significantly to the employment bottleneck.

The state general secretary further stressed that the youth of Jammu and Kashmir are talented, educated, and capable. However, the mismatch between their qualifications and the available job opportunities is creating a generation of frustrated individuals, he added.

"The stagnation in recruitment processes and the slow pace of government job vacancies are demoralizing, leading to brain drain and wasted potential." The number of jobs available and the accessibility to the available jobs are both lacking in J&K. Despite this, there has been zero wilful effort from the Centre to tackle this major issue. There has been no policy action directly centered at job creation. The youth congress in J&K urges the govern-

ment to wake up and recognise the need of the time and take immediate action.

While the government has launched initiatives like the "Mumkin" scheme for livelihood generation in the transport sector, Sawhney called for more robust and sustainable measures. He stressed the importance of skill development programs tailored to modern industries, along with strong support for entrepreneurship, to diversify the region's economy.

"To tackle this crisis effectively, there needs to be a collaborative effort between the government, legislators, and the local populace. We must focus on economic diversification, educational reform, and stringent measures to curb corruption," Sawhney urged.

The Youth Congress leader concluded with a call to action: "The youth of Jammu and Kashmir deserve better. It's time for decisive leadership and policy reforms to create opportunities, restore hope, and secure a brighter future for our young generation."

Waqf Amendment Bill to address mismanagement, irregularities, encroachments: Sat



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: The Waqf Amendment Bill will benefit the poor people from the community by the judicious use of Digitalized Waqf properties and their funds for the welfare of the community be it for education, healthcare, or religious purpose. On one hand, this law will prevent encroachments on Waqf land, this will also prevent its unlawful claims on other properties.

This was stated by Sat Sharma, President, J&K BJP, accompanied by Sunil Sharma, General Secretary, J&K BJP, & Leader of Opposition, Dr. Tahir Choudhary, Spokesperson, J&K

BJP, and Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge, J&K BJP while addressing a press conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

"New Waqf Amendment Bill seeks to ensure that Waqf properties are protected and used as intended. This will address mismanagement, irregularities, and encroachments", said Sat Sharma.

Sat Sharma, while addressing the media persons, said that the Waqf Amendment Bill has been passed in both the houses after a marathon discussion. He said that the majority of the Parliamentarians believed that this Bill is in the favour of the gen-

eral masses and will help the poor members from Muslim Community by the judicious use of Waqf properties.

"The multiple amendments in the Waqf Bill especially in 1995 and 2013, formed the very basis of this necessary amendment, as it gave rise to the inconsistencies in the functioning of the Board", said Sharma.

Citing examples, Sat Sharma said that Just before the 2014 general elections, Congress government transferred prime properties in VVIP Lutyens Zone to the Waqf Board. Congress government trespassed the rights of people to use those properties via the government for

the welfare of the general masses to benefit a few via the Waqf. Property under Northern railways was given to Waqf under the vote bank and appeasement politics of the Congress which was aimed to divide the nation.

In Karnataka, hundreds of acres of land were given on much less rent to benefit some. Similarly prime land was allotted on a rent of a few thousand rupees to build a five-star hotel. He said that while the Waqf lands should have been used for the welfare of the poor, it worked for some influential people. On many occasions, Mutawallis (caretakers) failed to perform their duties, didn't maintain any stocks, didn't digitize, didn't maintain records and never took substantial steps to remove the encroachments on Waqf lands.

After 2013, this law also enjoyed superpowers under which it could claim any land and the aggrieved could not approach the appropriate Court of Law against the Waqf Tribunal, Sharma said and added that the Bill proposes that no person can

create a Waqf unless they are lawful owner of property.

This amendment bill has been brought to overcome such major aberrations to facilitate the effective functioning of Waqf Board, maintain the proper digitalized records of Waqf properties and protect the rights and the lands of aggrieved people.

Sharma, also congratulated the people, especially the poor population from Muslim community, who will be ben-

efited the most with this amendment bill as from now on the judicious use of Waqf properties, and their income will be utilized for the Muslim welfare measures by opening educational institutions, hospitals, orphanages etc.

He charged the opposition parties of politicizing the issue and asked them to recount upon the benefits of this amendment for the poor people from the Muslim community and those who were victimized.

NC propaganda cannot conceal betrayal of people: BJP



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: High-intensity propaganda unleashed by the National Conference government regarding fulfilling its poll promises is backfiring. Aimed at manipulating public opinion through techniques like repetition, emotional appeals, and publicity messaging is

a not delivering desired result for the government and the party as people remember quite the promises made by NC during the poll campaign and through its manifesto. Former MLC and spokesperson Girdhari Lal Raina said in his press statement.

Recalling how the National Conference manifesto had promised to "Provide one lac jobs to youth" besides passing "the Jammu and Kashmir Youth Employment Generation Act" within the first three months of government formation. However, there is no sign of keeping this promise

made to the youth even after six months of running the government, he stressed.

Similarly, GL Raina reminded that commitment was made to Provide "200 units of free electricity" and pay "Rs5000 to female heads of EWS" along with 12 cylinders free of cost per year. Again, NC in its manifesto promised to enhance the old age and widow pension to Rs3000. Instead of keeping its promise NC has betrayed people's trust

Increasing medical allowance of pensioners and family pensioners from existing Rs 300 to

Rs 1000 per month was also promised, stressed former MLC. The NC government has failed the citizens of Jammu Kashmir on all these fronts, he added.

Instead of providing relief the people have been overburdened with an increase in petrol and diesel charges that has a cascading impact on the economy in all its forms. GL Raina cautioned people against fake propaganda and demanded relief for the people of Jammu Kashmir particularly from the price rise and asked the NC government to roll back the steep rise in bus fares.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Dy. Chief Elect. Engineer/Const., Northern Railway, Jammu for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tender under Single Packet System for the under noted work:

Tender Notice No.	17-Elect-C-BDGM-SL-25
Name of Work	Internal/External Electrification work of sick-Line shed at Budgam Railway station, laying of cables, poles etc. in connection with USBRL Project.
Approximate Cost of the Work	Rs. 59,09,759.64 (Including GST and all other taxes)
Completion Period	06 (Six) Months
Bid Security to be deposited	Rs. 1,18,200.00
Sale/availability of tender document on Rty. Website	Tender documents will be available on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 05.04.2025.
Last date/time of uploading of tenders	30.04.2025 upto 15.00 hours. Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS web site.
Date/Time of Opening of tenders	30.04.2025 at 15.00 hrs. (Immediately after close of uploading of tender).
Detailed Tender Notice & Tender document	Tender Notice is available on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in from 05.04.2025 and the tender document will be available for uploading of offers on IREPS website from 16.04.2025 to 30.04.2025. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tender are given in the tender document. Only e-tenders will be accepted and tenders submitted in any other form will be summarily rejected. The detailed notice also can be seen on Notice Board of the above office.

No.: 17-Elect-C-BDGM-SL-25 Dated: 03.04.2025 1011/2025
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICE CITY JAMMU
Tele/FAX NO. =01912578774 EMAIL ID: ssptrf@jmu@jkpolice.gov
PUBLIC NOTICE FOR RAM NAVMI SHOBHA YATRA ON 05.04.2025.

On the eve of RamNavmi, a traditional Shoba Yatra (Shri Raghu Nath Ji Jhanki) is being taken out in Jammu city on **05.04.2025 at 1630 hours**. The Shoba Yatra will start from Shri Raghu Nath Ji Temple and will pass through the following routes

ROUTE OF THE SHOBHA YATRA
"Shri Raghunath Ji Temple - Residency Road - Rajinder Bazar - Kanak Mandi - City Chowk - Purani Mandi - Link Road - Jain Bazar - Chowk Chabutra - Pacca Danga - Moti Bazar - Gita Bhawan - Ranbireswar Temple - Shalamar Road - City Chowk and will culminate at Shri Raghu Nath Ji Temple."

A large number of devotees/prominent citizens are expected to accompany the Shoba Yatra and for hassle free passage of the Shoba Yatra, the below diversions shall be applied as per the ground requirement on spot by Traffic Police with the assistance of Local Police.

1. Vivekananda Chowk	Traffic bound for Raghunath Bazar will be diverted from Vivekananda Chowk to other routes during the Shobha Yatra.
2. City Chowk	Traffic from City Chowk bound for Kanak Mandi will be diverted to other routes till Shobha Yatra crosses City Chowk.
3. Library Chowk	Traffic will be diverted from Library Chowk to Civil Secretariat Jammu during the Shobha Yatra.
4. Parade	During the time of Shobha Yatra traffic will not be allowed to move from Parade to Shalamar and will be diverted to other routes.

In view of route to be opted by organizers of Shoba Yatra, vehicular movement enroute shall be plugged and remain restricted to ease out the traffic pressure for smooth /hassle free movement of religious procession by the Traffic Police.

The public in general and motorists in particular are advised to follow the traffic diversions/restrictions as well as cooperate with the Traffic Police. Motorists shall avoid movement on the routes mentioned above during the Shoba Yatra and plan their travel accordingly through alternate routes to reach their destinations without any confusion. Inconvenience to General Public is regretted.

To know the exact location and movement of the Shoba Yatra and for any traffic related assistance, Traffic Control Unit (TCU) Jammu may please be contacted on following numbers: **-0191-2459048, 94191-47732, 103.**

DIP/J-36/25
Sd/-
Sr. Superintendent of Police,
Traffic City, Jammu
No: - TPOJ/PA/Public Notice/2025/9846-50
Dated: - 02.04.2025

EDITORIAL

Welcome to New Session

The dawn of a new session is more than just a date on the calendar—it is a threshold, a gateway to endless possibilities. It whispers promises of fresh beginnings, renewed energy, and the boundless potential of the unknown. As we step into this chapter, let us embrace the journey with open minds and eager hearts, ready to weave another tapestry of learning, growth, and transformation.

Each session marks a rebirth, a clean slate upon which we etch our aspirations, ambitions, and dreams. It is an opportunity to refine our goals, to mend what was broken, and to build upon the foundations we have laid before. The past may have been a mix of triumphs and trials, but here we stand, resilient and ready to embrace what lies ahead.

This new session is not just about new books, fresh notebooks, and neatly organized schedules. It is about igniting curiosity, fostering creativity, and nurturing the fire within us. It is about challenging ourselves to go beyond the ordinary and step into the extraordinary.

Growth is not merely about acquiring knowledge; it is about evolving into the best versions of ourselves. Every lesson learned, every discussion engaged in, and every challenge faced adds another layer to our wisdom. Knowledge is not just a collection of facts but a lantern that illuminates our path toward understanding the world and ourselves.

Learning is a lifelong adventure. It is not confined to classrooms or lecture halls but thrives in conversations, experiences, and the curiosity that drives us to seek answers. This session, let us cultivate a mindset that sees challenges as opportunities, failures as stepping stones, and perseverance as the key to success.

A journey without direction is like a ship lost at sea. This is why setting clear and achievable goals is crucial. What do you wish to accomplish this session? Do you aim to master a subject, develop a new skill, or cultivate habits that bring you closer to your dreams? Setting goals, both big and small, gives us a roadmap to follow and keeps us accountable to our aspirations.

Intentions go beyond mere objectives. They are the driving forces behind our actions. As we move forward, let our intentions be pure, our purpose clear, and our dedication unwavering. With the right mindset, there is no limit to what we can achieve.

No journey is meant to be walked alone. This session, let us recognize the value of collaboration, of learning from and with each other. Knowledge shared is knowledge multiplied. By engaging in discussions, exchanging ideas, and offering support, we create an environment where growth is collective, and success is shared.

Encourage those around you, uplift your peers, and create a culture of respect and curiosity. Every person you meet has a story to tell, a lesson to teach, and wisdom to impart. Embrace diversity in thoughts and perspectives, for it is in differences that we find strength.

Every session comes with its fair share of challenges—unexpected hurdles, demanding schedules, and moments of self-doubt. But within every challenge lies the seed of resilience. The greatest lessons are often learned in moments of struggle, and true growth comes from perseverance.

Whenever the road ahead feels tough, remind yourself why you started. Recall the passion that brought you here and the dreams that fuel your journey. Keep moving forward, for persistence is the bridge between aspirations and achievements.

The beauty of a new session lies in its infinite potential. It is a canvas waiting for your brushstrokes, a novel with blank pages eager for your story. Envision the future you desire and work toward it with unwavering dedication.

This session is not just another academic term, another routine to follow. It is an opportunity—a chance to evolve, to inspire, and to leave a mark on the world in your own unique way.

So, as we step into this session, let us do so with confidence, curiosity, and an unshakable belief in our potential. Let this be a season of learning, of dreaming big, and of turning aspirations into reality.

Market of interference in agricultural product

By: Vijay Garg

India is not looking in favour of opening the market of its agricultural product despite US pressure. In fact, more than seventy crore population of India is dependent on agricultural produce, milk production, fish farming and other sea product. However, the Indian government gives free grain, food subsidy and farmers six thousand rupees per annum as a grant in terms of strengthening their economic status. The basic base of India's seventy-five economy is agriculture and its associated products. Now the US is pressuring bilateral talks over India in this perspective. America wants | is that Indian markets open for agricultural product and they also have a lower fee. If India makes any such agreement, Britain and the EU will also pressurize for the free trade agreement (FTA). The EU has desired a fee deduction on 'cheese' and other milk product. It's a great pleasure to have you. But external interference in agriculture for India is a sensitive issue, as our farmers are not in a position to compete with foreign capitalists. Agriculture in India is not just economic activity but also a cultural way of living. While the US and European countries consider agriculture as an industry of profits. According to a report, the US agricultural exports were \$176 billion in 2024, which is about 10% of its total trading exports. The US and other developed countries with large-scale mechanized farming and heavy government subsidies see India as an attractive market to expand its exports. While India is protected its agriculture sector by welfare schemes of medium to

high fee to protect farmers from unfair competition means to make the agriculture sector free baja market, reducing import restrictions and charges. Opening agriculture to foreign imports with external subsidies would mean, cheap food products coming to India. This openness will severely impact the income and livelihood of Indian farmers. The same pressure was created by the World Trade Organization (WTO) on India in the 2022 Geneva meeting. Even the US and other European countries had strongly opposed the agricultural subsidy given to Indian farmers. These countries want farmers who are being given financial help of six thousand rupees annually and buying grains at a minimum support price, India to close it immediately. In fact, countries believe that because of the subsidy, Indian farmers have been able to produce plenty of rice and wheat and India has been able to produce their has become a leading country. Apart from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates, Indonesia, Philippines and Nepal, 68 countries import wheat from India. India exports rice to one and a half hundred countries in the world. This richness of India has not been dried eye to America.

