

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, MONDAY, APRIL 07, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

Shreya Ghoshal retrieves her X account, says 'All is well'



NATIONAL | 7

Good health foundation of every thriving society: PM Modi

INTERNATIONAL | 8

Taiwan President announces to adopt five response strategy for dealing with US tariffs



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-12 Issue-95 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Five-Day wet spell to begin in J&K from Tuesday

SRINAGAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir is likely to experience a five-day wet spell starting Tuesday, the Meteorological Department said. Jammu travel guide

While the weather is expected to remain mainly dry across the Union Territory over the next 24 hours, the MeT has forecast isolated to scattered light rain and thunderstorms beginning tomorrow.

According to the MeT, Kashmir is likely to witness fairly widespread rainfall on April 9 and 10, while the Jammu region may see scattered showers from April 9 to 11. The wet spell is expected to continue across J&K till April 12.

Meanwhile, the minimum night temperatures have remained 2 to 5°C above normal in most parts of Kashmir and 3 to 5°C above normal across Jammu division.

The famous tourist resort of Pahalgam in south Kashmir recorded the lowest minimum temperature in the Valley at 4.4°C, while Bhaderwah was the coldest in Jammu division at 11.1°C.

The summer capital Srinagar registered a minimum temperature of 9.4°C, which is 2.5°C above the normal for this time of year.

The ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir, saw a minimum of 6.0°C, which is 5.5°C higher than average.

The day temperatures continued to soar across Jammu and Kashmir, with maximum temperatures remaining 7 to 9°C above normal in most parts of Kashmir and 5 to 7°C above normal in Jammu division.

Fire breaks out near PDP office in Srinagar, operation on

SRINAGAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): A fire broke out near Peoples' Democratic Party office here on Monday. The officials from Fire and Emergency Services said that fire broke out near the office premises located near polo view in City centre.

The officials said as soon as they received the fire call, they pressed in multiple fire tenders to douse off the flames.

"Multiple fire tenders have been pressed to douse off the flames. The operation is still on, and more details are awaited," an official said.

Stock Market crash makes investors poorer by Rs 20.16 Lakh Cr in Morning Trade

NEW DELHI, Apr 7 (Agencies): Investors' wealth eroded sharply by Rs 20.16 lakh crore on Monday morning as the benchmark indices faced heavy drubbing, with the Sensex dropping over 5 per cent, amid a global market meltdown due to growing trade war concerns. The 30-share BSE benchmark tumbled 3,939.68 points or 5.22 per cent to 71,425.01 in early trade.

Mirroring the bearish trend in equities, the market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms declined sharply by Rs 20,16,293.53 crore to Rs 3,83,18,592.93 crore (USD 4.50 trillion) during the morning trade.

All the Sensex firms were trading lower. Tata



Steel and Tata Motors dropped over 10 per cent each. Larsen & Toubro, HCL Technologies, Adani Ports, Tech Mahindra, Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services, Reliance Industries and Mahindra & Mahindra were the other big laggards.

In Asian markets, Hong Kong's Hang Seng index tanked more than 11 per cent, Tokyo's Nikkei

225 plunged 7 per cent, Shanghai SSE Composite index dropped nearly 7 per cent and South Korea's Kospi sank over 5 per cent.

US markets ended significantly lower on Friday. The S&P 500 tanked 5.97 per cent, Nasdaq composite slumped 5.82 per cent, and the Dow tumbled 5.50 per cent on Friday. "Globally markets are

going through heightened volatility caused by extreme uncertainty. No one has a clue about how this turbulence caused by Trump's tariffs will evolve. Wait and watch would be the best strategy in this turbulent phase of the market," V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services, said.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude dropped 2.76 per cent to USD 63.77 a barrel.

The BSE smallcap gauge cracked 6.62 per cent, and the midcap index tanked 5.01 per cent.

All the BSE sectoral indices were trading in negative territory. Metal tumbled nearly 8 per

Turn to page 9

Waqf (Amendment) Bill: J&K Assembly Speaker adjourns house twice as NC MLAs create ruckus



JAMMU, Apr 7 (Agencies): Speaker of Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Abdul Rahim Rather on Monday adjourned the House twice as the National Conference MLAs created uproar demanding discussion on the Waqf (amendment) Bill- 2025.

The Speaker, however, said the matter is sub-judice.

The NC legislators

stood up demanding discussion on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill-2025 passed by the Parliament as soon as the House proceedings started on Monday morning after 12 days.

Shouting anti-BJP slogans, the ruling party MLAs said, "If the GST law brought by the Centre was discussed in J&K assembly, why Waqf Bill in the Mus-

lim-majority "state" of Jammu and Kashmir cannot be discussed."

Citing sub-rule (7) of Rule 58 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the House, the Speaker, said the matter has become sub-judice as it has been challenged in the highest court of the country, disallowed adjournment motion moved by legislators from National Conference and Sheikh Khurshid.

As the NC MLAs continued protesting in the well of the House, tore papers, waved black badges, the Speaker adjourned the House for 15 minutes.

Later, when the House proceedings resumed,

Turn to page 9

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju, CM Omar Abdullah visit Tulip Garden



SRINAGAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju and Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday enjoyed a peaceful morning walk together in the beautiful Tulip

Garden in Srinagar. Jammu travel guide

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju also met National Conference (NC) President Dr Farooq Abdullah.

Taking to social media, X, Kiren Rijiju wrote, "A refreshing morning walk amid the vibrant hues of

the Tulip Garden in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir, with Hon'ble CM Shri @OmarAbdullah ji and also glad to meet Dr Farooq Abdullah sahab."

"Nature at its finest & conversations filled with warmth & vision, a truly special morning," the post reads.

Rijiju shared his experience, describing the stunning natural surroundings and the meaningful conversations they had, making it a memorable and special morning.

The Tulip Garden in Srinagar is the largest Tulip garden in Asia, spread over an area of

Turn to page 9

NC inciting religious sentiments on Waqf Bill: BJP's Sunil Sharma

SRINAGAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, Sunil Sharma Monday said that the National Conference (NC) is inciting religious sentiments on the Waqf Amendment Bill.

Speaking to reporters, Sharma, said that the Waqf Bill has been passed in the Parliament and is now sub-judice, therefore, discussing the Bill in the Assembly is unconstitutional.

He said that three National Conference parliamentarians remained silent on the issue and now the party including the speaker is trying to incite religious sentiments by demanding a discussion on the Bill in the assembly.

Srinagar Police book two more drug peddlers under PIT NDPS Act

SRINAGAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): Continuing the relentless crackdown against drug trafficking and dismantling the illegal narcotics network, Srinagar Police has booked two infamous drug peddlers under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (PIT-NDPS Act).

According to the Police

Turn to page 9

Waqf Law: Opposition parties Slam Omar for rolling out Red Carpet for Rijiju

SRINAGAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday met Union Minister Kiren Rijiju at Asia's largest Tulip Garden here, a meeting which drew flak from opposition parties which dubbed it as "Waqf law bonhomie".

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah was also present during the meeting.

The opposition Peoples' Democratic Party (PDP) and Peoples' Conference targeted the ruling National Conference over the meeting, and accused it of surrendering to the BJP without even a pretence over the passage of the Waqf act.

"Waqf Law bonhomie! So soon. Not even a pretence while the ruling party members indulge in a drama in assembly over the issue. Mr Rijiju

piloted the bill in Parliament as minority affairs minister," PDP leader Naem Akhtar said.

Another PDP leader and party's MLA from Pulwama, Waheed Para, said the Muslims of J-K have been "reduced to props" in the government's "political theatre" — useful on stage, but far too inconvenient to represent when real decisions are to be made.

"Meanwhile, Tamil Nadu has rejected the Waqf Bill outrightly because they have the spine to show opposition. But the NC keeps surrendering for political gains at the cost of our people and institutions," Para charged on X.

The Pulwama MLA said the NC has rolled out a red carpet at the Tulip Garden for the Union minister, who introduced and defended the Waqf Amendment

Bill in the Parliament.

"Let's be clear: No resolution on Waqf is silent approval. And the NC MLAs can protest for optics all they want. But we know that the CM and NC patron have rolled out a red carpet in the Tulip Garden for none other than Kiren Rijiju — the very Minister who introduced and defended the bill in Parliament," he said.

"Who would have thought that 'defending minority rights' looks like a giggling photo op in full bloom? Talk about abandoning the so-called sweeping mandate!" Para said.

Peoples' Conference chief Sajad Lone said the chief minister should have stayed away from the Union minister as a mark of protest.

"The least Muslims of India deserved was that in J and K, the only Muslim majority

Turn to page 9

Over 8 lakh beneficiaries receive monthly pension in J&K: Govt

SRINAGAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday informed the Legislative Assembly that over 8 lakh beneficiaries across the Union Territory receive monthly financial assistance under several schemes, with 4.5 lakh in Kashmir and 3.6 lakh in Jammu.

Responding to a query

by MLA Irfan Hafiz Lone, the minister incharge while denying the claims of disbursement delay also informed that pension is being regularly disbursed in accordance with scheme guidelines.

"4,50,797 eligible beneficiaries in Kashmir Division receive monthly financial aid under the Integrated Social Security Scheme (ISSS), with

an additional 64,881 beneficiaries covered under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP). In Jammu Division, 3,61,182 beneficiaries avail pension benefits under the same schemes", the minister said.

Responding to another query, he said that there is delay in marriage

Turn to page 9

CHOUBARSI



SMT. SUMITA SARAF

"YOU MAY BE GONE FROM OUR SIGHT, BUT NEVER FROM OUR HEARTS"
YOUR TEACHINGS AND VALUES STILL RUN IN OUR DNA.
FOUR YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE YOU LEFT US FOR THE HEAVENLY ABODE, BUT YOUR MEMORIES ARE STILL FRESH IN OUR HEARTS.
MAY THE ALMIGHTY GRANT ETERNAL PEACE TO YOUR NOBLE SOUL. WE ALL SEEK YOUR KIND BLESSINGS IN OUR DAY-TO-DAY LIFE..

PLEASE JOIN US IN REMEMBERING AND PRAYING FOR THE SOUL OF OUR BELOVED SMT. SUMITA SARAF W/O MR ANIL SARAF ON HER CHOUBARSI ON WEDNESDAY, 9TH APRIL 2025 AT 11:00 AM AT H.NO 391 SECTOR 1 CHANNI HIMMAT JAMMU .
OM SHANTI
WITH LOVE AND REMEMBRANCE

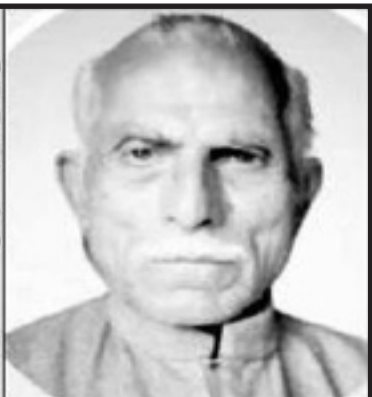
FONDLY REMEMBERED BY :
MR. ANIL SARAF - HUSBAND
MRS. BIMLA SARAF - MOTHER IN LAW
MR. VARUN SARAF - SON
MR. NIKHIL SARAF - SON
AND ENTIRE SARAF FAMILY
MOB : 9419186761, 9796011111

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With Profound grief and Sorrow, we regret to inform the Sad demise of our beloved **SH. HIRDAY NATH HANDOO (GASHA Ji)** S/o. Lt. Sh. Maheshwar Nath Handoo originally resident of Bagh Jogi Lanker, Rainawari, Srinagar, Kashmir, at present Block No-161, Flat No-13, Lane-25, Jagti Township, Jammu. The **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat on 11th April 2025 at 7 AM and **Assembly** will be held at our residence at Jagti at 10:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Smt. Pushpa Handoo (Wife)
Smt. Dulari Ji W/o Lt. Sh. Janki Nath Handoo (Bhabhi)
Smt. Santosh Ji W/o. Lt. Sh. Lok Nath Handoo (Bhabhi)
Son & Daughter - in - law.
Rajesh and Anita
Sushil Krishan and Sushma
Vimal and Anju
Vishal and Priya
Daughters and Sons - in - law
Smt. Neelam and Sh. Seth ji Koul
Smt. Lalita and Sh. O.N. Dhar
Smt. Bimla and Sh. Ramesh Pandita
Smt. Anita and Sh. Dheeraj Bhat
Grand Children
Anuraj, Bhoomi, Bhumiya, Shivani, Suraj, Sunil, Seema, Rohit, Kashish, Mysha
Handoo's, Tikoo's, Raina's, Koul's, Mattoo's, Pandita's



SH. HIRDAY NATH HANDOO (GASHA Ji)

BARKHI

BARKHI of our beloved **Lt. Smt Geeta Slathia W/o Himat Singh Slathia** will be performed on 11th April at 11:30AM, Friday 2025 at Kabir Mandir, Uttarbehni.