In fact, 10% of the gross crop product price was determined based on international prices of 1986-88. The floats have jumped manifold in the past three and a half decades. Hence rescheduling of this limit is also necessary. That was the round, when the concept of globalized economic liberalism in a very short span of time proved that it was a measure of collecting maximum profits by promoting consumerism. TFA's Subsidiary bet, has been given a vision to further add to

the corresponding profits of the industrial country and their multinational companies, so that consumerist items can be sourced bypassing the resources of the livelihood of the helpless man. The result of similar unicorn and contradictory policies of the neoliberalism is that the gap between the rich and the poor continues to grow. Actually, native and foreign industrialists invest capital in two areas. One, in the manufacture and distribution of consumerist equipment, this is the key source of two areas Dhanarjan in the exploitation of another natural wealth. Developed countries like the US are also opposing the subsidy given on manure and electricity to farmers in India. These countries are also troubled by the frequent hikes in India's fishing and export of its meat. With economic help to fish keepers, it has added to its production and fish spinach have started equalizing in the competition of meat exports in the global market against the developed countries. That's why the US wants to ban the Indian fishermen who get the Subsidy. The look of the U.S. and European countries also rests on Indian milk and milk product trade. The largest company in the world's milk business is the lactail of France. It has bought Hyderabad's 'Tirumala Dairy'. Oil company of India, Oil India is also entering it, as this business of milk is growing every year at the rate of 16%. The US is also in the power of the milk co-products made in its country in India. It's a great pleasure to have you. Although she hasn't got success at the moment. Indeed, overcoming India's agriculture and dairy industry is among America's priorities, so that it will be occupied by the big and basic need market here. Therefore, the

companies associated with GM technology and the greedy chand agricultural scientists of wealth rely on the guarantee of the Marfat food security of this technology by making excuses for becoming self-reliant in the world, including India. But in this perspective, India needs to think that our food grain production has increased by five times in the last two and a half decades without using GM seeds. The production of grains and fruit-vegetables has wildly increased without GM seeds in Madhya Pradesh. That's why Madhya Pradesh has been consistently awarded agricultural Karman Samman for the last several years. Obviously, our traditional seeds are of ha advanced variety and they are able to produce plenty of crops. That is why farmers are now being asked to cultivate the traditional seeds of cotton. Instead of cultivating from genetic amplified seeds, h need to make proper arrangements for storage.' Due to the absence of this, millions of tonnes of food grains are rotten from lying in the open every year. Underlining all these facts, Swaminathan had said that his infa-loss needs to be judged honestly before the technological adoption. Nonetheless, the U.S. Indian agriculture and milk business need to avoid malicious intent to grab.

*(Vijay Garg Retired
Principal MALOUT
Punjab)*

'Bin Tere Bechain'—A unique story of love, passion, and mental turmoil in Haryanvi cinema

By: Dr. Satyawan Saurabh

The film reflects the changing landscape of Haryanvi cinema, which is moving beyond traditional stories and attempting new themes. 'Bin Tere Bechain' focuses on love addiction and its negative effects, with the lead character losing herself in her passion.

The film not only presents an entertaining story but also highlights the dark side of love. Its music, especially the title track, connects deeply with the emotions of the audience. Haryanvi cinema is no longer limited to comedies and traditional love stories but is also focusing on psychological and social aspects.

The film raises questions on love addiction and mental instability, making it not just a love story but also a psychological journey. It can be viewed on the STAGE app. It adds a new dimension to Haryanvi cinema and forces the audience to think about whether their love is truly balanced or has become an addiction.

The Haryanvi film industry is gradually breaking its boundaries and moving beyond traditional stories. In this direction, 'Bin Tere Bechain' is a unique film that explores the addiction of love and its deep effects. This film is made under Rajrahi Productions, and its hero is Vinod Mehra (VM Bechain).

The changing landscape of Haryanvi cinema

Traditionally, Haryanvi films have primarily focused on rural life, humor, and cultural values. But in recent years, the industry has started focusing on new stories and modern issues. 'Bin Tere Bechain' is part of this new wave, which attempts to examine an untouched subject—love

addiction. The film is not just a simple love story but also shows the passion and instability that can sometimes ruin people's lives in the name of love.

A different story, a different perspective

Usually love stories are limited to romance and a happy ending, but 'Bin Tere Bechain' takes an unusual path. The film shows that love is not just happiness but can also become an addiction—an obsession that can disconnect a person from reality. The film presents this dark side of love and obsession in a very impressive way.

The main character of the film is a man who is ready to go to any extent to get his love. But as the story progresses, he finds himself trapped in a world where love only causes pain and suffering. This story depicts the reality of many people who lose themselves in love and even erase their identity.

Music—a combination of pain and passion

The title song of the film 'Bin Tere Bechain' has already made a place in the hearts of the audience due to its sensitive melody and deep lyrics. Available on SoundCloud and YouTube, this song beautifully expresses the passion and pain of love. The music of the film adds more depth to the emotion of the story.

Music has a special significance in Haryanvi cinema, as it is the most effective medium to connect the audience to the story. The songs of this film are not just made for entertainment, but they also reflect the theme and emotion of the film. Apart from the title track, other songs in the film also connect the audience emotionally.

New face of Haryanvi cinema 'Bin Tere Bechain' is a new

experiment for Haryanvi cinema. It is not just entertainment but an experience that makes the audience think. This film is a clear indication that Haryanvi cinema is no longer limited to comedy and traditional narratives, but it is also ready to embrace new and unusual subjects.

Looking at the growth of the Haryanvi film industry, it won't be wrong to say that it is now gearing up to compete with Bollywood and other regional cinema. Films like 'Bin Tere Bechain' are proof of this change, showing that there is no dearth of diversity and innovation in Haryanvi cinema either.

Love addiction—an overlooked aspect

Most love stories portray love as a positive emotion, but this film focuses on the intoxication and addiction of love. This is a subject on which very few films have been made. Love addiction is a real problem that is usually ignored.

Many people fall so deeply in love that they forget about their career, family, and even their own identity. This film serves as a warning and makes the audience think about whether their love is really making them happy or just harming their mental and emotional stability.

The characters and their depth in the film

The lead character in the film is shown as a complex and deep personality. The character is completely in love, and her world revolves only around her lover. But as the story progresses, we see that her obsession slowly destroys her.

The villain of the film is not an outsider but the mindset and addiction of the main character himself. It is a unique perspective that forces the audience to think

about who the real enemy is—society, circumstances, or their own desires?

See and decide for yourself.

If you want to watch a film that is different from the conventional stream of Haryanvi cinema, then 'Bin Tere Bechain' might be for you. You can watch it online on the STAGE app and experience for yourself how deep and unique this journey of love can be.

The cinematography, background score, and acting of the film make it a complete experience. If you are interested in emotional stories and psychological themes, then this film will definitely be a great choice for you.

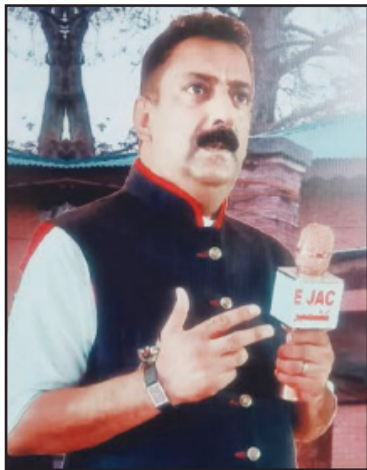
conclusion

Bin Tere Bechain is not for everyone—it is for those who have the courage to understand the shadows of love. The film focuses more on the bitterness of love than its celebration, and that is what makes it special. It is not just a love story but also a psychological journey that highlights various aspects of love and its addiction.

What is your opinion about this new experiment in Haryanvi cinema? Do you think that more such films should be made that are different from the traditional pattern?

*(Dr. Satyawan
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Increase monthly honorarium of Anganwadi workers, fulfillment of other demands: Aijaz Khan



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 4: The Employees Joint Consultative Committee (EJCC), the largest joint platform of employee organizations, has welcomed the government's decision to form a high-level committee to resolve the issue of regularizing temporary employees within six months. The EJCC emphasized that until a final decision is taken, the Minimum Wages Guarantee Act should be implemented for all such employees. EJCC Chairman Aijaz Ahmad Khan also demanded an increase in the monthly honorarium of Anganwadi workers

and urged the government to address the issues related to employees' GP Fund. He welcomed the implementation of the Minimum Wages Guarantee Act for temporary employees of the Waqf Board.

According to a statement issued by the EJCC spokesperson, an important meeting of the Employees Joint Consultative Committee was held at the central office in Srinagar under the chairmanship of Aijaz Ahmad Khan. The meeting was attended by the presidents of all employee organizations affiliated with the union.

Several key members, including Shabir Ahmad Langu, Sajjad Khwaja, Khalid Mahmood, Javed Ahmad Akhooon, Abdul Qayoom Baig, Munir Falgroo, Peer Nisar, Rahmatullah Khan, Saleem Sagar, Javed Ahmad Bhat, Farooq Ahmad Kawa, Shabir Ahmad Bhat, Farooq Ahmad Rather, Javed Ahmad Malik, Hamidullah Trumboo Riaz Ahmad Kar, Fida Muhammad, Mukhtar Ahmad Wani, Ghulam Nabi Ganai, Abdul Qayoom Lone, Sabya Ji, Aamna Ji, and Azmat Iqbal, participated in the meeting.

Following extensive discussions and consultations, EJCC

Chairman Aijaz Ahmad Khan addressed the meeting, stating that as a significant forum, they welcome Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's announcement in the assembly regarding the formation of a high-level committee to regularize daily wagers, casual laborers, and other temporary employees working in various government departments. The committee has been given six months to submit its recommendations.

Aijaz Khan stressed that until the final decision is taken, the Minimum Wages Guarantee Act should be implemented for all such employees. He reiterated the demand for an increase in the monthly honorarium of Anganwadi workers and urged the resolution of pending GP Fund issues. He highlighted that many employees' GP Fund issues remain unresolved despite the Chief Minister setting a March 31 deadline for their resolution.

Furthermore, the EJCC chairman demanded that the government implement the Old Age Pension Scheme for employees and restore SRO-43 to its original form. He also called for the reorganization of all government departments and made it man-

datory for department heads to hold at least two DPC (Departmental Promotion Committee) meetings annually.

Aijaz urged the government to include teachers appointed in government schools under the leave benefits. Referring to the Chief Minister's statement in the assembly regarding the salary hike for Members of the Legislative Assembly, he emphasized that the concerns, difficulties, and demands of government employees should also be addressed.

He concluded by stating that during the important meeting, it was decided that the forum would wait for one month for the government to fulfill all the legitimate demands of temporary and permanent employees. The EJCC remains hopeful that the government will resolve all long-standing and rightful demands of the employees within the stipulated time.

He further added that the Employees Joint Consultative Committee (EJCC), as the largest platform for employee organizations, does not favor protests. However, if forced, they will take to the streets again to highlight their demands and grievances.

HSS congratulates PM on passing of Waqf (Amendment) Bill

Hindu Temple Board should be formed for maintenance of temples : Vikrant

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: State President of Hindustan Shiv Sena (HSS) Vikrant Kapoor has praised the passing of Waqf (Amendment) Bill and Muslim Waqf (Abolition) Bill by the Parliament and congratulated PM Modi for this.

Along with this, he said that the Central Government should form a Hindu Temple Board for the maintenance of Hindu temples. He described the passing of the Waqf Bill in both the houses of Parliament as an important step towards socio-economic justice in India.

Vikrant said this while addressing a press conference in Jammu. "The Waqf Amendment Bill was passed on Wednesday amid a fierce debate between the ruling party and the opposition members in the Lok Sabha. In Rajya Sabha too, this bill was passed amidst heated debate between the ruling party and opposition members. In the voting held on this in Lok Sabha, a total of 288 votes were cast in its favour while 232 MPs voted against it whereas Rajya Sabha approved this bill with a majority of 128 votes against 95," he said.



He said that the passage of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill and the Muslim Waqf (Abolition) Bill by both the Houses of Parliament is an important moment for socio-economic justice.

Slamming the opposition for opposing it to mislead Muslims, Vikrant said that it will be beneficial for Muslims.

He further said that these reforms will bring long-pending transparency in the Waqf system. He said that the law passed by Parliament will promote transparency and also protect the rights of the people.

He advised the opposition not to cross the limits of appeasement to serve their political interests and said that the opposition should not try to mislead Muslims regarding this bill.

He said that many opposition parties including Congress, Trinamool Congress,

Samajwadi Party and AIMIM have termed it anti-constitutional.

Vikrant said that this will benefit poor Muslims. Calling it a historic day, he said that now not only poor Muslims will get the benefit of this but people of OBC and Pasmada communities will also get representation in the Waqf Board. Now this bill will be sent to President Draupadi Murmu for her approval before it becomes a law.

He said that he will also write a letter to PM Modi to congratulate him on behalf of Hindustan Shiv Sena and will also request him to constitute a Hindu Temple Board for the maintenance of Hindu temples.

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

Dr. Touseef Bhatt to receive Prestigious J.K. Gaurava Samman 2025

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 4: The Jammu & Kashmir Zenith Book of World Records announced that Touseef Bhatt, a distinguished environmentalist and sustainability advocate from Srinagar, has been selected as the Honorable Awardee of the J.K. Gaurava Samman 2025 in the Environmentalist category. The award ceremony will be held on 6th April 2025 at the iconic Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC),

Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir.

Dr. Touseef Bhatt is being recognized for his groundbreaking contributions to environmental conservation, climate resilience, and community-driven ecological initiatives in Jammu & Kashmir.

His pioneering work in promoting sustainable practices, safeguarding fragile ecosystems, and empowering local communities has set a benchmark for environmental stewardship in the region. From spearheading afforestation

drives to advocating for waste management reforms, Dr. Bhatt's efforts have left an indelible mark on Kashmir's environmental landscape.

The JK Gaurava Samman, instituted under the aegis of the Jammu & Kashmir Zenith Book of World Records, honors individuals and organizations that demonstrate exceptional achievements and set new benchmarks in their fields. The 2025 edition underscores the critical role of environmental sustainabil-

ity in shaping a resilient future.

Rajesh Verma, Spokesperson, Zenith Book of World Records, remarked, "Dr. Touseef Bhatt embodies the spirit of innovation and dedication that the J.K. Gaurava Samman seeks to celebrate.

His work transcends boundaries, merging scientific rigor with grassroots action. We are privileged to recognize his contributions as a beacon of hope for environmental conservation."