Deeply missed and remembered by :
Sh Himat Singh Slathia (Husband)

Dinesh Singh Slathia (Son)
Rekha Slathia (Daughter In Law)
Priyanka Slathia (Daughter)
Rajesh Manhas (Son In Law)
Ph. 9811512303, 9419641241
Slathia Family (Ramnagar) & Jamwal Family (Kot Bhalwal)



Lt. Smt Geeta Slathia

10TH DAY KRIYAKARAM

We are profoundly anguished by the untimely demise of Param Shivbhat and our beloved **Lt. Sh. Awatar Krishan Bhat (Billu ji)**, Son of Lt. Sh. Veshamber Nath Bhat, originally a resident of Bonagund, Verinag, Kashmir and presently residing at H.No. 120/D, Vitasta Lane, Durga Nagar, Jammu. He departed for his heavenly abode to be one with Sadashiv on 04-04-2025.

The **10th Day Kriyakaram** will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 13-04-2025 at 9:00 AM.

IRREPARABLY STRICKEN:

Smt. Sujeta Bhat (Wife)
Sh. R.K. Bhat & Smt. Sonia Bhat (Brother & Bhabhi)
Smt. Bubi Tikoo (Sister)
Sh. Roop K. Bhat & Smt. Lovely (Brother-in-law & Sister)
Aakash Bhat, Shivam Bhat, Sagar Bhat, Rushank Bhat & Vikasta Bhat (Sons & Daughter)
CONTACT NUMBERS: 9697541881, 9149454098



Lt. Sh. Awatar Krishan Bhat (Billu ji)

FATEH KHAWANI

"Indeed to Allah we belong and to him we shall return"

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of **Mohammed Aslam Khan (Chief Engineer PDD)** S/o Sardar Mohammed Akbar Khan R/o Shalimar, Srinagar on 5th April 2025.

In Shaa Allah the congregational **Fateh Khawani** shall take place at graveyard near their residence in Banigam, Shalimar, Srinagar on Tuesday the 8th April 2025 at 10:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Arshad Khan, Asim Khan, Nazim Khan, Zaid Khan and Adeem Khan
CELL NO: 9906628888, 9906029999



Mohammed Aslam Khan (Chief Engineer PDD)

10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Sham Rani W/o Late Sh. Soom Nath R/o Sagam Anantnag** Present Address Roop Nagar, Muthi. **10th Day** will be performed at Muthi Ghat on Sunday (13/4/2025) 8.00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Narinder Nath (Son)
Smt. Kanta (Daughter-in-law)
Sh. Rajinder Nath (Son)
Smt. Bunty Kher (Daughter)
Sh. Ravinder Kher (Son-in-law)
Smt. Pushpa Pandita (Daughter)
Sh. P. N. Pandita (Son-in-law)
(Grand Children)

Amit, Ayoushman, Preeti, Anu, Rohit, Rishab & Navneet Sakshi (Grand Daughter-in-law)
Contact No. : 6005374003, 8713099969



Smt. Sham Rani

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 Krishan 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/ 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 Srigdha 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, Anika



DR. KIRAN BALA GUPTA

CONTACT:- 9419233857, 7889911015, 9858501150

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/13TH DAY

With deep sorrow and grief, we regret to inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. SHOBHA RANI W/o Sh. Madan Singh R/o Ward No. 49, Rajput Mohalla, Chhani Rama Jammu** who left for heavenly abode on 30-03-2025

10TH DAY will be performed on 08-4-2025 at 10 am and **13th Day** will be performed on 11-04-2025 at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Madan Singh (Husband)
Mr. Mukesh Singh (Son)
Smt. Kailasho Devi (Mother in Law)
Sh. Avtar Singh & Smt. Neena Rani (Brother & Sister in law)
Sh. Tirath Singh & Smt. Reva Jamwal (Brother & Sister in law)
Ranbir Singh, Pallavi Jamwal, Keshav Singh, Tushar Dev Singh (Nephew & Niece)
M.NO. 9906100735, 9697624928



SMT. SHOBHA RANI

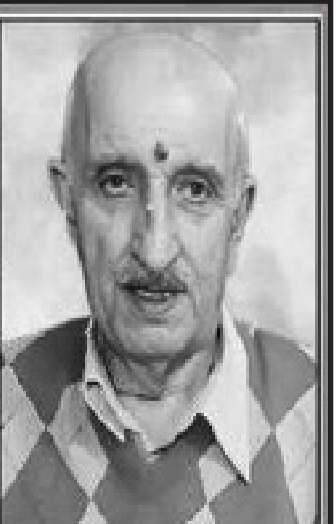
Tenth Day Kriya

The 10th Day Kriya of our beloved **Late Jawahar Lal Raina Boni @ Pappa Ji, R/o Malayar Srinagar/ Peemitha, Jammu A/P 411, Phase 2, Model Town Batindha Punjab** who left for his heavenly abode on 31st of March at Batindha shall be performed at Haridwar on 09-04-2025.

The rest of the rituals shall be performed at his residence at Bathinda.

Grief Stricken:

Rainas (Bonis), Kaks, Lalas, Kouls, Tickoos
Cell Nos.: 9781129302, 9906382637, 9833599330, 8283817764, 98220 30577



Sh. Jawahar Lal Raina Boni

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Sham Rani W/o Late Sh. Soom Nath R/o Sagam Anantnag** at Present H.No. 110, Lane 1-A, Roop Nagar Enclave, Near HDFC Bank, Jammu.

10th Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat, Near Director of School Education on Sunday (13/4/2025) at 8.00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Narinder Nath (Son) # 6005374003
Smt. Kanta (Daughter-in-law)
Sh. Rajinder Nath (Son)
Sh. P. N. Pandita (Son-in-law) # 7780861992
Smt. Pushpa Pandita (Daughter)
Sh. Ravinder Khar (Son-in-law) # 7006199566
Smt. Bunty Khar (Daughter)
Amit & Ayoushman (Grand Sons)
Smt. Sakshi Pandita (Grand Daughter-in-law)
Rahul Pandita & Preeti Pandita (Grand Son-in-law & Grand Daughter)
Sh. Parth Ji & Anu (Grand Son-in-law & Grand Daughter)
Sh. Rahul Pandita & Simran Pandita (Grand Son & Grand Daughter-in-law)
Rishab & Navneet (Grand Sons)



Smt. Sham Rani

10TH DAY KRIYA KARAM

We are profoundly anguished by untimely demise of **Sh. Pushker Nath Raina S/o Vishamber Nath Raina** on 02-04-2025 R/o Goja Mohalla Anantnag Kashmir at present, 287-A Kashmir Gali near Rose Valley School Vipin Garden New Delhi 59.

The **10th Day** will be performed at Shree Gaur Shanker Mandir (Kashmir temple) New Palam Vihar Gurugram and Assembly will be at our residence at 11.00 AM on 11-04-2025.

GRIEF STRICKEN :

Kishni Jee - Wife (Son & Daughter in law)
Roop Krishan Raina & Reena Tikoo (Son-in-law & Daughter)
Vijay Jee Pandita & Sujata Pandita (Anmol, Astha, Bhubub & Naina (Grand Children) & SAMAST RAINA/PANDITA/TICKOO PARIWAR
MOB : 9540339361/ 996089361/ 9811236299



Sh. Pushker Nath Raina

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Laxmishori Pandita (Chuni Ji) W/o Late Madhav Lal Pandita** original resident of Bonpora Akingam Anantnag at present Durga Vihar Toll Post Kandoli Nagrota on 04-04-2025 (Friday).

Tenth Day Kriya will be held on 13-04-2025 (Saturday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 9 am.

Grief Stricken

Smt. & Sh. Maharaj Krishan Pandita
Sh. Ramesh Pandita
Smt. & Sh. Sudesh Krishan Pandita
Sh. Vinod Kumar Pandita
Smt. & Sh. Sanjay Pandita
Smt. & Sh. Dilip Kumar Pandita
Smt. & Sh. Opinder Krishan Pandita
Grand Children
Bhavik Pandita, Bhavini Pandita, Rupin Pandita, Medhasvi Pandita
Mob. No: 9858294736, 8491950038



Smt. Laxmishori Pandita (Chuni Ji)

DISCLAIMER

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

Work tirelessly towards building a stronger, more prosperous India: Kavinder

Highlights BJP's unwavering commitment to national development & unity

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta today commemorated the Party's Foundation Day by reflecting on its evolution and accomplishments since its inception.

Addressing party members and supporters at Party Headquarters in Jammu, the BJP stalwart underscored the BJP's unwavering commitment to national development and unity. Tracing the party's

roots, Kavinder recalled his early involvement with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) at the age of thirteen and his subsequent imprisonment during The Emergency, highlighting the party's resilience during challenging times. He emphasized the BJP's transformation from a grassroots movement to a formidable political force, attributing its success to the dedication of its members and its focus on inclusive development.

Kavinder lauded the leadership of Prime

Minister Narendra Modi, noting that the Central Government's initiatives over the past decade have significantly contributed to India's progress. He cited the government's efforts in enhancing infrastructure, promoting economic growth, and strengthening national security.

Kavinder expressed confidence that the populace's support would ensure Modi's third consecutive term as Prime Minister, stating, "People across Jammu and Kashmir, like other parts of the country, are

convinced that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has shown real concern for the development and welfare of over 140 crore people of the country."

Reflecting on the party's impact in Jammu and Kashmir, Kavinder highlighted the BJP's role in ushering in a new era of development and governance. He pointed to the region's infrastructural advancements and the central government's focus on integrating Jammu and Kashmir more closely with the rest of the nation.

In his concluding



remarks, Kavinder called upon party members to remain steadfast in their dedication to the BJP's principles and to work tirelessly towards building a stronger, more prosperous India. He reiterated the party's commitment to serving the nation and its citizens, emphasizing that the journey of growth and development continues with renewed vigor.

APS Damana commemorates World Health Day with Zest



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Army Public School (APS) Damana celebrated World Health Day on Monday under the theme "Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures," with a series of engaging and informative activities aimed at promoting the importance of health and well-being.

The day began with a special morning assembly led by the students of Class X D, who highlighted the significance of leading a healthy lifestyle.

Following the assembly, the school organized various Inter-Class CCA and Athletic activities to reinforce the importance of healthy living.

A standout event was the "What's in my Tiffin - Protein-Rich Food" competition for Class VI, alongside a Salad-Making Competition for students of Classes VII and VIII.

Students eagerly participated in creating nutritious and colourful salads, learning about the benefits of healthy eating and the importance of incorporating fresh vegetables and fruits into their daily meals. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of Dr. Suman Shan, MBBS, MS, who

has extensive experience at Acharya Shree Chander College, ECHS Bhuj, Gangtok and Poly-clinic Mamun Cantt. She was invited as the special guest for the occasion.