In response, Dr. Tou-



seef Bhatt shared, "This honor is not just a personal milestone but a testament to the collective efforts of countless individuals striving to protect our planet. I dedicate this award to My Family and friends and the communities of Jammu & Kashmir, whose resilience inspires my work every day."

CO, 7 J&K Bn NCC visits GDC Langate, GHSS Langate to inspire youth



Top News Report

KUPWARA, Apr 4: In a significant move to strengthen community ties and inspire youth participation in NCC, the Commanding Officer (CO) of the 7 Jammu & Kashmir Battalion NCC, Kupwara, paid an official visit to Government Degree College (GDC), Langate & GHSS Langate on Friday.

The visit was aimed at reinforcing the core

values of the National Cadet Corps (NCC), including unity, discipline, leadership, and service to the nation. Addressing the cadets and students, the Commanding Officer emphasized the importance of youth engagement in national development.

"The youth have a vital role in shaping the future of our community and nation," he said. "The NCC provides a platform to build strong leaders, foster unity between

citizens and discipline among the cadets."

During the interactive session, the Commanding Officer enlightened the audience about the activities and opportunities provided by NCC. He encouraged the cadets to uphold high standards of discipline and teamwork. He highlighted the NCC's role in grooming cadets and preparing them to take on leadership roles in various sectors of society especially armed forces.

The visit also served to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of the college staff and NCC officers in the region. The Commanding Officer extended his appreciation to them for their unwavering commitment and emphasized the importance of collaboration in imparting quality training to the cadets.

In addition to its focus on unity, leadership and discipline, the NCC in Kupwara continues to actively promote adventure, sports and physical fitness among youth. Through various adventure and sporting events and activities, the

organization is fostering a culture of healthy competition and encouraging cadets to explore the world and achieve their goals.

The visit marked a meaningful step in build-

ing a stronger connection between the armed forces and the academic community, reinforcing the NCC's mission of shaping disciplined, patriotic and responsible citizens.

Yoga Session organized by GDC Marheen

Top News Report

MARHEEN, Apr 4: A Yoga Session and practice of Pranayams was organized by the Department of Physical Education of GDC Marheen under the banner of Fit India Movement.

The event was organized under the benign supervision of Prof (Dr) Anupama Gupta, Principal of the College.

She encouraged and supported the volunteers by saying that Yoga is beneficial for our health and day to day routine work which would reduce the tension, stress and work pressure and we should make society neat and clean which would

create healthy atmosphere in the society.

They also added that yoga practice shall develop positive atmosphere among the masses which would also pave the way of society for improving of health standard. A large number of students actively participated in the event.

The event was organized under the supervision of Dr. Balbinder Singh (Physical Director) and he briefed about the objectives behind organizing these programmes in the college. The event was managed by Prof. Sandeep Chaudhary, Dr Arun Dev Singh, Dr. Munisha Devi, and Prof Manu Saini.

KDP Wing of DPAP demands justice for PM Package Employees

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 4: In a strong statement advocating for the rights of Prime Minister's Package (PM Package) employees, the Kashmir Displaced Pandit (KDP) wing of the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) has called for the abolition of supernumerary posts and demanded equal treatment with State/Union Territory (UT) government employees.

In a joint declaration, KDP President Sanjay Dhar, Chairman Piaray Lal Pandita, General Secretary Raj Kumar Ticku, Youth President Naveen Gosani, and other leaders emphasized the urgent need to merge all PM Package posts with the state exchequer. They highlighted the ongoing disparity between PM Package employees and regular UT government staff, despite both categories serving the administration shoulder to shoulder.

The leaders have pressed for immediate amendments to SRO-412 (dated 30.12.2009) by revising specific clauses that currently enforce unequal service conditions.

They stressed the necessity of parity in eligibility criteria, promotions, seniority, bonding rules, and overall service benefits in accordance with Civil Service Rules applicable to UT government employees.

They further condemned Government Order No. 34 (JK DMRRR, dated 01.07.2022), arguing that it unfairly undermines the seniority and promotional prospects of PM Package employees by treating supernumerary posts as temporary positions.

Calling for the revocation of this order, they demanded the complete abolition of supernumerary posts and their integration into the permanent state/UT government cadre.

The statement also urged the government to either remove the bonded service rule—which compels PM Package employees to work exclusively in the Kashmir Valley—or discontinue the attachment procedure for employees from "approachable white-collar families."

The KDP leadership also appealed for job reservations for Kashmiri Hindu

families who remained in the Valley post-exodus. They lamented that no government since 2014 has adequately addressed their concerns and expressed hope that the present administration would uphold their fundamental rights by providing employment opportunities with relaxed eligibility norms.

Another major demand put forth was the expedited completion of transit accommodations for PM Package employees.

The leaders urged the Divisional Commissioner of Kashmir and the Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants) to ensure the possession of transit accommodations within the next two months, particularly for those who received allotments between September and November 2024.

The statement also emphasized the necessity of improving living conditions in transit camps, urging the authorities to provide proper fencing, inner roads, drainage, and sanitation, regular water and power supply, and government-run medical centers and fair-price ration stores.

Furthermore, the leaders called for the immediate implementation of Order No. 03 (RRCM, dated 04.11.2023), which approves the election of Resident Welfare Associations (RWA) in each transit camp.

They asserted that forming RWAs would safeguard employees from exploitation by certain influential figures within their ranks.

Reiterating their core demand, the leaders once again urged the central and UT governments to merge PM Package employees with the regular State/UT government workforce.

They stressed that treating these employees fairly would strengthen their role as a bridge for the rehabilitation of the displaced community in the Valley and end the ongoing injustice regarding seniority, pensions, permanent status, SRO-43 compassionate considerations, and due promotions.

With these urgent demands, the KDP leaders have appealed for swift governmental intervention to secure the rights and welfare of thousands of displaced employees who continue to serve in the Kashmir Valley.

In Kesari Chapter 2 trailer, Akshay brings legal battle after 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre to life

The much-awaited trailer of Kesari Chapter 2 was launched in Delhi, offering the audience a gripping glimpse into a lesser-known chapter of India's freedom struggle. Starring Akshay Kumar as C Sankaran Nair, the film sheds light on the lawyer's daring legal battle against the British Crown in the aftermath of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

At the grand trailer launch event, producer Karan Johar described the film as an emotional tribute to India's history. "What you're about to see is more than just a film—it's a story close to our hearts. Everyone knows about the 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre, but very few know about the battle fought in court by a brave man named C Sankaran Nair," he said.

The event saw the presence of key members from the film's team, including actors Akshay Kumar, Ananya Panday and R Madhavan, as well as debutant director Karan Singh Tyagi. Also in attendance was Raghu Palat, the great-grandson of C Sankaran Nair and the author of The Case That Shook The Empire, the book on which the film is based.

The trailer opens with a powerful courtroom scene where Nair, played by Akshay Kumar, directly confronts Colonel Reginald Dyer, the British officer responsible for ordering the firing at Jallianwala Bagh on April 13, 1919. The scene sets the stage for a high-stakes legal battle, with Nair determined to hold the British accountable.

One of the most striking



moments in the trailer shows Nair challenging General Dyer, who attempts to justify the massacre. "What weapons did you see in the hands of eight-month-old babies? Their kadas? Or their clenched fists?" Nair demands, delivering a powerful blow to the British officer's defence.

Personal touch
Akshay Kumar, visibly moved by the film's subject, shared a personal connection with the story. "This is a very personal film for me. My father was born just opposite Jallianwala Bagh and my grandfather witnessed the events. I've heard these stories first-hand and I feel a deep responsibility to bring this story to the audience," he said.

He also highlighted how history books often only mention the massacre, but fail to acknowledge the legal battle that followed. "We all read about the

Jallianwala Bagh tragedy in school, but what we don't know is that someone dared to take on the British in court. That part of history deserves to be told," he added.

Ananya Panday portrays barrister Dilreet Gill, who joins Nair's legal team in his fight against the British, while R Madhavan plays Neville McKinley, the lawyer defending the British Crown. This marks Madhavan's second, consecutive, negative role after Shaitaan.

Explaining his choice, Madhavan said, "When I take up a role, I look at the purpose of the film. This isn't just a story about a case—it's about one of history's biggest genocides and those responsible must be held accountable. I didn't see my role as negative or positive; I saw it as a character that needed to be portrayed truthfully."

Akshay's fiery dialogue, "We

are suing the Crown for genocide," stands out in the trailer, setting the tone for a courtroom battle filled with high drama.

The teaser released prior to the trailer had shown Akshay's character using an abuse, which was also brought up. Addressing this, he said, "Yes, I abused. But what's surprising is that people noticed this, yet didn't consider 'you are still a slave' to be a bigger insult. There can be no greater insult than that." His response received applause from the audience, with producer Karan Johar nodding in agreement.

More than a tale
Directed by debutant Karan Singh Tyagi, Kesari Chapter 2 is produced under the Dharma Productions banner. Tyagi, a Harvard-educated lawyer and a member of the New York State Bar, brings a deep understanding of legal battles to the film.

Karan Johar described the film as more than just a tale of legal bravery. "A man from Kerala fought for justice in Punjab—this is a story not only of bravery but of unity," he said.

With its powerful dialogues, intense courtroom drama and historically significant narrative, Kesari Chapter 2 promises to be more than just a period film—it aims to be a movement in storytelling. The film is set to hit theatres on April 18, bringing to life the forgotten fight of a man who took on the British Empire in a battle not fought on the battlefield, but in the courtroom.

Lifelong dream to be in a Jurassic movie: Scarlett Johansson



Actress and singer Scarlett Johansson shared updates about Jurassic World Rebirth at the CinemaCon 2025.

She unveiled details, footage and never-seen-before photos in the latest installment in the Jurassic film franchise, which first kicked off more than 30 years ago with Jurassic Park.

"It has been a lifelong dream to be in a Jurassic movie for the last 15 years. Each time I heard

that they were making a movie, I'd reach out and you know, say 'I'm available here'," said Johansson, noting that she was open to playing any character.

The Jurassic World franchise is gearing up for its next big blockbuster with the release of the first trailer for Jurassic World: Rebirth, scheduled to hit the theatres on July 2.

Directed by Gareth Edwards, Jurassic

World: Rebirth is based on a script by David Koepp, who wrote the original Jurassic Park film, with characters created by Michael Crichton. The actress appreciated the director for making the film as 'realistic and authentic as possible', and shooting for the film in 'real isolated locations'. The director said he wanted the audience to feel like the movie is a 'roller coaster ride'. The film, set five years after the events of Jurassic World: Dominion (2022), explores a world where Earth has become increasingly inhospitable for dinosaurs.

As a result, the surviving species are isolated in environments resembling those in which their breeds once thrived. A team of scientists is tasked with acquiring genetic samples from three of the planet's most colossal creatures, one from the sea, one from the land and one from the sky. These creatures hold the potential to provide vital genetic material for a life-saving drug for humans. Starring Jonathan Bailey, Scarlett Johansson, and Mahershala Ali, the film brings a fresh dynamic to the Jurassic World franchise.

Chhorii 2 trailer out

The trailer of the highly anticipated sequel to the 2021 horror hit Chhorii, titled Chhorii 2, has been dropped and it promises an even more intense supernatural experience.

Starring Nushratt Bharuccha in a fierce new role, the film explores the dark depths of folklore, gender disparity and a mother's unyielding devotion to her daughter. The trailer opens with a chilling narrative as Nushratt's character tells her daughter a haunting tale of a vast kingdom where a king, enraged by the birth of a daughter, orders his daasi to kill her.

The storyline quickly shifts to nerve-wracking visuals, showing Nushratt's relentless struggle to protect her child from the evil daasi, played by Soha Ali Khan, and other paranormal forces that threaten their lives.

Soha's menacing transformation in the



trailer has already captured the audience's attention. Directed by Vishal Furia, who also helmed the original film, Chhorii 2 promises to elevate the horror experience with a riveting blend of fear, suspense

and social commentary. The film is set to premiere worldwide on April 11. The sequel also features Gashmeer Mahajani, Saurabh Goyal, Pallavi Ajay, Kuldeep Sareen, and Hardika Sharma in key roles.

Comedian Vir Das to debut as author with his memoir The Outsider

Stand-up comedian and actor Vir Das has announced his debut as an author with the memoir The Outsider. The International Emmy-winning comedian shared the news on Instagram, where he posted a video that showcased various chapters of his life, career and identity. "I wrote a book! For all The Outsiders... For some reason, I have seen more of the world, and been let into more worlds, than anyone I know.

Laughter has truly saved my life. I hope to show you how funny and beautiful this world is. It hits shelves soon, but you can order it now in my profile," he wrote. Through the book, which will be published by Simon & Schuster, Das will take readers on a journey through his life, highlighting moments of self-discovery, heart-



break, failure and laughter.

The memoir recounts several key incidents from Das' life, including a moment when he was stranded on a pier in Cozumel, Mexico, after his cruise ship left without him due to visa issues. Born in India, Das spent his early years moving between India and Lagos, Nigeria, and often felt like an outsider. "I've had a strange life that took me across the world more than anyone I know. I don't know how one ends up being the Indian kid in Nigeria, the African kid in boarding school, the boarding school kid in Delhi Public School, the Delhi kid in Galesburg, the Chicago guy in Alabama, the America-return in Mumbai, the Bollywood guy in comedy, the stand-up comedy guy in Bollywood, the Bolly-

wood guy in Indie Music, and the Indian in American comedy," Das said.

"All I know is, when you are blessed enough to step into all those worlds, you write a book about it. I hope to take you across the world through the eyes of a fortunate fool," he added. Das has performed in six stand-up specials — Abroad Understanding, Losing It, For India, Vir Das: Inside Out, Vir Das: Outside In and Vir Das: Landing, which won him an International Emmy for best comedy series.

He has acted in movies such as Badmaash Company, Delhi Belly, Go Goa Gone and Shaadi Ke Side Effects, as well as shows like Whiskey Cavalier, Fresh Off the Boat, Hasmukh and Call Me Bae. Das is currently on his Mind Fool world tour, taking his comedy to 33 countries.

RJ Mahvash says she isn't romancing Yuzvendra Chahal; shares thoughts on dating in this era

Indian cricketer Yuzvendra Chahal has been the subject of a lot of attention on social media recently due to his changing personal life.

Following his divorce from Dhanashree Verma, Chahal has been at the center of various rumors regarding his love life. The speculation grew when he was seen with RJ Mahvash, an Instagram influencer, at the ICC Champions Trophy final.