The pivotal aim of organizing the session was to help Parents understand the importance of maintaining good health. The session was well-attended, with a significant number of fathers also participating. By sharing expert insights and practical advice, the session sought to create deeper awareness about how healthy habits can lead to a brighter and more hopeful future for children.

In her address, Dr. Shan passionately spoke about the age-old wisdom, "A healthy mind resides in a healthy body," encouraging parents to nurture both their children's physical and mental well-being. She stressed the importance of providing children with a balanced diet and limiting their exposure to social media. Dr. Shan urged parents to focus on quality time with their children, explaining that such moments would improve mental health and strengthen family bonds.

A key part of Dr. Shan's

session was her discussion on the growing concern of vitamin D deficiency among children. She recommended that parents must encourage their children to spend at least 20 minutes in the sun twice a week for better overall health.

During the session, both parents and children had the opportunity to ask questions. One insightful query came from Riddit Singh, a prodigy of Class VII, who asked how families can engage together without relying on social media. Dr. Shan thoughtfully emphasized the importance of real-world connections and activities that foster communication and bonding outside the digital world.

Puspinder Kaur, the Principal of the school, also addressed the gathering, highlighting the significance of World Health Day. She emphasized that true happiness can only be achieved through good health and stressed the need to build a strong and healthy society.

The event concluded with a token of gratitude being presented to Dr. Suman Shan by the Principal and a vote of thanks was proposed by Akansha Gulati and Riddit Rajput from Class VII.

Workshop on 'Team Building & Smart Education' organised by Model Academy School

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Model Academy, the prestigious school of MIER organised an insightful workshop for its teachers on April 05, 2025, titled "Team Building & Smart Education," led by expert trainer and CBSE resource person Dr. Renu Gupta. The session focused on fostering teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills among teachers. Ms. Divya Rathore, Incharge Training, welcomed the participants and highlighted the workshop's goal of enhancing collaboration within the teaching community.

Dr. Renu Gupta delivered an insightful talk on the importance of team building and smart education in today's fast-paced world. She emphasized how team-building activities



enhance communication, leadership, adaptability, and trust among teachers, fostering collaboration and professional growth.

Highlighting the role of smart education, she spoke on how AI, interactive tools, and data analytics personalize learning, encourage curiosity, and support self-paced progress. The fusion of team building and smart education, she noted, cultivates critical thinking and problem-solving skills—essential for

future readiness.

Dr. Gupta also stressed the importance of emotional well-being, especially in school children, and how a supportive environment among teachers can positively impact students. The session encouraged active participation and stepping beyond comfort zones, reinforcing a shared vision for dynamic and efficient learning communities.

The Q&A session encouraged open dialogue, with participants

sharing questions and experiences. Pramod Kumar Srivastava, Principal, Model Academy, highlighted the importance of team building and smart education in creating a dynamic learning environment. He emphasized that a collaborative atmosphere among teachers fosters both personal and professional growth, leading to more effective teaching and better student outcomes.

Joint Director Rupa Gupta commended the

resource person for effectively emphasizing collaboration among educators and the role of technology in education.

The workshop met its objectives by promoting team building and enhancing smart education practices.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Mr. Prince Sharma, Academic Incharge, Middle Wing followed by felicitation of the resource person.

Acting Workshop by Natrang from April 13

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Natrang Jammu is going to organise 'Acting Workshop' from 13th April, 2025 at Natrang studio Theatre, Jammu. This workshop will have special focus on various aspects of acting. In its continuous effort to provide training and generate awareness about theatre amongst youth, Natrang Jammu always endeavours to organise Acting workshops for freshers at Natrang Studio Theatre, Kachi Chawni, Jammu. Director Natrang, Padamshree Balwant Thakur while giving details said that this exclusive Acting Workshop will introduce elementary aspects of acting processes and also will meet a very noble purpose of making youth aware about their strengths and weaknesses which is must for their overall personality development. The workshop will be conducted by Neeraj Kant who has been working with youth since last 20 years and Sumeet Sharma who is a post-graduate in performing arts and Yuva Bismillah Khan Awardee for direction in theatre.

Theatre hones the skills of its practitioners and makes them more confident, creative, imaginative and spontaneous that is why

Natrang keeps on organizing such workshops for the benefit of the youth. Most importantly theatre helps in sharpening the communication skills and develops public speaking of the participants.

Moreover in last few years there is a growing demand of actors in the industry of theatre, events, OTT, television and films and just to respond to that, Natrang has taken the initiative to help, support and train the fresh talents. Jammu, in the last few years has been very popular in the theatre and television industry and many young talents from Jammu have made a huge name in theatre, films and TV industry.

All those who want to be a part of this training programme and are above 15 years of age may immediately contact Natrang office situated at Municipal Building, Tange Wali Gali, Palace Road Jammu or may mail requests to natrangjammu@gmail.com or telephonically approach the coordinator of the workshop on 9419106669, 8713049875 and 9906048670.

Many known faces of television like Harish Khanna (Saat Khoon Maaf, Film) Bhanu Goswami (Movies); Lakshya (2004), Dhokha (2007),

Machhli Jal Ki Raani Hai (2012) and Unfreedom (2014) and television shows Special Squad (2005) as Aryan Khanna, Har Kadam Par Shaque (Specials @ 10 on Sony TV, 2009), Ek Tha Rusty (2012-2013) as Rusty, Hamari Sister Didi (2014) as Dr. Karan, Choker Bali (Rabindranath Tagore's stories on Epic channel, 2015) as Mahendra, Meri Awaaz Hi Pehchaan Hai (2016) as Rajram Gaekwad and Vijay Naamdhaari in 'Saam Daam Dand Bhed', Sunil Palwal (Jolly LLL2, Maha Kumb, 24 'Mughal-e-Aazam' 'Yeh Dil Ramta Yogi', 'Chehra-the unknown mask', 'Satin Sin B's', MTV Rush, Shappatah, Rakshak, Sapne Suhaane Ladakpan Ke) Neelu Dogra (1971 Film) Mohit Raina (Devon Ke Dev Maha Dev) Anjali Abrol (Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat, Nachh Baliye, Singh Sahab The Great), Juhi Singh (Yahaan, Film) Maansi Sharma (Saavdhaan India, Jugaadi.com-Punjabi Movie, Malyalam Film-Acha Din, Aasmaan Se Aage, Devon Ke Dev Mahadev, Mahabharat, Pavitra Rishta, Pyaar Ko Ho Jaane Do) Neelam Pathania (Badi Door Se Aaye Hai) Ekta Kaul (Rabb Se Sona Ishq, Tere Angne Mei, Ek Rishta Aisa Bhi, Bade Acche Lagte Hai, Jhalak



Dikhla Ja-Season 6, Box Cricket League, Yeh Hai Aashiqi), Tajasvi Sharma (Bhanwar), Mohit Sharma (Koi Laut Ke Aaya Hai, Akbar Birbal, CID, Super Cops vs Super Villain, Crime Petrol, Kabool Hai, Guddu Ki Gun Movie, Sun Yaar Try Maar, Beintehaa,

Mahi Sagar, Jamai Raja) and Pankush Verma (Kabool Hai, Saavdhan India, CID, Super Cops vs Supper Villain) Vrinda Gujral (Sabse Bada Kakalar) are from Jammu and most of them are the products of similar kind of Natrang's workshops and training programmes.

TARANG Club organizes Group Discussion to Sharpen Communication Skills and Career Readiness

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: In a commendable effort to enhance student's communication skills and prepare them for future career opportunities, the TARANG Club of the School of Electronics and Communication Engineering (SoECE) organized a Group Discussion (GD) session for 3rd-year ECE students, under the guidance of Dr. Anil Kumar Bhardwaj, Head of the Department. A total of nine students actively participated in the session, engaging in a thoughtful discussion on the topic "70-hour Work Week vs Work-Life Balance." The participants shared diverse perspectives, debating

the benefits and challenges of an intense work culture compared to maintaining a healthy work-life balance.

The discussion was insightful, respectful, and interactive, allowing students to express themselves confidently and respond thoughtfully to differing opinions. The session was aimed at helping students overcome stage fear, develop public speaking skills, and strengthen interpersonal communication—key competencies for placement interviews, especially in group discussions and personal interaction rounds. Dr. Vikram Singh, Faculty Coordinator of TARANG, expressed satisfaction with the conduct and outcome of the session. He emphasized the



importance of such platforms in nurturing confidence, clarity of thought, and effective communication among students. Students appreciated the initiative, stating that it helped them gain confidence and offered a real-world setting to practice collaborative communication.

Dr. Bhardwaj also reiterated the need for soft skills development alongside technical knowl-

edge and encouraged students to continue engaging in such meaningful activities.

The session was a successful step toward holistic student development and is expected to pave the way for more such initiatives, reaffirming the department's and TARANG Club's commitment to preparing students for academic and professional excellence.

EDITORIAL

World
Health Day

Every year, as the world tilts gently into April, a quiet yet powerful celebration stirs on the 7th World Health Day. It isn't just a day marked on calendars; it's a moment of reflection, a chorus of consciousness that sings of our shared fragility and collective strength. On this day, we raise our voices not in alarm, but in aspiration—for a world where health is not a privilege but a promise kept for all. Health is the melody of life. It is the rhythm in a child's laughter, the strength in a farmer's hands, the breath of a mother as she rocks her newborn to sleep. But it is also the silence in overburdened hospitals, the sighs of those without access, and the aching pauses in communities left behind. World Health Day urges us to listen—to the whispers of neglected diseases, the cries for clean water, the silent battles with mental illness. It invites us to tune our hearts to the global symphony of healing. This year's theme, like a compass, points us toward "My Health, My Right." A bold and beautiful reminder that health isn't a gift—it's a human right. Whether we're nestled in the heart of a bustling city or tucked away in a rural village, every soul deserves clean air, nutritious food, affordable healthcare, and the dignity to live well. This day is a poetic protest against inequality, a declaration that no one should suffer or perish simply because they were born into poverty or politics. Yet, while the dream is noble, the path is tangled. The pandemic showed us how deeply interconnected—and how deeply unequal—our world truly is. It tore through borders but revealed walls we had built between us. Some received vaccines in gleaming clinics; others waited, hoping, watching. Mental health, once a taboo, surged to the surface. Frontline workers bore the brunt, heroes without capes, exhausted but unwavering. World Health Day is not just about identifying what's broken; it's about illuminating the light. Across continents, young minds are crafting biomedical innovations, communities are embracing preventive care, and nations are finding common ground in health diplomacy. There's poetry in a village health worker biking through monsoon mud to deliver medicine. There's beauty in telehealth reaching a grandmother in a remote mountain town. These are not just stories—they are seeds of transformation. We have a role in this unfolding story. We are the stewards of our own bodies and the guardians of our collective wellness. Health is no longer just the absence of disease—it is the presence of joy, movement, mindfulness, and meaningful connection. It means checking in on a friend. It means choosing nourishing food not only for ourselves but advocating for food systems that nourish all. It means holding our leaders accountable, pushing for policies that prioritize people over profits. Let us also embrace a holistic vision of health—where emotional well-being stands shoulder to shoulder with physical vitality, where environmental sustainability dances with human survival. Because how can we speak of health when our rivers run with waste? How can we talk of healing while our air chokes us? Planetary health and personal health are lovers in the same dance, inseparable and intertwined. On this World Health Day, let us make a pact—not only with each other but with the future. Let our actions today echo forward, shaping a tomorrow where health equity is no longer a dream deferred, but a reality lived by every child, elder, and every soul in between. Let us be the song, the seed, the spark. Because when we care for one another, we rise. When we fight for health for all, we win. And when we believe, with fierce tenderness, that everyone deserves to live well—we build a world worthy of the name humanity.

Short-sighted politics has unintended consequences

By: Shikha Mukerjee

The public displays of righteous indignation by the parties opposed to Mamata Banerjee's government in West Bengal, all of whom revelled in triumphant glee after the Supreme Court ruled that all 25,753 teachers and staff recruited by the West Bengal government through an examination to assess eligibility must be sacked, has shocked and distressed voters. Not all of them are committed to either Mamata Banerjee or the Trinamul Congress that she leads.

The primary concern of the upset voter is the eligible and the meritorious as well as the ineligible have been left stranded, after the verdict sacking all recruited teachers. Had the Opposition been a little less blinkered and short-sighted, it would have taken pre-emptive action and unveiled a well-considered rescue plan in anticipation of the Supreme Court's decision, which only confirms the Calcutta high court's decision in 2023.

Instead of rejoicing that Mamata Banerjee's government has been publicly branded as corrupt and hoping the blow to her image will be the last straw to break the almost magical bond that ties her to West Bengal's electorate, the Opposition should have thought one step ahead. And that is where the Opposition, comprising the BJP, CPI(M) and Congress, as parties waiting to sweep the next election and seize power, seem to have failed the trust test with potential voters.

By ignoring the unintended consequences of the Supreme Court's sack verdict because the selection examinations were "vitiating by manipulation and fraud", without having plans in place on how to resolve the problems that

must follow, these parties have revealed themselves to be incompetent, insensitive and not credible as reliable alternatives to Mamata Banerjee's government, with all its flaws and tarnished record. Failure to have a corrective plan proposal to demonstrate to the victims and beneficiaries of the scam that the Opposition is capable of functioning as an alternative, a "shadow government" as it is described in the British parliamentary system, implies that the Opposition has absolutely no interest and wants no responsibility for cleaning up the mess that is of Mamata Banerjee's making, as they allege.

The failure opens up a terrifying prospect, that the Opposition doesn't have a detailed better governance map to offer voters, which includes rectification of the so-called "system" and the legacies of misrule. Instead, parties in the Opposition have assurances on offer based on which voters will have to decide which one sounds the least incredible, because by its very nature, assurances are not a credible basis for making risk assessment and choices. The gap opens up an even more scary prospect: elections are like pigs in a poke, a confidence game where the buyer has no way of knowing beforehand the true value of the purchase. That argument extends beyond the turbulent borders of West Bengal to other parts of the country, where the Opposition offers itself as an alternative based on assurances of good governance and a track record in some other time and in some other place. That is why it makes sense when the BJP campaigns consistently that its "double-engine sarkar" model is best, and the Congress, equally consistently, talks about its past glory days, and the CPI(M) invokes the Jyoti Basu-Buddhadab

Bhattacharjee era. West Bengal's political crisis is a product of the quality of its leadership. In a country where unemployment, shrinking job opportunities and falling real wages in an economy that is growing sluggishly and inflation is a daily menace, political parties that don't anticipate the distress that will follow when 25,753 people are sacked are undeserving of voter confidence. More so when the Opposition kicks the can in the direction of Mamata Banerjee by giving her a free hand on finding a solution to the problem, on the excuse that she is responsible for it, in the first place. If each of these parties in Opposition – BJP and CPI(M) -- prepared separate plans of corrective action in anticipation that the Supreme Court would endorse the Calcutta high court's decision that all 25,753 teachers should be sacked, then Ms Banerjee would have been under pressure. Instead, by abdicating their responsibility to West Bengal's future, its governance and its voters, the Opposition has delivered to Mamata Banerjee a blank cheque that she will certainly fill and encash in the next election, due in 2026. The Opposition and the judiciary failed to include in the now-revealed complicated canvas of corruption the desperation of young, educated people, with few opportunities, who felt the need to make a possibly unaffordable investment in ensuring they got one of the 25,753 appointment letters released by the West Bengal government for recruitment of secondary school teachers and staff. As the narrative was built, layer upon layer upon layer, missing are the following: one, about 23 lakh young people, mostly in their 20s, sat the recruitment test; two, just over 11 per cent were listed as eligible; three, how many of

the young hopefuls actually paid to be recruited; and, four, how many ineligible, that is lacking in merit, candidates were recruited, like chaff hidden in the wheat? The lack of political imagination and inability to adapt to evolving situations is why the Opposition in India is like music on a loop every time a crisis occurs. That is as true of the parties in Opposition in West Bengal as it is true of the parties in Opposition to the Narendra Modi government at the Centre and the parties in Opposition in other states. The result is a politics of take it or leave, giving the historically risk-averse Indian voter very little choice. There have been moments when voters have taken the plunge, as in Delhi when Arvind Kejriwal, a then unknown quantity, won the 2013 and 2015 elections, and earlier in West Bengal in 2011 when voters ousted the 34-year-old CPI(M) government in favour of Mamata Banerjee, and in 1984 when N.T. Rama Rao exploded on the Indian political scene via a spectacular win in then undivided Andhra Pradesh. Each of these new leaders of new parties made specific promises to get some things done, instead of boring voters with the same old spiel of ridding corruption and vague assurances of better governance. There is a larger lesson in the West Bengal experience: the Opposition, be it the member parties of the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance, or the BJP or any of its National Democratic Alliance partners needs to get down to specifics to fire up jaded and jaundiced voters, fed a repetitive diet of polarising identity politics of the "Hindu Khatre Me Hain" versus "Constitution Khatre Me Hain" kind.

Contemporary Women's Voices in Indian Literature

By: Vijay Garg

Women's voices in Indian literature contribute to diverse narratives and challenge societal norms. The evolution of women's writing in India spans ancient to contemporary times. This journey reflects changing perceptions and the empowerment of women.

Historical Background
Ancient Literature

In ancient India, women poets and scholars made notable contributions. Texts like the Vedas and Upanishads feature their prowess. Lopamudra, Gargi and Maitreyi are prominent figures. Their works set a foundation for future women's writing.

Medieval Period

The Bhakti movement marked a very important era. It empowered women writers to express spiritual and social themes. Notable poets include Mirabai and Akka Mahadevi. They challenged social conventions and celebrated divine love. Their poetry remains influential in contemporary discussions.

Colonial Era

British colonialism impacted women's education and literary expression. It opened avenues for women to write and publish. Sarojini Naidu emerged as a key figure during this period. Her poetry addressed nationalistic themes and personal expe-

riences. Kamala Das also gained prominence, focusing on women's issues and identity.

Regional Literature

Indian literature is rich in regional narratives. Women writers from various languages contribute. Ismat Chughtai wrote in Urdu, denoting social issues. Kamala Markandaya represented English literature with her poignant tales. Bama, a Tamil author, explores caste and gender dynamics.

Themes in Women's Literature
Feminism and Gender Issues

Women's literature often explores patriarchy and gender roles. Authors challenge societal norms and advocate for women's rights. Their works inspire change and raise awareness about gender issues.

Identity and Intersectionality

Representation of caste, class, and religious identities is crucial. Women writers intertwine personal and political narratives. This intersectionality enriches the discourse on identity in literature.

Cultural Heritage and Tradition

Folklore and mythology shape women's voices in literature. Authors reinterpret traditional narratives from a feminist perspective. This re-examination offers new vital information about cultural heritage.

Literary Forms and Genres

Poetry

Poetry serves as a powerful

medium for self-expression. It allows women to voice their experiences candidly. Kamala Das is a notable poet who wrote about love and identity. Her work resonates with many readers.

Fiction

Novels and short stories depict the complexities of women's lives. Various genres are explored, including historical fiction and magical realism. Authors create rich narratives that reflect societal challenges.

Non-Fiction and Memoirs

Autobiographical writing and essays have gained prominence. Women authors document personal experiences and societal observations. Their works provide valuable vital information about contemporary issues.

Impact on Society

Women's literature plays important role in raising awareness. It addresses social issues like gender inequality and caste discrimination. The influence of these writings extends to feminist movements. They shape cultural discourse and inspire activism in India.

Influence of Women's Literature on Education

Women's literature has transformed educational narratives. It encourages the inclusion of diverse voices in curricula. This shift promotes critical thinking and awareness among students.

Global Recognition of Indian Women Writers

Indian women writers are gaining international recognition. Their works are translated into multiple languages. This global outreach amplifies their voices and perspectives.

Future of Women's Voices in Indian Literature

The future of women's literature in India looks promising. New generations of writers continue to emerge. They bring fresh ideas and challenge existing narratives. The digital age offers platforms for wider dissemination of their work.

The Role of Literary Festivals

Literary festivals in India celebrate women's voices. They provide a platform for authors to share their work. These events encourage discussions on gender and literature. They also encourage networking among writers.

Women's Literature and Social Media

Social media has transformed literary engagement. Women writers use these platforms to reach wider audiences. They share their work and connect with readers directly. This interaction encourages community and support.

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

IIM Jammu's 07 & 08 Convocation: Testament to leadership, learning & academic excellence

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu hosted its 7th and 8th Annual Convocation on April 6th, 2025, at the "Rangmanch" Amphitheatre, in its Jagti Campus.

Ashishkumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, National Stock Exchange (NSE), graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and delivered the convocation address.

Padmashri Dr. Milind Kamble, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Jammu, delivered the welcome address, while Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, presented the Director's Report, highlighting the key achievements of the Institute.

The day's program commenced with a campus tour, followed by planting of a sapling by Ashishkumar Chauhan. Group photographs were taken to capture special moments. The academic procession moved towards Rangmanch, where Dr. Milind Kamble, formally declared the convocation open. The convocation began with lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the Chief Guest and other dignitaries, followed by a soulful rendition of Saraswati Vandana by Suraj Singh Ji. The dignitaries were felicitated with bouquets and mementoes as a token of appreciation.

A total of 772 students received their degrees at the convocation. This includes 499 students from the MBA program, 114 students from MBA Hospital Administration & Healthcare Management (MBA HA&HM), 99 students from the Integrated Programme in Management (IPM), 3 students from the Ph.D. program, and 46 students from the Executive MBA (EMBA) and 11 students from the Executive MBA in Corporate Affairs and Management program.

Ashishkumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, National Stock Exchange congratulated the graduating students, their families, and IIM Jammu's leadership and faculty. He highlighted the institute's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and its role in nation-building in the unique context of Jammu and Kashmir. He encouraged graduates to leverage both traditional and modern knowledge to solve India's challenges, emphasizing the need for well-qualified professionals. He acknowledged the current global uncertainties but pointed to India's stability and rising global stature, which will benefit the graduates in their careers. Addressing the graduates' potential anxieties, he shared guiding principles for success: be grateful, responsible, continuously curious, hungry for knowledge, courageous, sincere, humble, ethical and kind. He also advised them to be patient yet passionate, consistently add value, remain open to new opportunities and maintain optimism. He stressed the importance of serving family, society, and the nation, urging them to be agents of change and contribute to India's progress. He advised them to enjoy the journey, persevere, adapt to changing realities and seize the immense opportunities presented by India's growth over the next 50 years. His address served as a reminder that integrity, gratitude, and continuous learning are the cornerstones of responsible leadership. He concluded by wishing them success as they transition from students to alumni and lead India towards a prosperous future.