However, Mahvash dispelled the rumors by confirming that she is currently single. In a podcast, she shared

that she doesn't believe in casual dating, having experienced an engagement that ended.

"I am very much single, and I don't understand the concept of marriage in today's time," she said. She went on by saying, "I am someone who would date only when I have to marry. I don't go on casual dates because I will only date someone I want to get married to. I am that person, like in the film Dhoom, who sees his wife and kids behind the bike." "Shaadi ka concept samajh nahi aa raha hai (I don't understand the concept of



marriage), so I have put a halt to it."

Mahvash shocked listeners by revealing that she got engaged at 19 but ended the relationship when she was 21. As a result, she prefers not to rush into relationships that don't seem to have long-term potential. Speaking about the engagement, she said, "I was engaged at the age of 19, and I called it off at the age of 21. Growing up in a small town like Aligarh, our only conditioning was that we needed to find a good husband and get married. That used to be our goal."

'Panchayat' makers announce Season 4 as series clocks five years



The much-loved web series 'Panchayat' turns 5. The show, which first premiered on Prime Video on April 3, 2020, has won the hearts of viewers ever since its release.

Now, as the series marks its 5th anniversary, fans have received the news they were eagerly waiting for: 'Panchayat Season 4', which is set to release on July 2 of this year.

Prime Video, took to its Instagram account to share a promotional video featuring actors Jitendra Kumar, Jia

Manek, and internet sensation Darshan Magdum.

Panchayat Season 4, produced under the banner of The Viral Fever (TVF), is created by Deepak Kumar Mishra, written by Chandan Kumar, and directed by Deepak Kumar Mishra and Akshat Vijaywargiya.

The series stars Jitendra Kumar in the lead as the endearing Sachivji, alongside an ensemble cast including Raghubir Yadav, Neena Gupta, Sanvikaa, Chandan Roy, Faisal Malik, Durgesh Kumar, Sunita Rajwar, and Pankaj Jha in pivotal roles.

Earlier this year, in May, the third season was released on OTT.

In Panchayat Season 3, the story delves deeper into village politics and corruption, focusing on elections and the struggles of the villagers, particularly the lack of a proper road. The season also explores themes of grief, community, and unity.

Parliament nod to Waqf Bill a 'watershed moment': PM Modi

He said India would now enter an era where the framework would be more modern and sensitive to social justice

NEW DELHI, Apr 4 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday hailed the passage of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill in Parliament as a "watershed moment" in the country's collective quest for socio-economic justice, transparency and inclusive growth.

He said this would particularly help those who have long remained on the margins, thus being denied both voice and opportunity.

In posts on X, he said the waqf system for decades had been synonymous with the lack of transparency and accountability, especially harming the interests of Muslim women, poor Muslims and Pasmanda Muslims.

He said, "The passage of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill and the Mussalman Wakf (Repeal) Bill by both Houses of Parliament



marks a watershed moment in our collective quest for socio-economic justice, transparency and inclusive growth." He added that the legislations passed by Parliament would boost trans-

parency and also safeguard people's rights.

PM Modi said India would now enter an era where the framework would be more modern and sensitive to social justice.

He said, "On a larger note, we remain committed to prioritising the dignity of every citizen. This is also how we build a stronger, more inclusive and more compassionate India." The Prime Minister thanked all members of Parliament who participated in the parliamentary and committee discussions, voiced their perspectives and contributed to the strengthening of these legislations. He offered special thanks to the countless people who sent their valuable inputs to the Parliamentary committee.

He said, "Yet again, the importance of extensive debate and dialogue has been reaffirmed."

The Rajya Sabha passed the Bill last night, a day after the Lok Sabha had given the contentious draft law, opposed strongly by a united opposition, its approval.

Shah hails Parliament's approval for Waqf Amendment Bill, says it ends years of injustice



NEW DELHI, Apr 4 (Agencies): Parliament's approval for the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025 ends years of injustice and corruption, ushering in an era of justice and equality, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Friday.

Shah's comments came hours after the Rajya Sabha gave its nod to the bill.

The Lok Sabha approved the bill on Thursday.

"Today is a historic day, when Parliament has approved the 'Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025', ending the era of years of injustice and corruption and ushering in an era of justice and equality," he wrote on 'X' in Hindi.

The home minister said through the bill, the

Waqf Board and Waqf properties are going to be more accountable, transparent and equitable and this will benefit the poor, women and children of the Muslim community.

"I congratulate the Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi and the Minister of Minority Affairs Shri @KirenRijju for this important bill that gives justice to crores of people. Also, I express my heartfelt gratitude to all the parties and MPs who supported it," he said.

The bill seeks to strengthen Waqf tribunals and reduce to 5 per cent from 7 per cent the mandatory contribution of Waqf institutions to Waqf boards.

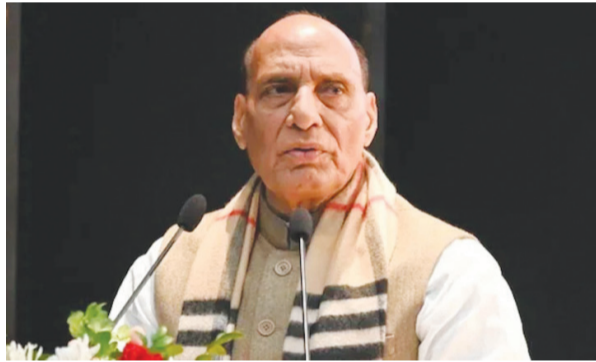
Waqf institutions earning over Rs 1 lakh will undergo audits by state-sponsored auditors.

Rajnath Singh to inaugurate 1st edition of Naval Commanders' Conference tomorrow

NEW DELHI, Apr 4 (Agencies): The first edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference 2025 is scheduled to begin tomorrow in Karnataka's Karwar and will be held in two phases. The conference aims to address critical operational and administrative issues and chart the future course for the Indian Navy.

Phase I of the conference will flag-off on April 5, followed by Phase II from April 7-10. The biannual conference will bring together senior Naval Commanders to discuss key strategic, operational, and administrative matters, with a focus on India's role in regional security.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will flag-off the Indian Ocean Ship Sagar and commence the session at Karwar. The ship, part of an initiative aimed at strengthening cooperation with Indian Ocean Region (IOR) nations, will see the deployment of INS Sunayna along with a combined



crew from India and nine foreign countries—Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, and Tanzania.

Following the flag-off, the Defence Minister will inaugurate maritime infrastructure and facilities under Project Seabird. He will then be given an update on the Indian Navy's operational readiness and future outlook.

The second phase of the conference, taking place in New Delhi, will feature an extensive review of various aspects, including operations, logistics, human resource development, training, and adminis-

tration. Senior military leadership, including the Chief of Defence Staff, Chief of the Army Staff, and Chief of the Air Staff, will also participate in discussions to enhance synergy between the three services. The Naval Commanders will engage with Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri and India's G20 Sherpa, Amitabh Kant, to address matters related to foreign policy and international relations.

The Navy's ongoing efforts towards modernisation, indigenisation, and self-reliance will be a key focus during the event, aligning with the Government's vision of 'Aatma Nirbharta'.

Dr Jitendra launches indigenous 'Trainer Aircraft' technology, private sector to collaborate

NEW DELHI, Apr 4 (Agencies): Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh today officially launched indigenous "Trainer Aircraft" technology for Commercial Pilot Licensing (CPL) and also announced the decision to involve the private sector to collaborate in the manufacture of this aircraft.

At a ceremony held at National Media Centre here, the Minister formalised the Transfer of Technology (ToT) of CSIR's indigenously designed and developed HANSA-3(NG) trainer aircraft for Commercial Pilot Licensing (CPL) at the National Media Centre, New Delhi. The licensing of the HANSA-3(NG) two-seater trainer aircraft has been granted to M/s Pioneer Clean Amps Pvt. Ltd.

Dr. Jitendra Singh lauded the efforts of CSIR scientists for the successful demonstration and commercialization of the indigenous HANSA-3(NG), noting that the aircraft will fulfill the requirements of flying clubs in providing PPL (Private Pilot License) and CPL (Commercial Pilot License) training to the young generation.

The Minister emphasized the need to develop a large and world-class flying training ecosystem in India to meet the rapidly growing demand of the Indian aviation sector. The availability of CSIR's indigenous HANSA-3(NG) aircraft will strengthen India's aviation industry and help realize Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji's vision of India becoming a leading aviation hub by the end of the decade and achieving the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Dr. Jitendra Singh highlighted the huge opportunity for StartUps and MSMEs, along with significant employment generation potential through the indigenization of aviation technologies. He emphasized that indigenous small aircraft manufacturing under the "Atmanirbhar Bharat" initiative would support the development of infrastructure



and promote small & medium-scale private entrepreneurs in the production of airworthy components, including assembly and integration of aircraft in India.

He also pointed out the socio-economic potential of this initiative, which will create employment opportunities through on-the-job training for ITI & Diploma holders in various disciplines of aircraft building and Aircraft Maintenance Engineering (AME) training.

Dr. Jitendra Singh reaffirmed the government's focus on democratization and decentralization of pilot training, which will reduce the cost of pilot training and give wings to the aspirations of youth, many of whom give up on their dream of becoming pilots due to affordability issues.

He stated, "Success in Space Economy by collaborating with the private sector will now be replicated in the aviation sector to meet the growing demand."

India will need 30,000 pilots over the next 15-20 years, up from the current 6,000-7,000 pilots, as Indian airlines collectively have over 1,700 aircraft on order. Currently, India's commercial aircraft fleet stands at over 800 aircraft. Typically, each aircraft requires 15-20 pilots for narrow-body aircraft and 25-30 pilots for long-range wide-body

jets. Hence, there is an urgent need to create a world-class flying training ecosystem in the country. Dr. Singh also credited Union Minister for Civil Aviation Shri K. Ram Mohan Naidu for enabling growth in the sector.

Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Shri K. Ram Mohan Naidu, complimented CSIR and CSIR-NAL scientists for their commitment towards the commercialization of the HANSA-3(NG) aircraft, following his recent visit to CSIR-NAL in October 2024.

The HANSA-3(NG) aircraft comes equipped with a digital display (glass cockpit) system and is powered by an advanced fuel-efficient Rotax 912 iSc3 Sports engine. The aircraft features a bubble canopy with a cabin width of 43 inches and electrically operated flaps, meeting modern user requirements. It offers excellent performance with a range of 620 nautical miles, 7 hours of endurance, and a maximum cruise speed of 98 Knots Calibrated Airspeed (KCAS).

Dr. N. Kalaiselvi, Secretary, DSIR & Director General, CSIR, while congratulating the scientists, said that the successful flying demonstration of HANSA-3(NG) at Aero India 2025 reflects CSIR's unwavering commitment to developing indigenous technologies to meet the national need. These efforts aim to serve end customers like Flying Training Organizations (FTOs), ensuring a complete ecosystem for commercialization of CSIR technologies.

CSIR-NAL has received Letters of Intent (LOI) for 110+ HANSA-3(NG) aircraft from FTOs across the country. To meet the domestic demand and export potential, CSIR-NAL has partnered with M/s Pioneer Clean Amps Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, who will set up a manufacturing facility aiming to build 36 aircraft per year, with plans to scale up to 72 aircraft annually, in alignment with the goals of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Waqf amendment bill will help check land encroachment, corruption: Adityanath

LUCKNOW, Apr 4 (Agencies): Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday said the passage of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2025 is a significant step towards resolving issues related to waqf properties, and eliminating illegal encroachments and corruption.

In a post on X, Adityanath congratulated everyone on the bill's passage under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"This bill will prove effective in addressing problems related to the management of waqf properties and in freeing them from illegal occupation and corruption," he wrote.

Expressing gratitude to Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, he said the move would strengthen the country's sovereignty and serve the welfare of the people.

Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya also lauded the development, calling it a historic decision and a major reform under Modi's leadership. He said the biggest beneficiaries of the amendment would be poor Muslim families.

Drawing parallels with the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A, the construction of the Ram temple, and the abolition of triple talaq, Maurya stated that the bill would put an end to corruption and ensure justice for the needy.

He further described the amendment as a significant step towards making India an economic powerhouse under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

Taking a swipe at critics of the bill, he remarked that those opposing it today would eventually recognise its long-term benefits and seek an apology.

Parliament early



Friday approved the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, after the Rajya Sabha gave its nod to the contentious legislation following an over 13-hour debate.

The discussion witnessed staunch objections from opposition parties, which termed the Bill "anti-Muslim" and "unconstitutional" with the government responding that the "historic reform" would benefit the minority com-

munity. The Bill was passed in the Rajya Sabha with 128 members voting in favour and 95 opposing it. It was passed in the Lok Sabha early Thursday, with 288 members supporting it and 232 against it.

Parliament also approved the Mussalman Wakf (Repeal) Bill, 2025, with the Rajya Sabha approving it. The Lok Sabha has already given its nod to the Bill.

Widely abused neurological drug formulations worth over rs 5 cr seized in Punjab in 2024

NEW DELHI, Apr 4 (Agencies): The Food and Drugs Administration of Punjab Government last year seized drug formulations containing pregabalin worth Rs 5.97 crore from 72 premises, Union Health Minister J P Nadda told the Lok Sabha on Friday.

Pregabalin is a widely abused neurological drug. The drug is used to treat epilepsies but some people use it for recreational purposes.

In a written response to a question, the Minister also said that licenses of 12 firms were cancelled while licenses of 46 firms suspended and 11 complaints filed in the courts

"As informed by the Food and Drugs Administration (Drugs Wing, Punjab), the Government of Punjab is aware about the increasing misuse and trafficking of pharmaceutical drug pregabalin," he said.



In a letter on February 28, the Food and Drug Administration had issued instructions to drugs manufacturer, clearing and forwarding agents, wholesale chemists and retail sale chemists of the state to mandatorily submit information, report regarding the sale and purchase of pregabalin and other six types of drugs over and above sale and purchase of fixed limit in a single invoice to the drugs control officers of the area

concerned. Regulatory control over the sale and distribution of drugs is exercised through a system of licensing and inspection by State Licensing Authorities (SLAs) appointed by the State Government.

SLAs are empowered to take action in case of violation of regulatory provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules 1945.

Isolated complaints are received from time to time on the sale of

prescription drugs without prescription and the same are forwarded to the State Licensing Authorities (SLAs) concerned for appropriate action, Nadda said.

The Drugs Consultative Committee (DCC) under Section 7 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 is the advisory committee to advise the Centre, state government and the Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) on any matter tending to secure uniformity throughout India in the administration of the Act.