Padmashri Dr. Milind Kamble, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Jammu welcomed Ashish Kumar Chauhan and other dignitaries to the Joint 7th and 8th Convocation of IIM Jammu. He hailed Chauhan as a key architect of India's modern financial markets, instrumental in transforming NSE into a global leader in trading and innovation. His inspiring leadership aligns with India's vision of becoming a \$5 trillion economy and serves as a model for aspiring managers at IIM Jammu. Reflecting on India's doubling from \$ 2.1 trillion in 2015 to \$4.3 trillion in 2025- an unprecedented 105% GDP growth, he emphasized the role of strong financial systems and technology in driving Viksit Bharat—a self-reliant, resilient, and globally influential India. He appreciated the implementation of NEP 2020, aligning with IIM Jammu's multidisciplinary and innovation-driven approach. He highlighted the inauguration of IIM Jammu's state-of-the-art campus by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in 2024 as a milestone that fosters entrepreneurship and leadership. Applauding the institute's achievements, he mentioned the prestigious five-year BGA International Accreditation and acknowledged IIM Jammu's contribution for Jammu & Kashmir and the nation through various capacity building initiatives and national conferences. He mentioned about the Centres of Excellence in innovation, governance, and entrepreneurship, and commended Anandam: The Center for Happiness for nurturing emotional intelligence and ethical leadership. Congratulating the graduates, he encouraged them to serve as proud ambassadors of IIM Jammu, committed to building a self-reliant and globally recognized India. Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, presented the Director's Report and delivered an inspiring address tracing the Institute's remarkable journey since its inception in 2016. He

extended a warm welcome to Chief Guest Shri Ashish Kumar Chauhan, and acknowledged Padmashri Dr. Milind Kamble, Chairman, BoG, board members, faculty, staff, media, and guests. He highlighted IIM Jammu's rapid growth, academic diversification, and key milestones, notably the inauguration of its permanent Jagti Campus by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in 2024. He celebrated the achievements of medal winners and shared the Institute's consistent placement success, with leading recruiters offering attractive compensation packages. He emphasized the Institute's robust research ecosystem, global collaborations, and recent recognition—awarded BGA Accreditation for five years. He noted IIM Jammu's 42nd position in NIRF 2024 among Management Institutes, 18th among IIMs, and 22nd in IIRF 2025. He commended the faculty and student accomplishments and highlighted the Institute's expanding footprint in Jammu and Kashmir through entrepreneurship and startup training programs. He highlighted that the Centre for Innovation and Transformation in Governance (CITaG) at IIM Jammu plays a key role in fostering PPPs, building capacity, advancing e-governance, and promoting data-driven decisions to boost institutional efficiency and drive sustainable economic growth in Jammu and Kashmir. Through these initiatives, CITaG aims to enhance institutional efficiency, accelerate sustainable growth, and contribute to strengthening the national and global economy. Addressing the graduating batch, he urged them to lead with integrity, compassion, and excellence, contributing to Viksit Bharat @2047. He concluded with a verse

from the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad, inspiring graduates to move from darkness to light. The proceedings continued with the awarding of degrees by the Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Jammu, followed by Oath Taking Ceremony by the Director, IIM Jammu. Ashish Kumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, National Stock Exchange released the Convocation Souvenir in the presence of Padmashri Dr. Milind Kamble, Chairman, BoG, IIM Jammu and Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu. Outstanding students from all programs were awarded medals for their academic excellence. The Chairperson BOG, IIM Jammu Gold Medal for the MBA (2022-24) batch was awarded to Satyan Singh for achieving the highest CGPA. Shahab Rajmohammad Shaikh received the Director, IIM Jammu Silver Medal, and Mushahid Fayaz was conferred the Chairperson MBA, IIM Jammu Bronze Medal. In the subsequent MBA (2023-25) batch, Mohd Salman was awarded with the Chairperson BOG, IIM Jammu Gold Medal. Rishab Kumar Bhadravaj received the Director, IIM Jammu Silver Medal, and Abhilash Dwivedi was awarded the Chairperson MBA, IIM Jammu Bronze Medal. For the MBA (HA&HM) program, Mr. Prabhakaran R (2022-24 batch) and Puneet Shukla (2023-25 batch) were both presented with the Chairperson BOG, IIM Jammu Gold Medal. In the EMBA program, Lalit Kumar received the Chairperson BOG, IIM Jammu Gold Medal for the 2022-24 batch, and Manisha Srivastava was awarded the same distinction for the 2023-25 batch. From the Integrated Program in Management (IPM), Ojal Mijar (2021-24 batch) was conferred the Chairperson BOG,

dignitaries, faculty, officers and staff of IIM Jammu. The host for the evening was Dr. Anuja Akhouri, Assistant Professor, IIM Jammu.

IIM Jammu was awarded the prestigious Business Graduates Association (BGA) Accreditation for five years on March 28th, 2025, setting new benchmarks in global management education and strengthening its position among top business schools worldwide. The Institute holds the 22nd position in the IIRF Rankings 2025 and has established 21 international partnerships. The Institute's alumni network is rapidly expanding, currently comprising 1035 members. Notably, IIM Jammu has played a significant role in fostering entrepreneurship in the region, having trained over 500 entrepreneurs and incubated 18 startups in Jammu and 20 startups in Srinagar since 2022.

IIM Jammu achieved remarkable placement outcomes for the 7th MBA batch (2022-24), with all 244 students placed across key domains such as BFSI, Consulting, Strategy, Marketing, Operations, HR, IT, and Analytics. The process saw participation from 154 companies, including 56 new recruiters. Top recruiters included Accenture, Aditya Birla Capital, Axis Bank, BNY Mellon, Cognizant, Diageo, HCL Tech, ICICI, Infosys, Mahindra, Reliance

Industries, Tata Motors, Thomson Reuters, Vedanta, and Wipro. The 8th MBA batch (2023-25), comprising 253 students, is witnessing strong placement traction, with 20 leading new recruiters such as American Express, BNP Paribas, Frost & Sullivan, Gartner, Grant Thornton, IBM, Nestle, Jasper Collins, KIA India, Maruti Suzuki, SBI Capital Markets, and Xiaomi. Additionally, the 9th MBA batch (2024-26) secured 100% internship placements for all 290 students, reaffirming the institute's growing reputation and the trust by the corporate sector. The placement success is a testament to IIM Jammu's growing reputation as one of the fastest-growing B-schools in India

As part of its commitment to academic excellence, IIM Jammu offers diverse programs, including MBA, MBA (Hospital Administration & Healthcare Management) in collaboration with IIT Jammu and AIIMS Jammu, a Dual Degree Programme with IIT Jammu (B.Tech +MBA), Integrated Programme in Management (IPM), Ph.D. Programme, and Executive MBA. IIM Jammu continues its journey of excellence, celebrating the success of its graduates and reaffirming its commitment to shaping visionary leaders who drive global impact and societal transformation.

Present on the occasion were Lalit Kumar Naik, Member, BOG, IIM Jammu; Dr. Suresh T Salunke, Member, BOG, IIM Jammu, Dr. Vijaysinh S Gambhire, Member, BOG, IIM Jammu, Vandana Bhatnagar, Member, BOG, IIM Jammu, Indraneel Chitale, Member, BOG, Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, Prof. Nitin Upadhyay, Chairperson, MBA, IIM Jammu, Dr. Harsha Jariwala, Chairperson, MBA HA & HM, IIM Jammu Dr. Ashish Kumar, Chairperson, IPM, IIM Jammu, Dr. Mamta Tripathi, Chairperson, EMBA, IIM Jammu along with other



from the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad, inspiring graduates to move from darkness to light. The proceedings continued with the awarding of degrees by the Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Jammu, followed by Oath Taking Ceremony by the Director, IIM Jammu. Ashish Kumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, National Stock Exchange released the Convocation Souvenir in the presence of Padmashri Dr. Milind Kamble, Chairman, BoG, IIM Jammu and Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu. Outstanding students from all programs were awarded medals for their academic excellence. The Chairperson BOG, IIM Jammu Gold Medal for the MBA (2022-24) batch was awarded to Satyan Singh for achieving the highest CGPA. Shahab Rajmohammad Shaikh received the Director, IIM Jammu Silver Medal, and Mushahid Fayaz was conferred the Chairperson MBA, IIM Jammu Bronze Medal. In the subsequent MBA (2023-25) batch, Mohd Salman was awarded with the Chairperson BOG, IIM Jammu Gold Medal. Rishab Kumar Bhadravaj received the Director, IIM Jammu Silver Medal, and Abhilash Dwivedi was awarded the Chairperson MBA, IIM Jammu Bronze Medal. For the MBA (HA&HM) program, Mr. Prabhakaran R (2022-24 batch) and Puneet Shukla (2023-25 batch) were both presented with the Chairperson BOG, IIM Jammu Gold Medal. In the EMBA program, Lalit Kumar received the Chairperson BOG, IIM Jammu Gold Medal for the 2022-24 batch, and Manisha Srivastava was awarded the same distinction for the 2023-25 batch. From the Integrated Program in Management (IPM), Ojal Mijar (2021-24 batch) was conferred the Chairperson BOG,

dignitaries, faculty, officers and staff of IIM Jammu. The host for the evening was Dr. Anuja Akhouri, Assistant Professor, IIM Jammu. IIM Jammu was awarded the prestigious Business Graduates Association (BGA) Accreditation for five years on March 28th, 2025, setting new benchmarks in global management education and strengthening its position among top business schools worldwide. The Institute holds the 22nd position in the IIRF Rankings 2025 and has established 21 international partnerships. The Institute's alumni network is rapidly expanding, currently comprising 1035 members. Notably, IIM Jammu has played a significant role in fostering entrepreneurship in the region, having trained over 500 entrepreneurs and incubated 18 startups in Jammu and 20 startups in Srinagar since 2022.

IIM Jammu achieved remarkable placement outcomes for the 7th MBA batch (2022-24), with all 244 students placed across key domains such as BFSI, Consulting, Strategy, Marketing, Operations, HR, IT, and Analytics. The process saw participation from 154 companies, including 56 new recruiters. Top recruiters included Accenture, Aditya Birla Capital, Axis Bank, BNY Mellon, Cognizant, Diageo, HCL Tech, ICICI, Infosys, Mahindra, Reliance

DC Doda inaugurates Lakme Salon in Doda

Top News Report

DODA, Apr 7: In a significant addition to Doda's beauty and wellness landscape, the Deputy Commissioner Doda Sh Harvinder Singh (IAS), today inaugurated the newly established Lakme Salon at Crystal Plaza, Stadium Road Doda.

The event marked the formal launch of the premium beauty destination, bringing the trusted name of Lakme to the heart of the town.

Owned by Shuja Suharwady, the salon aims to provide top-tier beauty services with a blend of luxury, professionalism, and care. The inauguration ceremony witnessed a warm welcome extended to DC Harvinder Singh, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and appreciated the initiative for bringing branded, high-quality grooming services closer to the local community.



The highlight of the launch was the introduction of Lakme Salon's latest bridal collection — "Ethereal Bloom". This exclusive bridal makeup range is a tribute to elegance, self-expression, and timeless beauty. Whether a bride envisions a classic, graceful look or a bold, confident style, Ethereal Bloom promises to cater to every unique bridal dream with finesse.

The event drew the presence of respected members of civil society, business leaders, and enthusiastic local residents. The gathering lauded the launch of a modern, well-equipped salon that is set to elevate the beauty experience in Doda.

With expert professionals, personalized services, and the signature touch of Lakme, the new salon is poised to become a preferred destination for beauty and bridal needs in the region.

In his address, DC Doda, Harvinder Singh, appreciated the initiative, stating, "It's encouraging to see such ventures taking shape in Doda. The establishment of Lakme Salon not only promotes entrepreneurship but also introduces high-quality beauty services that cater to the evolving needs of our people. This is a positive step toward urban development and enhanced lifestyle offerings in the district."

In a joint press conference today at Raj Mata Jhande Wale Mandir in Shahdara, Delhi, expressing strong objection to the collection of 150/250 (online, offline) registration fee for the annual Shri Amarnath Yatra starting from July 3, they said that all the langar services including the Yatra route and Adhar Shivir are done by private organizations. Money is charged from devotees for bus, horse,

Shiv Sena, Sant Samaj demand freedom from commercialization, government control of Hindu religious pilgrimages

Top News Report

DELHI, Apr 7: Swami Shri Rajeshwaranand Ji Maharaj, organiser of Shri Rajmata Mandir Group and Manish Sahni (President, Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit), jointly demanded a ban on commercialization of government-run Hindu religious pilgrimages across the country including Shri Amarnath, Mata Vaishnodevi Devi.

In a joint press conference today at Raj Mata Jhande Wale Mandir in Shahdara, Delhi, expressing strong objection to the collection of 150/250 (online, offline) registration fee for the annual Shri Amarnath Yatra starting from July 3, they said that all the langar services including the Yatra route and Adhar Shivir are done by private organizations. Money is charged from devotees for bus, horse,

pony, tent and even for keeping luggage in the locker room. What kind of facility is Shri Amarnath Shrine Board providing to the devotees for which it is forced to take a registration fee of Rs. 150-250 from each pilgrim. Before Jammu and Kashmir became a Union Territory, the registration fee was only Rs. 50, while the registration of Shri Mata Vaishnodevi Yatra, which continues 365 days a year in Jammu and Kashmir, is completely free.

Sahni has demanded from the Shrine Board to make instant registration free along with online registration starting from April 14, toll exemption to the devotees and those providing langar service during the Yatra, free bus service for the devotees staying in Jammu and to make the Holy ice Shivering safe for darshan during



the Yatra period. On Ashtami and Navami, a grand religious ceremony was organized at Shri Raj Mata Jhande Wale Mandir.

On this occasion, Ram Vohra and Deepak enthralled the people present with the Bhajans of the Mother.

During a press conference, Swami Rajeshwaranand Ji Maharaj and Manish Sahni demanded the formation of Sanatan Board and freedom of Hindu religious places from government control and spending the income from temples and monasteries on the welfare of Hindus.

Swami Rajeshwaranand Ji said that there are more than 10 lakh

Hindu temples in the country, about 1,10,000 temples are managed by the government. The Hindu temples with the highest donations in the country are under government control. They have been constantly accused of commercialization and hurting religious faith.

Questions are being raised on registration collection on Shri Amarnath Shrine Board, Aarti collection on Shri Mata Vaishnodevi Board, privatization of Mata Vaishnodevi Narayana Hospital, while the Laddu Prasad controversy in Tirupati Temple of Andhra Pradesh cannot be forgotten.

On World Health Day, meet the celebs who prefer sports over the gym

Fitness is not just about lifting weights; it's about discipline, perseverance and a lifestyle that embraces movement. Many Bollywood actors go for sports to stay in shape. On this World Health Day, let's take a look at some actors who are dedicated to staying fit through sports.

Randeep Hooda: Equestrian

Randeep Hooda's indomitable spirit is truly inspiring. Despite suffering a fatal injury, he has made a remarkable comeback to horse-riding and polo. His passion for equestrian sports keeps him physically and mentally fit. He advocates for a healthy lifestyle and proves that resilience can overcome any obstacle.

Ali Fazal: Jiu-Jitsu
Ali Fazal took up Jiu-Jitsu and a rigorous training regimen while preparing for Mirzapur and has continued ever since. Ali incorporates strength training, squats, push-ups and running into his routine, even while travelling.

Shweta Tripathi: Boxing

Shweta Tripathi is all about strength and perseverance. She has



embraced boxing as part of her fitness routine, which helps her stay in top form. She frequently shares motivational workout videos on social media, encouraging her followers to lead a healthier lifestyle. Shweta has also quit sugar and non-vegetarian food to remain fit.

Saiyami Kher: Cycling
Saiyami Kher is an avid sports enthusiast who regularly cycles and swims to maintain her

fitness. She is also the first Indian female actor to complete a triathlon and is now gearing up for the prestigious Ironman Triathlon Race. Her dedication to endurance sports proves her passion for fitness.

Akshay Oberoi: MMA
Akshay Oberoi believes in a holistic approach to fitness. The actor has incorporated MMA into his daily routine, making it a core part of his life-

style. He practices different forms of martial arts and ensures that his diet complements his training. With rigorous workouts and controlled nutrition, Akshay exemplifies discipline and commitment to a healthy life.

Tiger Shroff: Parkour
When it comes to fitness, Tiger Shroff is in a league of his own. A fitness icon, Tiger follows a disciplined and well-balanced lifestyle.

Parkour—a high-energy movement discipline that requires agility, flexibility, and strength—keeps him in top shape. He never skips workouts and remains one of Bollywood's best examples of consistency and dedication to fitness.

Sanya Malhotra: Kalaripayattu

Sanya Malhotra, known for her exceptional acting and dancing skills, also practices Kalaripayattu, an ancient Indian martial art form from Kerala. This discipline demands immense dedication, agility and control. Sanya's commitment to this art form reflects her passion for fitness and deep respect for traditional Indian fitness practices.

John Abraham: Football

John Abraham has been a fitness icon for years. A passionate footballer, John never misses a chance to play his favourite sport, football. His workout routine includes a combination of gym training, cardio and functional fitness.

He has maintained a sugar-free diet for over 25 years!

Round 2 for me: Tahira Kashyap reveals breast cancer recurrence after seven years



Filmmaker Tahira Kashyap on Monday said she is set to have another go at breast cancer as the disease has returned after seven years.

The filmmaker, who shares two children with actor-husband Ayush-

mann Khurrana, was initially diagnosed with stage 0 breast cancer in 2018 and underwent a mastectomy.

In an Instagram post shared on World Health Day, Tahira said she found out that her breast cancer has come back.

"Seven year itch or the power of regular screening - it's a perspective, I had like to go with the latter and suggest the same for everyone who needs to get regular mammograms. Round 2 for me...I still got this (sic)" she wrote.

The "Sharmajee Ki Beti" director wrote in the caption that when life gives you lemons, make lemonade, but when life becomes too generous and throws them again at you, "you squeeze them calmly into your favourite kala khatta drink and sip it with all the good intentions".

"Because for one it's a better drink and two you know you will give it your best once again. #regularscreening #mammogram not shying away from saying it #breastcancer #onemoretime #letsgo. Ironically or not, today is #WorldHealthDay. Let's do whatever we can in our capacity to take care of ourselves. #gratitude through and through," Tahira said.

The filmmaker has been vocal about her cancer battle and keeps sharing posts about health and fitness on social media.

Aditya Syal opens up about his acting journey

While some stumble upon their passion, others seem born for it. Like Aditya Syal, who plays Vyom in Ishq Jabariya on Sun Neo. Aditya's journey into the entertainment world began long before he stepped onto a television set.

Speaking about the artistic influence his family had on him, Aditya says, "My father was involved in theatre in Nainital, working with renowned artistes such as Nirmal Pandey and acclaimed NSD actors like Idris Malik. So, I grew up in a household filled with creativity. Since childhood, I've been doing voice-overs, mimicking famous actors, capturing their voices, and closely observing



people around me. I guess, from both sides,

art and creativity were always in my blood."

Pooja Gor on playing Durga in Adrishyam 2

For her, fitness, both mental and physical, are important in an industry that is all about competition.

Pooja Gor, who essays the role of Durga in Sony LIV series Adrishyam 2—The Invisible Heroes, minces no words when she says it is all about strength and perseverance.

Being a sporty person herself, essaying the challenging role of an undercover spy came easy to her. "I have always been into sports - football, badminton, swimming, kickboxing and more. That helped me play this role better. There were a lot of physically demanding scenes, including combat and shooting sequences, but I am happy they did not trouble me much."

Adrishyam 2—The



Invisible Heroes follows a covert team of elite operatives working in the shadows to neutralise threats before they strike. Led by Eijaz Khan's Ravi Verma and now reinforced by Pooja Gor's Durga, this season unravels deeper conspiracies, deadlier betrayals, and a relentless fight to protect the nation.

"It is a whole new space. There are many series on the same subject, but this one is different in terms of treatment. Juggling between family and high-ranking intelligence agent, Durga embodies remarkable resilience and strength. Representing a woman breaking stereotypes, Durga navigates the challenges of a male-dominated profession with tenacity and skill, making her character

truly inspiring," Pooja says.

As for her views on OTT, she says, "It's a fantastic space. It's a world of opportunities, as the OTT platform caters to a lot of creative people who now have a chance to express themselves and garner fame. Anybody can shine, that's how secular the OTT world is and that's quite wonderful."

Making a career in tinsel town is a tough task and one needs to be resilient. So, what's her advice to the youngsters out there, who have dreams in their eyes and hopes to excel? "Just remain patient. Success does not come overnight. You need to plug on each day and hope for the best, give your best. Rest, leave it to the Almighty," she signs off.

I would have made a great spy: Eijaz Khan

Starting as a dancer with Ganesh Hedge's dance troupe to becoming the heartthrob when the television industry was at its peak, Eijaz Khan has successfully transitioned from television to cinema and OTT platforms. If we first noticed him in Balaji Telefilm's Kkusum, then he made a place in our hearts with his OTT series, City of Dreams, which was further cemented with the Adrishyam series. And, in the film arena, Eijaz's portrayal of Manish Gaikwad in blockbuster Jawan did manage to make a lasting impression.

The man, who has won love on reality shows as well feels blessed. "First, I won a geographic lottery because I grew up in Mumbai; then the genetic one - as how I looked was appreciated in the glamour industry when I started. But, as for the rest, I have built it with sheer hard work!"

Eijaz feels he was destined to play Ravi Verma in Adrishyam Season 2. "Starting with Hardy Boys and Nancy Drew back in school, I have always loved watching spy movies. James Bond, Sherlock Holmes, you name it! It's like all my life I have been preparing for my role in Adrishyam. I truly believe that I would have made a great spy. I just wasted my life studying engineering," he laughs.

As he revisited his role in Season 2, he shares, "The Invisible Heroes - goes the tagline of our show. Not just that we can't be seen in public, but I can't even be true to my wife. That is the character and what a journey it is."

Eijaz is now all pepped up about his next



project, 120 Bahadur. The film is based on the Battle of Rezang La that took place during the Indo-China war. It captures the extraordinary valour and sacrifice of Indian soldiers. "You will be surprised to see what

we have done in the film," he puts confidently.

Open about his life, both personal and professional, Eijaz had in the past talked about the challenges of growing up with a single father. Considering how that's becoming a norm, we ask him for a piece of advice to single parents and their children. Eijaz thinks hard, "It's difficult to generalise but yet I will try," he says earnestly. "To the parents - you are acknowledged, seen and loved. Even if your children aren't able to understand you now, be patient, they will in due time."

To children living in single-parent household, he says, "Hang in there, don't harm yourself. You are special. You are in this situation because you can make it work, it will lead to your exponential growth that may have not been possible otherwise. That aside, I know it comes with some negatives. I am still dealing with those. But it's your circumstances, and you only can navigate it well!"

Life's doled out a mixed bag to Eijaz, yet he feels grateful. "People across the world love me, bless me, which a fortune that I value. Mine is an endeavour to work better each single day for my audience."

On his wish-list is a Punjabi movie. Though he was offered to judge a Mr Punjab show which he politely declined, he wonders why he hasn't gotten an offer for a Punjabi movie till now. "I would love to act in a Punjabi movie. Get me one," he says. Besides work, it's the lure of Punjabi food and Punjabi hospitality he can't wait to enjoy!

Shreya Ghoshal retrieves her X account, says 'All is well'



Popular playback singer Shreya Ghoshal said she has finally regained access to her X account, which had been hacked in February.

The singer, known for songs such as "Bairi Piya", "Yeh Ishq Haaye", "Teri Ore", and "Deewani Mastani", shared the update with her nearly 7 million followers on the microblogging site after almost two months.