The DCC in its 65th meeting held on December 20, 2024 deliberated the matter related to misuse of pregabalin and its preparation and its inclusion in Schedule H1 of Drugs Rules, 1945 to monitor the sale of drugs only on the prescription of a Registered Medical Practitioner, Nadda said.

Ready to help, PM Modi tells Myanmar's Senior General as his country recovers from earthquake

BANGKOK, Apr 4 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday told Myanmar's Senior General Min Aung Hlaing that India was doing everything possible to assist the nation in recovering from the aftermath of a massive earthquake that killed several thousands.

Modi met Senior General Min, the head of Myanmar's military government, on the sidelines of the Summit meeting of the leaders of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral and Technical Cooperation (BIMSTEC) grouping.

"Met Senior General Min Aung Hlaing of Myanmar on the sidelines of the BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok. Once again expressed condolences on the loss of lives and damage to property in the wake of the recent earthquake. India is doing whatever is possible to assist our sisters and brothers of Myanmar in this critical time," Modi wrote on X.

This was the Prime Minister's first interaction with Senior General Min, who came to power in a military coup in February 2021.

"We also discussed bilateral relations between India and Myanmar, particularly in sectors like connectivity, capacity building, infrastructure development



and more," he said.

Sources said the Senior General thanked the Prime Minister for the relief assistance.

He also appreciated the Prime Minister's reconstruction work and leadership during the Bhuj earthquake in Gujarat and the learnings for Myanmar and others from it, sources said.

The BIMSTEC grouping is a regional initiative involving countries in India's neighbourhood along the Bay of Bengal rim.

India has launched Operation Brahma to help relief efforts in the earthquake-hit Myanmar, where a military coup in February 2021 brought Senior General Min to power.

During the 35-minute meeting,

the Myanmar ruler appreciated the speed at which India sent in assistance immediately after the March 28 earthquake.

"We are ready to help," the Prime Minister is learnt to have conveyed to Senior General Min.

India has deployed military field hospitals in Mandalay, which was near the epicentre of the earthquake.

A senior official of the Myanmar administration also visited the hospital set up by India in Mandalay.

India has also deployed its National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) personnel who are assisting in the relief work in Myanmar.

Myanmar is considered a cog

in the wheel for the success of BIMSTEC, whose key aim is to promote connectivity between the member nations.

All the key projects to connect the member nations pass through Myanmar where the local administration has little control in the different regions of the country.

The massive earthquake opened an opportunity for Myanmar to engage with the global comity of nations as it seeks humanitarian assistance to recover from the earthquake.

Over 3,000 people have died in the Myanmar earthquake, nearly 5,000 have been injured, and over 370 remain missing nationwide.

Senior General Min also attended an official dinner for leaders of the BIMSTEC nations that also includes Thailand, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

The Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs said BIMSTEC members discussed disaster management during ministerial meetings on Thursday.

While China has quantified the aid it has despatched to Myanmar, India has maintained that it does not believe in putting a monetary value to the humanitarian aid it extends to countries in times of crisis.

Four dead, dozens injured in Russian drone strikes on Kharkiv

KYIV, Apr 4 (Agencies): Russian drone strikes killed at least four people and injured more than 30 in the eastern Ukrainian city of Kharkiv, authorities said Friday.

Russia and Ukraine have stepped up aerial attacks even as US President Donald Trump pushes them to agree to a ceasefire after more than three years of costly fighting.

The attack late Thursday targeted residential and office buildings in Kharkiv, causing several blazes, Ukraine's state emergency service said on Telegram.

"Russia drones attacked one of the districts of Kharkiv. As a result of strikes at residential buildings and an administrative building, four fires broke out," the emergency service said.

The city's mayor Igor Terekhov said on Telegram that as of Friday morning, "unfortunately, there are already four dead", with a fourth body "unearthed from under the rubble" in addition to three earlier fatalities.

Ukraine's state emergency service and Oleg Syneubov, governor of the wider Kharkiv region, said 35 people were wounded in the attack, while Terekhov put the figure at 32.

Six other people were injured in the Ukrainian regions of Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia and Kyiv, according to local authorities who blamed Moscow.

Dnipropetrovsk regional governor Sergiy Lysak said on Telegram that 13 drones had been "destroyed" in the region. "Due to the massive drone attack, there is damage in Dnipro and

its suburbs," he said.

One killed in Russia
Russia's Ministry of Defence said Friday that air defence alert systems intercepted and destroyed 107 Ukrainian drones overnight, including 34 over the Kursk region and 30 over the Oryol region.

An attack by Ukrainian drones in a village in the Bryansk region killed one and left another injured, governor Aleksandr Bogomaz said in a Telegram post on Friday.

"As a result of the attack by Ukrainian drones, two residents of the village received shrapnel wounds. Unfortunately, one man died," he wrote.

The attacks came as Russia's top economic negotiator visited Washington for talks on improving ties.

Trump is pushing for warmer relations with Moscow, reaching out to President Vladimir Putin and Russian officials in the hope of brokering a ceasefire in the three-year Ukraine war.

Washington had said last month that both Kyiv and Moscow agreed separately to "develop measures for implementing" a halt on strikes on energy infrastructure.

But attacks have continued and both sides have complained to the United States about strikes hitting their energy sites.

Kyiv called on Washington to strengthen sanctions on Moscow for "violating" agreements made at talks in Saudi Arabia last month.

South Korea makes record drug bust, seizes two tonnes of cocaine on ship

SEOUL, Apr 4 (Agencies): South Korea discovered and seized two tonnes of cocaine hidden aboard a Norwegian-flagged vessel, authorities told agency on Friday, marking the country's largest drug bust to date.

The Korea Coast Guard said they had found "two tonnes" of what they suspect to be pure cocaine on a Norwegian-flagged vessel which had departed from Mexico and made stops in Ecuador, Panama, and China.

The operation was launched after South Korean authorities received intelligence from US agencies -- the FBI and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) -- that the vessel was carrying hidden narcotics.

The Korea Coast Guard and Korea Customs Service coordinated a large-scale search operation "consisting of a joint search team of 90 officers... along with two drug-sniffing dog units," the Korea Coast Guard said.

After the vessel docked at an east coast port in South Korea, the team immediately boarded the vessel and "discovered a hidden compartment behind the ship's engine room".

The drugs were packed in 56 sacks, each holding some 30 to 40 kilograms (about 66 to 88 pounds) of the drug, authorities said, bringing the total haul to around two tons.

"Preliminary field tests confirmed the



substances as suspected cocaine," the Korea Coast Guard official told agency.

"The seizure is the largest in history, about five times bigger than the previous record which was 404 kilograms of methamphetamine," a Korea Customs Service official told agency.

The estimated street value is one trillion won (\$697 million), they added.

Authorities have launched a joint investigation team to question the vessel's captain and crew about the origin and intended destination of the drugs, and the route used to transport them.

Investigators also said they are looking into potential ties to international drug trafficking syndicates and will expand cooperation with the FBI and HSI.

South Korea has long ranked among the countries with low drug use globally, thanks to its strict laws and strong social stigma.

South Korea's President Yoon ousted as court upholds impeachment after martial law

SEOUL, Apr 4 (Agencies): South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol was ousted by the Constitutional Court on Friday, which upheld parliament's impeachment motion over his imposition of martial law last year that sparked the country's worst political crisis in decades.

The ruling caps months of political turmoil that have overshadowed efforts to deal with the new administration of US President Donald Trump at a time of slowing growth in Asia's fourth-largest economy.

With Yoon's ouster, a presidential election is required to take place within 60 days, according to the country's constitution.

Prime Minister Han Duck-soo will continue to serve as acting president until the new presi-



dent is inaugurated.

"The Constitutional Court's unanimous ruling has removed a major source of uncertainty," Professor Leif-Eric Easley of Ewha University in Seoul. "And not a moment too soon, given how the next administration in Seoul must navigate North Korea's military threats, China's diplomatic pressure and Trump's trade tariffs."

Acting Chief Justice Moon Hyung-bae said

Yoon violated his duty as president with his December 3 martial law declaration, acting beyond the powers given to him under the constitution and describing his actions as "a serious challenge to democracy".

"(Yoon) committed a grave betrayal of the people's trust who are the sovereign members of the democratic republic," Moon said, adding that Yoon's declaration of martial law created

chaos in all areas of society, the economy, foreign policy.

Thousands of people at a rally calling for Yoon's ouster, including hundreds who had camped out overnight, erupted into wild cheers on hearing the ruling, chanting "We won!" Supporters of Yoon who were gathered near his official residence reacted in anger. One protester was arrested for smashing a police bus window, a news agency reported.

The court rejected most of Yoon's argument that he declared martial law to sound the alarm over the main opposition party's abuse of its parliamentary majority, saying there were legally justified avenues to address disagreements.

The martial law decree lacked justification and

was also procedurally defective, Moon said. Mobilising the military against parliament to disrupt its functions was a grave violation of Yoon's constitutional duty to safeguard the independence of the three branches of government, he added.

The embattled leader became the first sitting South Korean president to be arrested on January 15 but was released in March after a court cancelled his arrest warrant.

The crisis was triggered by Yoon's declaration of martial law, which he has said was needed to root out "anti-state" elements and the opposition Democratic Party's alleged abuse of its parliamentary majority that he said was destroying the country.

'National crisis': Japan slams Trump tariffs as PM Ishiba urges all necessary measures be taken

TOKYO, Apr 4 (Agencies): US President Donald Trump's tariffs on Japanese goods are a "national crisis", Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba said Friday ahead of cross-party talks on mitigating the impact.

Japanese firms are the biggest investors into the United States but Trump on Thursday announced a hefty 24-percent levy on imports from the close US ally as part of global "reciprocal" levies.

The measures "can be called a national crisis and the government is doing its best with all parties" to lessen the impact, Ishiba said in parliament.

He called however for a "calm-headed" approach to negotiations with Trump's administration, which has also imposed 25-percent tariffs on auto imports which came into force this week.

Bank of Japan gover-

nor Kazuo Ueda said meanwhile that tariffs "can be a factor in downward pressure on the global and national economies."

Ishiba on Thursday told his ministers "to study closely" the tariffs and "to take all measures necessary including financing support" for domestic industries and protecting jobs, government spokesman Yoshimasa Hayashi told reporters.

Ishiba's meetings with party leaders later Friday were aimed at laying the groundwork for the supplementary budget bill, as his minority government needs opposition support to pass it in parliament, the Asahi Shimbun daily reported.

On Friday, Hayashi repeated that Trump's sweeping new tariffs are "extremely regrettable" and that Japan has "serious concerns" about whether they comply with World Trade



Organization rules and US-Japan trade agreements.

Japan's main Nikkei 225 index fell more than three percent on Friday, adding to a 2.7-percent drop on Thursday after the S&P 500 on Wall Street dropped by the most in a day since 2020.

"Extremely grave" Major Japanese business lobby the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) said

ing cash management support," the JCCI said Thursday.

The Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association (JAMA) also called for government assistance for its members, which make up an important pillar of the world's fourth-biggest economy.

The industry has "consistently called for fundamental reform to simplify and ease the burden of automobile-related taxation, (and) we kindly request comprehensive support measures to ensure that Japan's automotive industry can maintain its foundation as a manufacturing base, through the revitalization of the domestic market", it said.

JAMA said its members have invested a cumulative total of more than \$66 billion in US manufacturing as of 2024, generating over 110,000 direct US jobs and supporting more

than 2.2 million others.

"We have long believed that becoming an integral part of the US auto industry -- through local investment and job creation -- is the most sustainable path forward for the auto industries of both countries," it said.

Japanese carmakers ship about 1.45 million cars to the United States from Canada and Mexico, where they operate factories, Bloomberg News reported.

By comparison, Japan exports 1.49 million cars directly to the United States, while Japanese automakers make 3.3 million cars in America.

In Japan, the auto sector is a key industry, employing about 5.6 million people directly or indirectly.

Vehicles accounted for around 28 percent of Japan's 21.3 trillion yen (\$142 billion) of US-bound exports last year.

Our ties with US will never be the same: Canada's Foreign Minister



BRUSSELS, Apr 4 (Agencies): Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly said on Friday the relationship between the United States and Canada would never be the same again after President Donald Trump announced a sweeping new tariff regime on Wednesday.

At her arrival for a NATO meeting of foreign affairs ministers in Brussels, Joly said that Canada was putting maximum pressure on the Trump administration.

Shoolini University hosts second edition of TechFest 'GLITCH'



Top News Report
JAMMU /SOLAN, Apr 3: The Yogananda School of AI, Computers, and Data Science at Shoolini University organized the second edition of its annual TechFest, GLITCH, as part of the Spring Fest.

The event was inaugurated in the presence of Prof. Ashish Khosla, President Shoolini University and Chief Innovation and Marketing Officer, Dr. David, Director of Global Education Strategy University of Melbourne, Prof. Rose

Bryant Smith from the University of Melbourne, and author Mr. Nitish Bhushan.

Dr. Piyush Sewal, Assistant Prof. was the faculty coordinator of the fest. Dr Piyush shared that the event included five gaming competi-

tions and a 24-hour coding Hackathon. The E-Sports segment featured popular games such as BGMI, Free Fire, FIFA, and Valorant, with participation from over 100 students across Shoolini University and other institutions. Visitors also experienced Virtual Reality (VR) games.

The Hackathon saw participation from over 35 coders across 13 teams, who qualified after two screening rounds. The final round lasted 24 hours, during which teams worked on coding solutions for over 18 hours. Judges for the Hackathon were Faculty members from Shoolini University were Dr. Abhishek Tomar, Dr. Waleed Salehi, Gaurav Dhiman, and Nitish Sharma.

Chief guests for the

prize distribution were Dr Ashoo Khosla, Chief Learning Officer Shoolini University, Dr. Pankaj Vaidya, Head of the Yogananda School of AI, Computers, and Data Science at Shoolini University.

Team Hushed Coders won the first prize in the Hackathon, followed by Team D-Bug Thugs and Team Exceptions as first and second runners-up. In the E-Sports events, team TSG won the BGMI tournament, Pixel Prowlers won the Valorant tournament, John won the FIFA tournament.

The second edition of GLITCH offered students a platform to apply and enhance their technical and gaming skills. The event encouraged innovation, teamwork, and hands-on learning in technology.

Counselling Session on "Career Counselling after Graduation"



Top News Report

R S PURA, Apr 4: Career Counselling / Guidance and Placement Cell in collaboration with Department of Education, Govt. Degree College, R S Pura Jammu organized a career counselling session on the topic "Career Counselling after graduation" on Friday under the guidance of Dr. Preetpal Kour, Principal of the College. The resource person of the event was Prof. Upma Sharma of Divya College of Education. Prof. Upma gave motivational lecture on various career opportu-

nities available to students after graduation in B. Ed. Courses. She gave a detailed power point presentation regarding admission procedure and various courses offered in B.Ed. She motivated the students to create opportunities through their efforts and dedication. The lecture was attended by a large number of students who patiently listened to the lecture with great enthusiasm and actively participated in question session after culmination of the lecture.