"I am back!! I will be talking and writing here often... Yes, my X account has been in trouble as it got hacked in February. Now I have finally had the help from the @X team after a lot of

struggles in establishing proper communication. All is well!! Now I am here," she wrote on X.

In her latest post, Ghoshal also urged fans to be wary of "weird ads" with articles about her with "very absurd headlines and AI-generated pictures".

"These are click baits, which lead to spam/fraudulent links. Please keep reporting these ads. I have no power in putting them down. I have tried my best," she said.

The 41-year-old singer further appealed to X authorities to take action against such misleading advertisements.

"These are X ad regulations which allow such ads to run. Hope they solve these matters soon," she added.

Last month, Ghoshal in an Instagram post said her X account was hacked on February 13, and that she had been trying to get it restored.

"I have tried everything in my capacity to reach out to the X team. But there has been no response beyond a few auto generated responses..."

"Please don't click on any link or believe any message from that account. They are all spam and phishing links. I will update personally through a video if the account is recovered and is safe," she had written.

Good health foundation of every thriving society: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, Apr 7 (Agencies): In his message on the World Health Day on Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Monday that his government would keep focusing on healthcare and invest in different aspects of people's well-being.

"On World Health Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to building a healthier world," he



said. Good health, he added, is the foundation of every thriving society.

Stand by those who lost jobs in schools in West Bengal: Mamata Banerjee



KOLKATA, Apr 7 (Agencies): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday assured full support to eligible candidates who lost school jobs following a Supreme Court order, asserting that her government will ensure they don't remain jobless or have a break in service.

Speaking at a meeting of school job losers at the Netaji Indoor Stadium here, Banerjee urged the affected teachers and staff to return to their respective schools and "voluntarily" resume duties.

The apex court had on April 3 invalidated the appointment of 25,753 teachers and staffers in state-run and aided schools in Bengal who were selected through a state School Service Commission recruitment drive in 2016, calling the entire selection process "vitiated and tainted".

Banerjee also assured the aggrieved teachers that she would make alternative arrangements for all deserving

candidates "within two months".

"You can return to your schools and voluntarily resume teaching. You are still in service since no termination letter has been served to you yet. Our government is duty-bound to ensure that no deserving candidate loses a job. We have plans ready to ensure that the eligible candidates do not face any break in service. We will not allow them to remain jobless," Banerjee said at the meeting, where thousands of affected teachers had turned up. "I will stand by those who lost their jobs. I don't care what others think. I will do everything to restore your dignity," she said.

Asserting that the state government respects the Supreme Court ruling, Banerjee said the administration is taking proactive steps to handle the situation with "utmost care and fairness".

While confirming that her government will move a review petition

on the apex court judgment and "seek clarifications" on the April 3 ruling from the bench concerned, the chief minister outlined a two-phase plan to "restore the jobs" of those whose appointments were annulled by the top court.

"In the first phase, we will look into the details of the deserving candidates and take all steps necessary to give them back the jobs they have lost," Banerjee said.

"In phase two, we will take up the cases of the so-called tainted candidates. We will dig deep into why they were branded as 'undeserving', the grounds on which they were found tainted and how the investigations that found them guilty were conducted. I will hold a separate meeting with them," the CM said.

Banerjee appealed to the aggrieved teachers to "trust" the government in doing its job, and said there should be no face-offs between the "deserving" and "tainted" candidates.

The chief minister also claimed that her name was being dragged into something about which she had "no inkling", referring to discrepancies in the school job appointments.

"I am ready to even go to jail if anyone wants to penalise me for standing with those who lost their jobs," Banerjee asserted.

Adityanath inaugurates 13 development projects

GORAKHPUR, Apr 7 (Agencies): India is emerging as a global leader because our growth trajectory is stronger than that of any other nation, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said on Monday.

While inaugurating and laying the foundation stone of 13 development projects worth over Rs 91 crore at the Madan Mohan Malaviya University of Technology here, he said the country has witnessed resurgence as a global economic power under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

This is the age of competition. India was once a guiding light to the world in education and technology, Adityanath said, adding the country was known as a 'Vishwa Guru' (world teacher) because of its leadership in various fields.

Highlighting India's progress since Independence, Adityanath said that by 2014, India had become the 11th largest economy in the world, but it took 65-70 years to get there.

In the last ten years,



India has leaped ahead in every sector. There is a new energy, a new enthusiasm in the country.

He said India is now the fifth-largest economy in the world and is on track to become the third-largest within the next two years.

India is emerging as a global leader because our growth trajectory today is stronger than any other nation. In every field, India is creating a new identity, he said.

Underlining the impact of leadership, Adityanath said, the country, the resources, the system all were the same earlier. But with the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Modi in the last ten years, a transformed India

is now reaching new heights that the world is eagerly watching.

Underscoring the crucial role of technology institutions in shaping society, he urged students to step beyond campus boundaries and develop low-cost, life-enhancing innovations.

He called for a people-centric approach to technological advancement.

"Technology should be affordable, sustainable, and aligned with the goals of 'ease of living'. When tech becomes expensive, it distances itself from the common man. Institutions must take the lead in creating models that serve societal needs," he said.

Prior to the event, the chief minister flagged off four CNG buses from

the university campus. Highlighting the need for indigenous solutions, he posed a challenge to the tech community and asked "Can we develop a model to build a house under PMAY (Gramin) within Rs 1.2 lakh in just three months instead of nine?"

He also pointed to the environmental toll of brick kilns and stressed the need for eco-friendly alternatives and innovative methods in solid-liquid waste management using traditional techniques.

"We must ensure that technology works for us, not the other way around. Our interventions should empower people, not overwhelm them," he added.

Adityanath cited several examples of how tech has brought transparency and efficiency in governance.

"In 2017, a single-day inspection of 80,000 ration shops exposed 30 lakh fake ration cards. Today, over 15 crore people benefit from a tech-driven, transparent free ration distribution

system," he said. He noted that the digitisation of pension schemes has not only increased payouts but also eliminated corruption by directly transferring money to beneficiaries' accounts.

Citing the replacement of halogen street lights with LED as an example of green, cost-effective technology, he said it has saved Rs 1,000 crore in electricity bills while cutting down carbon emissions.

Adityanath also highlighted Gorakhpur's indigenous water treatment system, which is now being appreciated globally.

"Faced with a hefty penalty from the NGT, the city opted for a cost-effective Rs 10 crore model using boulders, stones, and plants to purify sewage before it reaches the Rapti river? instead of a Rs 110 crore STP project," he shared.

"Even Germany, known for its advanced tech ecosystem, has appreciated this low-cost innovation," he added.

Developing 'space culture' key as space is emerging as new domain of warfare: CDS

NEW DELHI, Apr 7 (Agencies): Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan on Monday said humanity is on the "cusp of an era" where space is emerging as a new domain of warfare.

He pitched for developing a "space culture" which could entail developing doctrines, research and dedicated warfare schools.

In his inaugural address at the third edition of the Indian DefSpace Symposium here, Chauhan said it is important that "Services also have their own space warfare schools in the near future".

Underlining how the military ethos has evolved over the centuries with maritime and aerospace cultures playing significant roles in warfare, the CDS said in the past, "a seafaring culture or a maritime culture" may have held the Portuguese, Spaniard, the English or the Dutch to dominate the world.

"Similarly, the aerospace culture led to the domination of air space by the US and European nations. And both the domains have a lasting impact on warfare. Military power was actu-

ally centred around this particular culture getting developed and creation of capabilities towards that," the CDS added.

"And today we are on the cusp of an era where space is emerging as a new domain of warfare, and it is going to dominate warfare. All the three primary elements of warfare (land, sea, air) will depend on space," General Chauhan said.

The general explained that while the maritime domain expanded warfare, the outcome of the battle could either be decided in the maritime domain or it had a "major influence on battle on land".

"So did when air power became a major instrument of fighting war. Either you decide the battle in the air space or have a "large effect on battle on land or the maritime domain," he added.

"So, when we say that space is going to have an impact on these three elements, it is important that we understand space. This is going to form the basic building blocks of warfare in future," Chauhan said.

"Hence, before we develop those kind of



capabilities, developing that kind of culture to talk about space — the space culture — is important," he said.

The CDS underlined that space culture is about "new ideas on the use of space", which will "leap forward" to creation of new capabilities.

Detailing the aspects of the space culture, he said, "Physical capabilities grow from the ideas that you generate. So generation of ideas is very important. Space culture is, doing seminal research on warfare. It is about the development of doctrines and strategies about space," he said.

Space culture is about development of subjects like space laws, or a framework for space diplomacy, the CDS

added. He said that while scope for developing the space culture is vast, there is very less literature on it currently.

"Building a space culture is not about creating new start-ups on space. It is also about space journals, articles, space warfare institutes and societies that ideate on it," he said, adding, "I think there is an important need that Services also have their own space warfare schools in the near future." The CDS asserted that as Indians, and as a culture that respects space through knowledge and research, it is important that "we need to reposition ourselves." The Indian DefSpace Symposium was hosted by Indian Space Associat-

ed (ISPA) at the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. In his address, the CDS said talking about space, cosmos or cosmology is always exciting.

"Space is a very futuristic topic. It is fascinating and thought-provoking. It also opens up your imagination," he said. Referring to space movies and series such as *Interstellar* and *Star Trek*, the general said, "Most of us have grown watching movies on space and space travel. And most of them are about interplanetary and intergalactic space in realms of fantasy. That is one part where our imagination goes wild and one part where it is reality." He recalled that during the first edition of the symposium, he had spoken about the "convergence of various domains of warfare" and how space is enhancing warfare capabilities in these domains.

"And, during the second conference, I had briefly outlined the vision of the armed forces for evolving the role of space in future warfare," the CDS said.

Rahul Gandhi joins Congress padyatra in Bihar's Begusarai

PATNA, Apr 7 (Agencies): Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Monday joined the ongoing 'Palayan Roko, Naukri Do' padyatra of the Congress in Bihar's Begusarai district.

Clad in a white T-shirt, Gandhi participated in the padyatra in Begusarai town and was accompanied by several party leaders, including Kanhaiya Kumar and state party president Rajesh Kumar.

A large number of leaders and workers of the Congress and its student and youth wings, carrying party flags and placards demanding the immediate filling-up of vacancies in defence forces, also took part in the padyatra.

Earlier in the day, Gandhi arrived at Begusarai from Patna, where he was received at the Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport by Rajesh Kumar and other senior party leaders.

He will later return to Patna to address the 'Samvidhan Suraksha Sammelan' (Save the



Constitution Symposium). After that he will visit Sadaqat Ashram, the Bihar Congress office in Patna, to address party workers.

This is Gandhi's third Bihar tour since January, when he had urged party workers to "inflict an ideological defeat" on the BJP in the assembly polls due later this year.

The Raebareli MP shared a minute-long video message on X on Sunday, urging the youth of Bihar to join him in the march in Begusarai wearing "white T-shirts".

"Our aim is to draw the attention of the world to the plight of Bihar's youth, who find government jobs getting scarce day by day

and privatisation bringing no benefits. Let us bring the government in the state under pressure and change it," he said in the video.

Begusarai also happens to be the home district of Kanhaiya Kumar, who has been the star attraction of the padyatra, which began in East Champaran district last month.

The former JNU students' union president had unsuccessfully contested the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, on a CPI ticket, from the seat.

In the Bihar assembly polls, the Mahagathabandhan, comprising RJD, Congress and the Left, is pitted against the ruling Nitish Kumar-led NDA that also comprises the BJP.

UP man shot dead for refusing to withdraw murder case testimony; five booked

MUZAFFARNAGAR, Apr 7 (Agencies): A 35-year-old murder case witness was shot dead in Bijopura village here, police said on Monday.

Salman was a key witness in his brother's murder case, pending in a Meerut court, Circle Officer Devvrat Bajpai told reporters.

Police identified the key accused as Irfan.