Parveen Raina, MD, Divya College of Education was also present in

the session. Principal of the college Dr. Preetpal Kour also highlighted the importance of various courses after graduation. The welcome address was given by Dr. Neharika of Physics Department.

The program was organized by Convener, Career Counselling Cell and Department of Education. T

he formal vote of thanks was given by Dr. Neelam Kumari, Head, and Department of Education.

The program was attended by members of Career Counselling Cell, and other faculty members of the college.

Raman Suri lauds midnight triumph of Waqf Bills in Parliament

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: Raman Suri, Executive Member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), today expressed his heartfelt appreciation and gratitude for the historic passage of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill and the Mussalman Waqf (Repeal) Bill in both Houses of Parliament. This landmark legislation, passed with unwavering resolve under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, marks a transformative moment in India's journey toward transparency, accountability, and inclusive growth, he said.

In an extraordinary session, while the nation slept, history was being written in the Rajya Sabha at 2:33 AM, he said adding that with a resounding majority of 128-95, the Waqf Amendment Bill was passed, and this victory is a testament to the relentless efforts of the Modi-led NDA government and the support of visionary leaders of alliance parties. Suri reserved special praise for Union Home Minister Amit Shah, whose speech in Parliament on the Waqf Amendment

Bill was a masterclass in legislative skill and leadership. "Amit Shah's ability to navigate complex issues and out manoeuvre his opponents with characteristic wit is unparalleled. His masterful handling of the debate underscored the NDA government's unwavering commitment to transparency and accountability," he remarked. Equally commendable was the role of Union Minister Kiren Rijiju, who presented the Bill in the Lok Sabha with meticulous preparation and devotion.

The BJP leader lambasted political parties such as Congress, Samajwadi Party, TMC, JMM, DMK, Uddhav Thackeray's faction, the Left, Sharad Pawar's NCP, RJD, and Kejriwal's AAP for opposing the bill and supporting the land-grabbing agenda. "These parties will be remembered for centuries for siding with those who sought to seize lands and discriminate with poor Muslims," Suri declared. He highlighted Amit Shah's revelation in Parliament saying Waqf holds 39 lakh acres of land, but 21 lakh acres were added after 2013 due to amendments passed by Congress. Just 25

days before the 2014 elections, they handed over 123 VVIP properties in Lutyens Delhi to Waqf." This exposé laid bare the Congress's vote-bank politics, which Shah dismantled with his brilliant reply.

Suri lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, emphasizing that his promise-keeping is the cornerstone of how the nation is governed. "From Gauvansh Sanrakshan to tackling Love Jihad conversion, Triple Talaq, Article 370, CAA-NRC, Ram Mandir, Uniform Civil Code, and now Waqf, every decision by PM Modi is aimed at making Bharat a strong and vibrant nation—one that leads from the front and shows the world how a nation is built," he said. The passage of these bills is a triumph of justice over vested interests, a victory for the marginalized, and a step toward a more transparent and equitable India.

The BJP remains committed to its vision of a united, prosperous, and inclusive nation under the dynamic leadership of Narendra Modi and Amit Shah. Had it not been for their resolve, those elements supporting the Wakf Board's illegal occupation of land

would have prevailed. These forces must not receive a single vote in the future, he said, adding that the passage of these bills represents a watershed moment in our collective quest for socio-economic justice. Raman Suri said that for decades, the Waqf system has been plagued by a lack of transparency and accountability, dispropor-

tionately harming Muslim women, poor Muslims, and Pasmanda Muslims which now stands corrected.

Raman Suri said these legislations passed by Parliament will usher in a modern framework that prioritizes social justice, safeguards people's rights, and ensures inclusive development for those long relegated to the margins of society.

LPEF condoles demise of Adil Rangrez

Top News Report

DODA, Apr 4: J&K The Low Paid Employees Federation (LPEF) of Doda held a condolence meeting to express deep sorrow over the passing of Advocate Adil Rangrez, son of the late Mohd Shafi Rangrez.

The meeting was presided over by the District President, Niaz Ahmed Rahi, and attended by senior leaders of the association, including Ghulam Hassan Pampori and Shakeel Ahmed Dev.

During the meeting, attendees remembered Advocate Adil Rangrez as an honest, dedicated, and hardworking professional. His contributions to the legal fraternity and his com-



mitment to justice were widely acknowledged. Speakers highlighted his humility, professionalism, and unwavering dedication to helping others, noting that his untimely demise has left a significant void in the community.

Niaz Ahmed Rahi spoke about the profound loss caused by Adil Rangrez's passing, not only to his family

but also to the legal and social circles of Doda. He also paid tribute to Adil's father, the late Mohd Shafi Rangrez, describing him as a cornerstone of the Low Paid Court Employees Federation and a strong advocate of communal harmony.

President Niaz Ahmed Rahi assured the bereaved family that the Federation stands in solidarity with them during this difficult time.

Several prominent personalities, including Vishwamitter, Vickey Kumar, Hem Raj Thakur, Nizam Ud Din Butt, Faizan Trambo, Abid Pampori, Sallahuddin, Umar Khan, Rafiq Malik and many others, attended the meeting to offer their condolences.

FromPage No: 1

NC-led alliance passes resolutions against Waqf amendment bill, asserts authority of elected govt

issues must be resolved through dialogue with the Centre."

NC MLA Abdul Rehman Veeri said nobody can infringe upon the rights of the elected government. "People of Jammu and Kashmir are as important as the people in the rest of the country. We will keep fighting for the rights of the people," he said, adding that they discussed the recent decisions taken by the LG administration.

NC-led alliance passes resolutions against Waqf bill, "undermining of mandate of elected govt"

Notably, LG administration has ordered the transfers of 48 Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) officers. The move has reignited the debate around the pending business rules meant to delineate administrative powers between the elected government and the LG's office.

Congress to

challenge Waqf bill soon in Supreme Court

2005 is being heard in the Supreme Court, he noted.

"The INC's challenge to the validity of the amendments to the Conduct of Election Rules (2024) is being heard in the Supreme Court. "The INC's intervention to uphold the letter and spirit of the Places of Worship Act, 1991 is being heard in the Supreme Court," the Congress leader said.

The Lok Sabha had cleared the bill early Thursday.

Veteran actor-director Manoj Kumar dies at 87 after battle with liver ailment

and filmmaker Shri Manoj Kumar Ji. He was an icon of Indian cinema, who was particularly remembered for his patriotic zeal, which was also reflected in his films. Manoj Ji's works ignited a spirit of national pride and will continue to inspire generations. My thoughts are with his family and admirers in this hour of grief. Om Shanti."

Manoj Kumar, widely recognized for his patriotic films, was affec-

tionately known by the moniker 'Bharat Kumar.' Born as Harikrishnan Goswami on July 24, 1937, in Amritsar, Punjab, Manoj made a lasting impact on Hindi cinema. His memorable performances in films such as "Shaheed", "Upkar", and "Rang De Basanti" struck a deep chord with the patriotic spirit of the Indian audience.

Manoj Kumar, one of the most successful actors of the 60s and 70s, worked in multiple iconic films like "Shor", "Do Badan", "Roti Kapda Aur Makaan", "Purab Aur Paschim", and many others. Apart from his acting career, he was also a director and producer. He directed several hit films like "Upkar", "Kranti", "Clerk", and others.

Manoj Kumar also ventured into politics and, after his retirement from films, officially joined the BJP.

Tourist rush to Srinagar gardens brings joy and jams

along the Boulevard stretch, such as Mughal gardens," said an official.

Locals said that the issue has become a nightmare. The commuters living in the Dalgate, Nishat, Shalimar, Harwan, Theed, and Tailbal areas said their normal lives have been impacted by the congestion.

"Serious steps must be taken by the traffic authorities to give us some respite. Our normal life has been affected badly and it is also creating public transport issues. Our children have to reach schools and adults need to get to work. No doubt this is a tourist area, but we also have normal lives to lead, which we are unable to," said Mudasir Ahmad, a commuter from Harwan.

The locals in Downtown also said that the flow of tourists in the famous Badamwari garden has resulted in severe congestion.

They said due to the absence of traffic cops at various junctions the stretch from Saidakadal to Khan-yar to Nowhatta remains crippled with traffic jams. The commuters said that for the past few days, they have faced immense inconvenience in Srinagar.

"There should be more traffic cops on the ground to manage the traffic influx. In addition to that, the defunct traffic lights are adding to our woes," said another commuter. The issue has also affected the movement of essential service vehicles in Srinagar. Locals said that ambulances carrying patients frequently get stuck in traffic, leaving them with no way to pass.

"We have a patient at Bone and Joint hospital, and commuting through this traffic is very difficult. In our family, we have asked people not to come to the hospital

as we know they will be stuck in traffic jams for the whole day. We have essential tasks to carry for the patient, and due to traffic gridlock, we are facing hardships," said Nazir Ahmad, an attendant at Bone and Joint Hospital.

SSP Traffic Srinagar, Muzaffar Ahmad Shah, said that there has been a major jump in tourist vehicles plying to these gardens.

While acknowledging the issue, he said that they are undertaking various measures to give respite to commuters.

"We have pressed all the men and machinery on roads to ensure smooth traffic flow. There has been a massive jump in vehicle influx since Eid-ul-Fitr, and we are seeing more vehicles traveling on the roads compared to the previous years. Many tourists come in private vehicles, and then there are local vehicles in Srinagar. I have proposed various measures that we are simultaneously applying so that the least inconvenience is caused to people. We are also focusing to ensure that the flow of essential vehicles is not hindered," he said.

Authorities inspect Srinagar-Katra track ahead of Vande Bharat train

inaugural run

the top official also reviewed arrangements at several railway stations for the inauguration ceremony of the Kashmir rail service scheduled to be held on April 19.

They said a Vande Bharat rail run is scheduled for tomorrow, Saturday, but the time is not yet decided.

They said GM Northern Railway reached Srinagar yesterday for a one-day visit, and today he inspected railway infrastructure between the Srinagar and Katra sections of the Kashmir rail project. Verma is scheduled to return to Delhi this evening by air. The special inspection railcar had crossed Sangaldan railway station when reports last came in.

MeT Predicts Dry Weather in J&K from April 4-7

reaches, particularly in North and Central Kashmir, on April 08 and widespread light rain and snow expected in Kashmir Division, with scattered showers in Jammu Division on April 9. Scattered light rain and snow are expected on April 10-11, before dry weather returns from April 12-15. The Met Centre Srinagar has issued an advisory, urging travelers, tourists, and transporters to follow administrative and traffic advisories, while farmers are advised to continue with farm operations.

Shri Sanatan Dharma Sabha to take out Shobha Yatra tomorrow

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: A grand Shobha Yatra will be organized in Jammu on Saturday, April 5, 2025, to celebrate Shri Ram Navami with great enthusiasm and devotion.

The announcement was made by Parshotam Dadhichi, President of Shri Sanatan Dharma Sabha, Jammu & Kashmir Province, during a press conference on Friday.

Dadhichi explained that since Ram Navami falls on a Sunday this year, most markets and business establishments will be closed. After discussions with

various religious and social organizations, it was decided that the Shobha Yatra would be held on Saturday to allow maximum participation from devotees.

The event aims to bring together people from all walks of life in a grand display of faith and unity.

"The Shobha Yatra will commence from Shri Sanatan Dharma Natak Samaj Deewan Temple at 2:00 PM. The procession will begin from Jain School (Rani Park) and move through Moti Bazaar and Parade Ground, finally halting at Shri Geeta Bhawan Parade Central Office, where a special worship

ceremony will take place at 3:00 PM.

The idol of Lord Ram, seated in a beautifully decorated chariot, will be worshipped by Jammu Municipal Corporation Commissioner Devansh Yadav," Dadhichi said.

He added that from Shri Geeta Bhawan, the procession will pass through Shalamar, Indira Chowk, and Hari Market, reaching Shri Raghunath Temple. Here, the grand chariot of Lord Ram from Dharmarth Trust will join the Shobha Yatra, making it an even more magnificent event.

The combined procession will then move

through Veer Marg, City Chowk, Rajendra Bazaar, Kanak Mandi, City Chowk Old Hospital Road, Purani Mandi Link Road, Jain Bazaar, Chowk Chabutra, Pakka Danga, and Moti Bazaar, before concluding back at Shri Raghunath Temple, Dadhichi said.

Along with Parshotam Dadhichi, the press conference was attended by Shakti Dutt (Vice President), Sanjay Gupta (General Secretary), Anil Magotra (Treasurer), and Dilip Gupta (Publicity Secretary), among other senior office bearers of Shri Sanatan Dharma Sabha.

Parshotam Dadhichi made a heartfelt appeal

to the public, urging them to actively participate in the Shobha Yatra.

He called upon all religious institutions, market associations, and local citizens to contribute in every possible way to make this grand event a success.

He encouraged devotees to decorate their local markets, welcome the procession with flower showers, and join in the celebration in large numbers.

He emphasized that participating in this divine procession is a sacred act that brings blessings not only to individuals but also to their families.

MLA Mankotia calls on MoS PMO Dr. Jitendra at New Delhi



Top News Report

NEW DELHI, Apr 4: MLA Balwant Singh Mankotia on Friday met with Dr. Jitendra Singh, MoS in PMO, at his office in Delhi to discuss several crucial developmental projects for the Chenani Ghordi

Assembly constituency. During the meeting, Mankotia emphasized the need for educational infrastructure in the region and urged for the establishment of new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) at Latti and Ghordi. He also highlighted the importance

of setting up an Eklavya Model Residential School in the constituency to provide quality education to tribal students. Mankotia stressed the urgent need for the inauguration of the Sira to Shivgali Road, which will enhance connectivity and boost economic activities in the region.

Additionally, he expressed his gratitude to MoS PMO Dr. Jitendra Singh for sanctioning the Salmeh Bridge, which will significantly give big relief to the people.

Mankotia reiterated his commitment to the development of the Chenani constituency.

GDC Bani accords farewell to SDM Bani



Top News Report

BANI, Apr 4: Principal and staff of Government Degree College (GDC) Bani accorded warm farewell to SDM Bani Ghaisul Haq, who has been transferred from Bani to GAD for further duties. Principal of the College, Dr Manohar Lal congratulated SDM for his promotion and also appreciated the administrative skill of outgoing SDM. Dr Manohar talked in detail about quality time spend with Gaisul Haq.

SDM Bani also

acknowledged the cooperation and support of principal and staff of the GDC Bani for conducting various Govt sponsored activities on the direction of SDM office.

Staff members and principal extended wishes to the SDM for future and new place of posting.

Prof Naseeb Kumar Bhagat, Dr J. S Soodan, Dr Resham Singh, Dr Narinder, Prof Akash Zutshi and Prof Vishap Thappa were also present in the farewell function.

JKESL leadership meets Maj Gen Anupinder Bevli to strengthen collaboration for Cadet Training



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: JKESL is the largest and oldest Govt recognized body since 1951 which is engaged in the welfare of the Veterans, Veer Naris and serving soldiers of J&K. Brig Ghan-sara Singh, RB, OBE, OBI was the founder of this organization in 1951. It has more than 22,000 members as on date.

JKESL members comprising of Col Rajinder Singh, Gen Secretary & Lt Col OS Chouhan, Secretary JKESL under the leadership of Lt Gen Rakesh Kumar Sharma, AVSM, SM (Retd) President, J&K Ex-services league called on Maj Gen Anupinder Bevli, ADG NCC Directorate Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh on 03 Apr at the office premises in Jammu.

During the meeting the major issues concerning JKESL were projected and explained to the ADG.

The issues projected before the ADG NCC included maximum participation of NCC Cadets in the various functions organized by JKESL viz Martyrdom Day and Birth anniversary of our great heroes like Gen Zorawar Singh, "the Napoleon of India" and Brig Rajinder Singh, the "Saviour of Kashmir", Sharing of training programme of NCC Cadets with JKESL and conduct of motivational lectures by the war decorated soldiers based on personal experience to be organized by JKESL.

The ADG NCC Directorate Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh, was extremely positive and assured of all the assistance possible to the JKESL

Two meat shops sealed in Kilam for overcharging customers

Top News Report

KULGAM, Apr 4: Acting on multiple complaints from local residents of Kilam, Naib Tehsildar Kilam conducted a market checking drive in Kilam area of Kulgam, leading to the sealing of two meat shops for charging rates above the approved prices.

The drive was led by Naib Tehsildar (NT) Kilam, Irshad Ahmad, who was accompanied by his revenue team. "We received repeated complaints regarding overcharging, especially by meat sellers, two shops were found violating the rate norms and were subsequently sealed," said NT Irshad Ahmad.



Apart from meat shops, the team also inspected several other establishments including restaurants and Kiryana shops. The focus of the inspection was on price regulation, hygiene, and checking the expiry dates of food

items. He said NT Kilam Irshad Ahmad further stated that such inspection drives will continue in the future to safeguard the interests of consumers and ensure adherence to market regulations.

Five injured in road mishap

Top News Report

KULGAM, Apr 4: At least five persons were injured in a road accident at Mirbazar area of Qazigund in South Kashmir's Kulgam district on Friday Morning.

An official told Top News JK correspondent that five people have been injured after a vehicle lost control and crashed into a divider near Mirbazar on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway in Qazigund this morning.

The injured were immediately taken to nearby hospital for treatment where their conditions said to be in stable

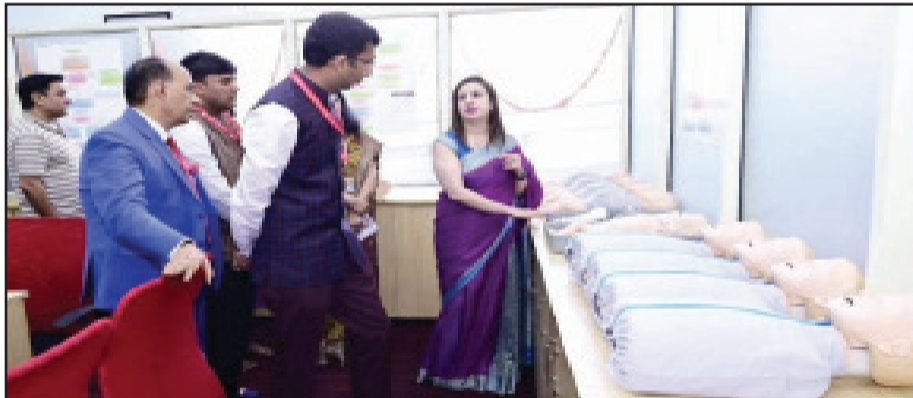


condition. Injured persons have been identified as Nusrat, 40, wife of Mohd Jabar Kasina, Sira Jan, 9, daughter of Mohd Jabar Kasina, Resident of Bakerwal Chack Qazigund, Sajjad Ahmad, 19, son of Manzoor Ahmad, resident of Bakerwal

Chack, Azraar, 14, son of Mohd Khalid, resident of Bakerwal Chackand Abrar, 13, son of Mohd Jabir, resident of Bakerwal Chack.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of this incident and further investigation taken-up.

Shrine Board's Medical College unveils Skill and Simulation Lab for immersive learning



Top News Report

KATRA, Apr 4: Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence (SMVDIME) - Medical College of SMVDSB achieved a significant milestone with the unveiling of its state-of-the-art Skill and Simulation Lab. This cutting-edge facility is equipped with the latest technology and equipment, providing a comprehensive platform for enhancing hands-on medical training and skill development. The lab will benefit faculty members, MBBS and nursing students, as well as paramedical staff by offering immersive training experiences that foster expertise and excellence in patient care.

Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board inaugurated the Skill and Simulation Lab in the presence of Alok Kumar Maurya, Additional Chief Executive Officer; Dr. Gopal Sharma, Asstt. Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB; Dr. Yashpal Sharma, Executive Director, SMVDIME, Associated Hospital and Principals from GMC Kathua and GMC

Doda along with other SMVDIME officers and staff.

Following the inauguration, a guided tour of the lab revealed its state-of-the-art, high-fidelity training equipment which leverages cutting-edge technology to replicate real-world medical scenarios.

On the occasion, CEO, SMVDSB expressed his gratitude to the Hon'ble Chairman, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (Lt. Governor, JK-UT) for his unwavering support and guidance in approving the infrastructural plan for the Medical College. This ambitious plan, at the cost of Rs.350 crore, encompasses the development of a state-of-the-art Academic and Administrative Block for SMVDIME, accommodations for faculty and students and the expansion of the existing Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Superspeciality Hospital by adding around 250 beds. The ultimate aim is to increase the Medical College's intake capacity from 50 to 100 seats, aligning with the Shrine Board's decision.

The CEO commended the Executive Director and his team for their

exceptional work in establishing the facility while highlighting the significance of simulation-based learning in medical education. He underscored that this cutting-edge facility will transform skill training, providing students with hands-on experience in a controlled and safe environment, besides, bridges the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. Furthermore, the CEO asserted that the facility will also train all Shrine Board employees in Basic Life Support (BLS) ensuring that pilgrims visiting the Holy Shrine receive optimal care.

Dr. Yashpal Sharma, Executive Director, SMVDIME expressed his gratitude to all stakeholders who contributed to the successful realization of this project while stating that this state-of-the-art facility embodies SMVDIME's unwavering commitment to excellence in medical education as it provides a dynamic learning environment where students, interns and healthcare professionals can refine their skills and ultimately enhance patient care outcomes.

LIC responds to USTR Observations: Reaffirms Independent, Competitive, Customer-Centric Operations

Top News Report

MUMBAI., Apr 4 The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has taken note of the USTR's recent remarks regarding the favourable treatment extended to LIC by the Government of India.

In response to USTR Observations, Siddhartha Mohanty, CEO&MD, LIC has said, "LIC wishes to clarify that LIC is treated like any other insurance company by the Government and

Regulators. The guarantee—provided at the time of its establishment in 1956—is a statutory provision designed to build public confidence in the early years of nationalisation. It has never been invoked or used as a marketing tool or provided any undue advantage to LIC."

"For the past 25 years, LIC has operated in a fully competitive market alongside 24 private life insurance companies. It is regulated by IRDAI and SEBI and receives

no special treatment from the Government or any regulatory authority," he said.

Mohanty added, "LIC's leadership in the insurance sector is entirely due to the trust of its policyholders, its commitment to service excellence, and its financial strength and transparency. With a legacy of over 69 years, LIC continues to serve over 30 crore customers across India with dedication and professionalism."

HDFC Bank adjudged 'India's Best for HNW' at Euromoney Private Banking Awards 2025

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: HDFC Bank, India's leading private sector bank, was adjudged as 'India's Best for HNW' at the Euromoney Private Banking Awards 2025. The awards were organized by Euromoney magazine.

On its website, Euromoney writes, "HDFC Bank continues to build momentum in India's high net-worth (HNW) segment via its flagship Imperia programme, a premium service that offers personalised wealth solutions. At the heart of this offering is a model where wealth relationship managers collaborate closely with bank specialists to deliver tailored investment and banking support."

Euromoney further writes, "In the digital space, the bank recently introduced the Smart Wealth platform, an investment service aimed at expanding coverage to the mass-affluent segment. This mobile platform provides clients with the ability to track portfolios, execute investments and access goal-based investment recommendations. By integrating gamification and an intuitive user experience, Smart Wealth democratises access to the bank's research capabilities, empowering a broader client base to make informed financial decisions independently."

Rakesh K Singh, Group Head - Investment Banking, Private Banking, International Banking, Digital Ecosystems

and BaaS, HDFC Bank said, "We are honoured to have been recognised as India's Best for HNW. We believe that we are in the business of preserving client's wealth, ensuring its growth and retaining their trust. Our strong brand as well as experience of over two and a half decades resonates trust in our customers. We have strengthened this trust through our robust processes and diligent research methodology. From Ultra-HNW and Super-Affluent to Mass-Affluent segment, our relationship managers are equipped to understand & meet the unique and ever-changing investment needs and goals of our clients. This year, we increased our focus in the mass affluent category with the introduction of our digital platform - SmartWealth, which is equipped with an unassisted journey to invest through need-based recommendation basis risk appetite. This ensures every client gets to experience a specialised and curated investment service, especially the digitally savvy generation." Euromoney's Private Banking Awards is the distinguished annual awards programme of the worldwide private banking and wealth management industry. For over 20 years, the programme has recognised the private banks of distinction across key categories. This includes high to ultra-high net worth, family office services, succession planning, digital services, discretionary portfolio management, sustainability and more.

MI New York announce signing of top stars ahead of MLC 2025

MI New York unveiled the signings of star-studded players ahead of the upcoming edition of Major League Cricket, which is set to begin on June 13.

NEW YORK, Apr 4 (Agencies): MI New York unveiled the signings of star-studded players ahead of the upcoming edition of Major League Cricket, which is set to begin on June 13.

For the month-long carnival in the US, MI New York will enjoy the services of South African duo Quinton de Kock and George Linde, Afghanistan's Naveen-ul-Haq and Azmatullah Omarzai and lastly, Michael Bracewell, who is serving as New Zealand's captain for their ongoing white-ball series against Pakistan.

They join the overseas retained players, including Nicholas Pooran, Kieron Pollard, Rashid Khan and Trent Boult; the domestic retained players, featuring Monank Patel, Nosthush Kenjige, Heath Richards, Ehsan Adil, Rushil Ugarkar, Sunny Patel, and the 2025 draft picks Agni Chopra, Kunwarjeet Singh, Sharad Lumba and Tajinder Singh.

The experienced opener



Quinton de Kock has been part of the MI Family. His stint with Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League lasted from 2019 to 2021, during which he lifted two titles with the franchise.

George Linde played an integral role in MI Cape Town's 2025 title-winning run in the SA20 and has been a core team member since the first edition in 2023.

The Men's ODI Cricketer of

the Year for 2024, Azmatullah Omarzai, who has been teammates with Rashid Khan, Trent Boult, and George Linde in MI Capetown, played an important role in winning the trophy for MI Capetown in 2025. Meanwhile, Naveen UI Haq and Michael Bracewell will strive for MI New York's second MLC title in three years.

In the past season, MI New York enjoyed the services of Kagiso Rabada, Anrich Nortje,

Dewald Brevis, Tim David and Romario Shepherd. However, the famed faces of the T20 format were released before MLC 2025. Steven Taylor, Rubeen Clinton and Shayan Jahangir were the other local players who were released along with the overseas talent.

MI New York, who were the defending champions in the last season, endured a heartbreak at the hands of Texas Super Kings. With an almost flawlessly executed plan, the Texas Super Kings ended MI New York's title defence by handing them a comprehensive 9-wicket victory in the eliminator clash.

MI New York 2025 squad: Kieron Pollard, Nicholas Pooran, Trent Boult, Rashid Khan, Monank Patel, Nosthush Kenjige, Heath Richards, Ehsan Adil, Sunny Patel, Rushil Ugarkar, George Linde, Quinton de Kock, Michael Bracewell, Naveen-ul-Haq, Azmatullah Omarzai, Kunwarjeet Singh, Sharad Lumba and Tajinder Singh, Agni Chopra.

Yashasvi Jaiswal 'kicked' Ajinkya Rahane's kitbag, 'friction' reportedly prompted Goa move



CHANDIGARH, Apr 4 (Agencies): India opener Yashasvi Jaiswal's decision to switch from Mumbai to Goa in domestic cricket reportedly stemmed from a deteriorating relationship with Mumbai's red-ball captain Ajinkya Rahane.

According to a report by India Today, tensions between the two escalated during the 2025 Ranji Trophy.

The 'friction' reportedly came after Mumbai's shock five-wicket defeat to Jammu and Kashmir in the group stage of the Ranji Trophy. Jaiswal scored 4 and 26 in that match as Mumbai got out

for 120 and 290 in their two innings. Following the loss, Rahane and Mumbai coach Omkar Salvi allegedly questioned Jaiswal's 'commitment', which left the young opener visibly upset. The report claimed that, in a fit of anger, Jaiswal even 'kicked' Rahane's kitbag.

The situation was further aggravated by comments from Mumbai chief selector Sanjay Patil, which Jaiswal reportedly perceived as being directed at him.

"I am still upset at the Jammu and Kashmir defeat, which I feel was our worst ever," Patil had said. "To accommodate the players in that match, we had to deprive a few talented youngsters. Mumbai needs players who can perform and make the side win games. The players need to realise it is not just about being 'available' for that game. The culture of Mumbai cricket has always been about giving your 100 per cent."

While this incident was described as the 'final straw', the rift between Jaiswal and Rahane reportedly dates back to 2022, during the Duleep Trophy final, when the latter asked the former to leave the field for excessive sledging South Zone batter Ravi Teja.

Tensions also flared during the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy two seasons ago, when the Mumbai team management questioned Jaiswal's shot selection – another incident the young cricketer reportedly viewed as unfair targeting.

Don't judge Rohit after couple of low scores: Pollard

LUCKNOW, Apr 4 (Agencies): Mumbai Indians batting coach Kieron Pollard played down the chats surrounding Rohit Sharma's lukewarm start to the IPL, saying the ace batter should not be judged on the back of a couple of low scores.

Former skipper Rohit, who landed MI five IPL titles, has failed to fire so far in this edition of the tournament, making 0, 8 and 13. "Rohit has etched his name in history, in record books, in different situations, in different formats of the game. He is a legend of the game. So, let's not judge him on a couple of low scores," said Pollard.

Pollard said a big innings from the 37-year-old is just around the corner, and he should not be put under undue pressure. "There are times when



you will have a couple of low scores. As an individual, he is enjoying his cricket and not being pressurised in certain situations. I am sure we will be singing his praises when he comes and he gives us that big score and then we will be on to the next hot topic," said Pollard. Mumbai have unearthed some young talent this season and

the Trinidadian was delighted to see them chipping in for the team. "We have young guys coming in at different times and doing well. We tend to put a lot of expectations on their shoulders and straight away start to think that the senior guys who have nurtured them should be out of the reckoning. There should be a balance," he said.

IPL 2025: Bowling coach Franklin 'confident' about misfiring SRH batters regaining lost form

KOLKATA, Apr 4 (Agencies): Sunrisers Hyderabad bowling coach James Franklin has backed the destructive batting forces to return to their explosive ways after back-to-back flop shows in the ongoing edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025.

The Sunrisers, who kicked off their campaign with a bang by clobbering the Rajasthan Royals, have lost their charm. Their manner of victory hinted towards a bright road ahead of them as the entire team sang in harmony. However, since trouncing the Royals, Hyderabad has lost its muse.

It all started when Lucknow Super Giants effortlessly gunned down their 191-run target.

The losing streak extended following a



bashing at the hands of the Delhi Capitals, which was topped up by the Kolkata Knight Riders, pummeling them to an 80-run defeat.

The Sunrisers' melancholic run comes down to their stubborn attacking approach and ineffectiveness with the ball in the death overs. With the bat, SRH batters have stuck to dispatching the ball past the boundary rope from the first ball, irrespective of the situation.

Former cricketers have suggested that Hyderabad should take

a slightly subtle route and spend time on the crease, analysing what the surface truly offers. Franklin exuded confidence in the misfiring Hyderabad stars and rooted for their return to business, just like they did in the previous edition.

"That hasn't worked in the last two games. It can sometimes be the nature of the game we play and the way our batters want to play the game. It hasn't been our best stuff in past games. We have confidence in our group to play the

attacking brand that we have shown over the last year or so," Franklin told reporters in the post-match press conference.

Apart from their adamant belligerent batting mentality, the lacklustre effort with the ball towards the death has left them exposed. The additional runs towards the end have allowed their opposition to turn their manageable totals into daunting ones.

Even against Kolkata, the Sunrisers bowlers combined to give away 78 runs in the last five overs of the first inning, allowing the hosts to muscle their way to 200/6 against the odds.

Franklin acknowledged that their execution in death is an area that needs to be reviewed. He advocated for the bowlers to find their rhythm, considering they would be raring to

go for their next encounter against the Gujarat Titans on Sunday.

"65 runs off the last four overs probably reflect that we didn't get it quite right. At the half-way stage, KKR were 84 or 85/2. If we'd managed the back 10 overs right, we probably could have kept them to 170-180, but we didn't quite right. The execution wasn't right," he said.

"As a coach, sometimes you sit there and think, could we have done better? Could we have been technically a bit braver in some aspects? Those are conversations that we'll have in the coming days before we go again on Sunday. It's reflection; it is between myself and the players who were out there, who will look to come back better, especially with the execution in death overs," he added.

New Zealand's Mark Chapman ruled out of 3rd ODI against Pakistan; Seifert remains with squad

MOUNTMAUNGANUI, Apr 4 (Agencies): New Zealand batter Mark Chapman, who missed the second ODI against Pakistan due to a hamstring injury, will sit out of the third and final game of the series on Saturday at Mount Maunganui.

Tim Seifert, who was announced as Chapman's replacement in the second ODI, will continue to serve as his replacement. Pakistan's nightmare, Chapman, sustained a minor hamstring tear while fielding during the ODI series opener in Napier.

"Chapman was ruled out of the second ODI in Hamilton with a minor hamstring tear, and an assessment at training today revealed he has not recovered sufficiently to take his place in the XI for the final match of the home summer," New Zealand Cricket said in a statement on Friday.

Before sustaining the injury, Chapman blew away Pakistan's star-studded lineup with his

career-best 132, which paved the way for New Zealand's resounding 73-run triumph. Even though Chapman had to sit out of the second ODI, New Zealand didn't break a sweat to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

While the first ODI had a touch of competitiveness, the second match reverberated with the Kiwis' dominance. Pakistan were beaten comprehensively in all facets of the game. Mitchell Hay's unbeaten 99* tormented Pakistani bowlers, while Ben Sears, with his maiden five-wicket haul, was a nightmare for the Men in Green batters.

Out of the top-six batters, including Babar Azam (1), Abdullah Shafique (1), Salman Agha (9), Mohammad Rizwan (5) and Imam-ul-Haq (3), only Tayyab Tahir (13) was able to hit the double-digit mark. At the same time, the rest settled for a single-digit score.



Seifert was called in for the second ODI in the wake of his blistering performances in the five-match T20I series. The 30-year-old played an invaluable role with his scorching performances as the Blackcaps clobbered Pakistan and sealed a comprehensive 4-1 triumph.

The experienced wicket-keeper batter ended the five-match affair as the leading run-scorer across both sides, boasting 249 runs at a strike rate of 207.50 and was crowned with

the Player of the Series award.

Even though Seifert has been named in the squad, he hasn't played an ODI for the Kiwis in the past five years. His last appearance dates back to January 2019 against Sri Lanka.

In the second ODI, Chapman was replaced by Sears, which saw Seifert sit out of the fixture. Apart from Chapman, New Zealand lost Tom Latham for the series after he fractured his hand during training before the first ODI.

'Neeraj Chopra Classic' javelin throw event scheduled to be held in Panchkula on May 24

NEW DELHI, Apr 4 (Agencies): The inaugural edition of the Neeraj Chopra Classic (NC Classic) javelin throw competition is set to be held at the Tau Devi Lal Stadium in Panchkula, Haryana, on May 24, the World Athletics confirmed, according to Olympics.com.

Scheduled as the NC Classic, the one-day javelin throw event has been classified as a World Athletics 'A' category event, equating to a Continental Tour Gold-level competition in ranking points.

The Continental Tour is a second-second-tier global athletics series behind the Diamond League. It was launched in 2020 as the successor to the World Challenge series and features four tiers, including gold, silver, bronze and challenger.

The tournament, headlined by India's ace javelin thrower, Neeraj Chopra, is expected



to host top male and female javelin throwers from around the world to compete in India for the first time.

Former Athletics Federation of India president Adille Sumariwalla had previously stated that the invitational tournament would feature the world's top 10 javelin throwers in the men's and women's

athletes and the fans in India will both create an experience that will be spoken about for a long time. I am excited to see how big we can make this," Neeraj Chopra said earlier this year.

Neeraj was last seen in action on Indian soil in 2024 at the National Federation Senior Athletics Competition in Bhubaneswar last year. In his build-up to the Paris 2024 Olympics, he threw his javelin 82.27 m.

In the Summer Games, the 27-year-old fell short of retaining his gold medal, but he delivered a remarkable performance, finishing with a best throw of 89.45 meters to settle for silver.

Despite a strong performance on his second attempt, he struggled with four consecutive foul throws, which prevented him from winning gold.

categories.

Neeraj is keen to make the event an annual fixture in the world athletics calendar, with an eye on adding more track and field disciplines to the meeting.

"It has been a long-standing dream of mine to organise and bring a world-class javelin competition to India. I am sure that my fellow

Admin Secy Bhupesh chairs Deregulation Cell meeting to accelerate business reforms in Ladakh

Top News Report

LEH, Apr 4: The Administrative Secretary of Agriculture and Horticulture Department and Chairperson of the Deregulation Cell, Bhupesh Chaudhary, chaired a meeting at the Civil Secretariat, Leh, to review and expedite the implementation of reforms under the Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP) in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

The meeting focused on streamlining regulatory processes and fostering a business-friendly environment in Ladakh. Discussions revolved around the progress of deregulation initiatives, challenges in



implementation, and strategies to enhance the ease of doing business in the region.

The Secretary emphasized the importance of interdepartmental coordination in ensuring the seamless execution of the reform agenda. He

directed the concerned departments to focus on achieving the 23 priority areas outlined in the reform plan.

The Secretary instructed officers to address the queries raised in the Government of India's template and

ensure that responses are prepared in a timely manner.

He also directed departments to nominate a dedicated officer for the deregulation exercise and to review the required formats as per the roster set by the

Deregulation Cell.

The meeting also highlighted the significance of digitization and process simplification in boosting business activities and improving governance.

The meeting was attended by the Member Secretary of the Ladakh Pollution Control Committee; Director of Industries & Commerce, Ladakh; Director of Urban Local Bodies, Ladakh; Director of Tourism, Ladakh; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Leh; Deputy Labour Commissioner; Public Law Officer; Chief Engineer, PHE; and OSD to the Secretary, Power Development Department.

GGM Science College hosts expert talk on 'Motivation Through Goal Setting'



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: GGM Science College organized an insightful expert talk on "Motivation Through Goal Setting," aimed at inspiring students to adopt a structured approach toward success. The event was spearheaded by the College Committee for Debates, Seminars, and Symposiums in association with the NSS wing of the college, under the esteemed supervision of Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of the College.

The keynote speaker for the session was Rizwan Uddin, Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Jammu and Kashmir, and a distinguished motivational speaker.

He emphasized the transformative power of goal setting in both personal and professional growth, urging students to take the first step with confidence.

"Uncertainty is certain, but it's our mindset that

matters," he remarked, encouraging attendees to develop resilience and self-belief in the face of challenges.

During his address, Rizwan Uddin elaborated on the crucial role of clear objectives, self-discipline, and determination in achieving success. Through real-life examples and interactive discussions, he guided students in aligning their aspirations with practical, actionable steps. The session received an enthusiastic response, with attendees appreciating the motivational insights and tangible strategies provided.

The event commenced with a warm welcome by Dr. Ashaq Hussain, who introduced the keynote speaker and extended gratitude on behalf of GGM Science College.

Later, in his closing remarks, Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta expressed deep appreciation for Rizwan Uddin's thought-provoking and inspiring

discourse, emphasizing the significance of such engagements in shaping young minds.

The session witnessed the participation of senior faculty members, including Prof. Vandana Khajuria, Dr. Narinder Kumar, and committee members Prof. Shalini Sharma, Dr. Neha Mahajan, Prof. Akanksha Parihar, Dr. Arun Kumar, Dr. Rohit Bhardwaj, and Prof. Neha Sharma, NSS Program Officer of the College.

The event concluded with a dynamic question-answer segment, where students eagerly interacted with the speaker, seeking guidance on overcoming obstacles in goal implementation.

The event formally ended with a vote of thanks by Prof. Akanksha Parihar, who acknowledged the speaker's invaluable insights and expressed appreciation for the collective efforts of the entire team and NSS in making the event a resounding success.

Ahead of meeting with National Leadership, Congress District Presidents hold meeting with PCC Leadership

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: Ahead of the scheduled meeting with Central Leadership of the party, the District Congress Committee (DCC) Presidents of J&K met under the chairmanship of J&K Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) President Tariq Hameed Karra at AICC Hq 24 Akbar Road in Delhi.

G.A. Mir, AICC General Secretary and CLP

Leader also attended. The meeting discussed the organizational affairs and current political situation in J&K and the strategy to further strengthen the organization and to play the role of a vibrant political force in consonance with the principles and the political ideology of the Congress.

Ahead of the meeting later in the day with Congress President



Mallikarjun Kharge, Leader of opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, General Secretary

Jt Secy Distribution, MoP commends JPDCL efforts during Jammu visit to review RDSS progress

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: Shashank Misra, Joint Secretary Distribution, Ministry of Power (MoP) and Rahul Dwivedi, visited Jammu to review the functioning of the Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL) and assess the progress of works under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS).

During the meeting, Managing Director JPDCL, Yasin M. Choudhary, provided a detailed briefing on the achievements, challenges, and implementation status of RDSS.

Representatives from NTPC, PESL, RECPDCL, and other key stakeholders also participated, sharing insights on work prioritization and the need for re-evaluating on-ground conditions that have contributed to increased execution costs.



The Joint Secretary acknowledged JPDCL's commitment and proactive approach in tackling project challenges while ensuring steady progress. It was noted that despite facing hurdles, JPDCL has remained focused on optimizing resources and prioritizing high-loss areas to maximize RDSS benefits.

The Joint Secretary commended JPDCL's emphasis on efficiency-enhancing measures, such as feeder segregation

and adjustments in pole quantities for reconductoring works, which are expected to significantly reduce technical losses and improve system reliability.

Additionally, concerns were raised regarding the slow progress of smart metering, M/s Genus, the implementing agency.

The Joint Secretary directed RECPDCL to take immediate corrective measures and enhance monitoring to

ensure the timely completion of smart metering targets.

The meeting also reviewed the status of loss reduction works, pending payments to Turnkey Contractors (TKCs), and compliance with pre-qualification requirements.

The Joint Secretary lauded JPDCL's continuous efforts in executing RDSS initiatives and urged all stakeholders to further accelerate implementation to achieve the scheme's objectives.

ADGP Armed Anand Jain decorates newly promoted officers



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 4: In a pipping ceremony held at Armed Police Head-

quarters J&K, Jammu on Friday, Anand Jain, Addl. Director General Armed Police (ADGP) J&K decorated DySP

rank to Bashir Ahmad and Neelam Sharma who have been recently promoted to the present Rank of DySP (M) Vide

J&K Home Deptt Order No. 176 -Home of 2025 dated March 24, 2025.

While congratulating the newly promoted officers, the ADGP extended good wishes to both the officers and their families for future endeavours.

He hoped that the promotion will inspire the officers to work with more vigour and responsibility in their working assignments and they will continue to work with same zeal and zest.

Dalip Kumar SSP, Staff Officer to ADGP Armed along with other officers was also present on the occasion.

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