He and four of his associates - Kaliya, Mohammad Ali, Naimuddin, and Fazil - all Meerut natives - have been charged in Salman's murder.



All five are currently on the run, the officer said.

According to a complaint lodged by the victim's brother, Naushad, the accused had been pressuring Salman to withdraw as a witness in the case of the murder of their brother Zaid,

who was killed four years ago in Meerut.

On Saturday, Salman was taken to a forest area in Bijopura village, where he was shot, police said.

His bullet-riddled body was identified on Sunday, they said.

Woman knifed in full public view in Delhi Cantonment

NEW DELHI, Apr 7 (Agencies): A 19-year-old woman was knifed several times by a man in full public view in the Kirbi Place bus stop area of southwest Delhi, a police officer said on Monday.

The man, 20, later injured himself with the same knife, he said.

The matter was reported to police around 9.30 pm on Sunday by a passerby. "The girl sustained serious injuries to her neck and the left side of the abdomen. A knife was recovered from the scene. Both were hospitalised," the officer said.

On inquiry, it was revealed that the accused, Amit, and the victim girl had been friends since last year and had had a fallout over some issue.

"Both were admitted to DDU Hospital. A case under Section 109(1) of the BNS has been registered against accused Amit at Delhi Cantt police station and an investigation is in progress," said the officer.

Meanwhile, a video, purportedly of the incident, made rounds on social media.

The 45-second clip shows the man and the woman sitting on the road divider in a bloodied state and a crowd of passersby gathered around them.

Taiwan President announces to adopt five response strategy for dealing with US tariffs

TAIPEI, Apr 7 (Agencies): Taiwan's President Lai Ching-te delivered remarks regarding the impact of the 32 per cent tariff that the United States government recently imposed on imports from Taiwan in the name of reciprocity. He announced that Taiwan will adopt a five-response strategy to deal with these tariffs and will not adopt retaliatory tariffs towards the US.

In his remarks, he noted that the five-pronged strategy includes making every effort to improve reciprocal tariff rates through negotiations, adopting a support plan for affected domestic industries, adopting medium- and long-term economic development plans, forming new "Taiwan plus the US" arrangements, and launching industry listening tours.

President Lai noted that the government and civil society would work together to support the measures that the Executive Yuan will take to open up a broader path for Taiwan's economy.

Noting that the tariffs are bound to have a major impact as Taiwan is an export-led economy, he said the country must proceed carefully to turn danger into safety.

President Lai gave statistics on Taiwan's trade with US. "We find that last year Taiwan's exports to the US were valued at USD 111.4 billion, accounting for 23.4 per cent of total export value, with the other 75-plus per cent of products sold worldwide to countries other than the US. Of products sold to the US, competitive ICT products and electronic components accounted



for 65.4 per cent. This shows that Taiwan's economy does still have considerable resilience. As long as our response strategies are appropriate, and the public and private sectors join forces, we can reduce impacts. Please do not panic," he said.

In a significant statement he said that Taiwan has no plans to adopt retaliatory tariffs. "To address the reciprocal tariffs by the US, Taiwan has no plans to adopt retaliatory tariffs. There will be no change in corporate investment commitments to the US, as long as they are consistent with national interests."

Explaining the five point strategy he noted that the first strategy is about making effort to improve reciprocal tariff rates through negotiations using five methods, such as Taiwan's negotiation team led by Vice Premier Cheng Li-chiun; expand purchases from the US and thereby reduce the trade deficit; expand investments in the US; eliminate non-tariff barriers to trade and resolve the issue of high-tech export controls and the other regards illegal transshipment of dumped goods,

otherwise referred to as "origin washing."

For strategy two, he noted that the affected industries would see timely and needed support and assistance with Premier Cho Jung-tai and his administrative team recently announcing a package of 20 specific measures designed to address nine areas, thereby helping each industry innovate, upgrade, and transform.

For strategy three he noted the adoption of medium- and long-term economic development plans, which will see the government proactively cooperate with friends and allies, develop a diverse range of markets, and achieve closer integration of entities in the upper, middle, and lower reaches of industrial supply chains.

gave a call to transform Taiwan's industrial ecosystem and play on their strengths in sectors such areas as semiconductor manufacturing, integrated chip design, ICT, and smart manufacturing to build Taiwan into an "AI island", and promote relevant applications for food, clothing, housing, and transportation, as

well as military, security and surveillance, next-generation communications, and the medical and health and wellness industries as we advance toward a smarter, more sustainable, and more prosperous new Taiwan.

For strategy four he emphasised on the "Taiwan plus the US" arrangement which would see the government incentivize investments, carry out deregulation, and continue to improve Taiwan's investment climate to enable corporations to stay in Taiwan.

He noted that the national economic development strategy will be adjusted as follows so as to stay firmly rooted in Taiwan while expanding global presence, strengthening US ties, and marketing worldwide. "We intend to make use of the new state of supply chains to strengthen cooperation between Taiwanese and US industries, and gain further access to US markets."

The details of strategy five, which is launching industry listening tours includes administrative teams led by the President as well as Premier Cho to hear out industry concerns for quickly resolving problems.

to attention how Taiwan had survived two energy crises, the Asian financial crisis, the global financial crisis, and pandemics, he noted that the Taiwanese economy has emerged from these crises stronger and more resilient than ever. He gave a call to all parties in the legislature, both ruling and opposition, to support measures for opening a broader path for Taiwan's economy.

Myanmar honours UAE SAR team in appreciation of its humanitarian efforts following earthquake



NAYPYIDAW, Apr 7 (Agencies): The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has honoured the UAE Search and Rescue (SAR) Team in recognition of their significant efforts for carrying out humanitarian and relief missions in the areas affected by the recent earthquake that struck Myanmar, resulting in major loss of life and property.

During the ceremony, the Minister of Social Welfare and Deputy Minister of Home Affairs of Myanmar commended the UAE's prominent humanitarian role and its swift and effective support for countries affected by natural disasters. He affirmed that the presence of the UAE team had a tangible impact in saving lives and alleviating the suffering of those affected.

He honoured Colonel Muzaffar Mohammed Al Amri, Commander of the UAE Search and Rescue Team, and Lieutenant Colonel Hamad Mohammed Al Kaabi, Deputy Commander of the team, commending their professional competence, the team's outstanding efforts, and fruitful cooperation with local authorities and international teams on the ground.

During the ceremony, an update was presented on the latest developments in the search and rescue operations. The minister officially announced the cessation of all field operations after the completion of the urgent response phase.

The event also included the exchange

of commemorative plaques between the UAE Search and Rescue Team and their counterparts from Myanmar, Vietnam, Singapore, and France. Discussions were held on operational plans and the sharing of expertise to enhance the future preparedness of emergency response teams.

At the conclusion of the team's mission, Colonel Muzaffar Mohammed Al Amri expressed his pride in receiving the honour, stating that it reflects the international community's confidence in the competence and high readiness of the UAE rescue teams to respond in emergency situations. He emphasised that the recognition acknowledges the major field efforts made by team members under challenging and exceptional conditions.

Lieutenant Colonel Hamad Mohammed Al Kaabi highlighted that the recognition embodies the UAE's steadfast humanitarian approach, guided by the wise leadership, by standing in solidarity with people affected by crises and disasters around the world.

He added that the team is proud to represent the UAE in such missions, carrying a message of solidarity and peace that transcends borders, and reaffirmed their ongoing commitment to supporting affected communities and reinforcing the UAE's presence in global humanitarian efforts.

In response to the directives of Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, the UAE swiftly dispatched the search and rescue team to support efforts in Myanmar following the earthquake. This continues to embody the nation's values of cooperation, solidarity, and global unity, through the prompt assistance to those injured and affected, and the alleviation of their suffering -- a deeply rooted humanitarian role the UAE consistently upholds around the world.

Five arrested for allegedly embezzling tens of millions in government funds intended for war victims

TEL AVIV, Apr 7 (Agencies): Following an investigation by Northern District police and Israel's National Insurance Institute, five suspects were arrested this morning for running a network that fraudulently spent public assistance funds intended for victims of the wars in Gaza and Lebanon. According to the Israel Police, tens of millions of shekels were fraudulently paid out from the public purse during the "Iron Swords" War in Gaza.

During the war and as part of the economy's coping with the labor market crisis in the north, the state decided on a grant of 3,000 Shekels (USD 788) per month to be awarded to every evacuee who returned to work and/or to anyone who works full or part-time in a community evacuated due to security concerns who previously came to their workplace for a minimum of 11 days during a work month.

Thousands of cases were discovered in which employees received the grants into their accounts, but in fact did not meet the qualifying criteria, alleged the



police.

When the investigation became public, police raided the homes of five suspects (Deir al-Assad, Kisra Sumia, Uzir, Nazareth and Beit Jan) and arrested them.

These individuals are suspected of being involved in spending tens of millions of shekels from the state treasury during the "Iron Swords" War, when they personally pocketed hundreds of thousands of shekels in commissions from those citizens who were led to believe they would receive the funds in their private accounts.

Pakistan court grants bail to journalist Farhan Mallick in anti-state content case

ISLAMABAD, Apr 7 (Agencies): A local court in Pakistan on Monday granted bail to journalist Farhan Mallick, who has been in judicial custody related to a case lodged under the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (Peca) for allegedly disseminating anti-state content, agency reported.

The court approved his bail and directed him to submit a surety bond worth Pakistani Rupees (PKR) 100,000. The journalist, who previously worked as the news director of a private TV channel, was initially taken into custody by the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) on March 20 for allegedly breaching Peca and involve-



ment in defamation.

In addition to the Peca case, the court also granted bail to Mallick in a case pertaining to his alleged involvement in operating an illegal call centre that stole data from foreigners and defrauded them. The court directed him to submit a surety of PKR 100,000 for his bail in this case as well.

Recently, the Peca law was amended in Pakistan, and journalist bodies have protested against the law, terming it an attempt to gag freedom of speech and intimidate media personnel and their news outlets, according to agency report.

An FIR was registered against him under multiple sections of Peca.

The FIR stated, "During the course of inquiry, initial technical analysis of the alleged YouTube Channel was received, which revealed that the alleged person is involved in generating and disseminating posts and videos related to anti-state, consisting of fake news and public incitement agenda."

It said, "He has [been] continuously disseminating and uploading posts and videos related to anti-state, consist of fake news and public incitement agenda, thereby causing harm to the reputation of public institutes on an international level which acts on his part constitute the commission of the

offence."

Earlier, on March 28, a local court had rejected his bail plea, which was then challenged in a district and sessions court. He was sent to jail on judicial remand on March 25 after a court rejected the FIA's request for an extension in physical remand, news agency reported.

Following the expiry of his four-day physical remand, the FIA produced Mallick before the judicial magistrate (East), requesting an extension to the remand. However, the court rejected the FIA's request for his physical remand and sent Mallick to jail on judicial remand.

HRFP urges int'l community to link financial aid to Pakistan to real advancements in rights of religious minorities

FAISALABAD, Apr 7 (Agencies): Human Rights Focus Pakistan (HRFP) President Naveed Walter has urged the international community to link its financial assistance and aid to Pakistan to real advancements in the rights of religious minorities. Walter pointed out that, despite global pressure exerted through initiatives like the GSP+ (Generalized Scheme of Preferences Plus) and other human rights criteria, the plight of religious minorities in Pakistan remains critical.

"Religious minorities in Pakistan, particularly Christians and Hindus, are still experiencing widespread violations of their fundamental rights," Walter asserted.

"Christian and Hindu girls are being abducted, forcibly converted, and subsequently married to their captors. Cases of blasphemy persist, workplace discrimination is rampant, and incidents of communal violence and targeted killings are all too frequent," he said.

He also highlighted that while the Pakistani government purports to make strides towards fulfilling the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially concerning the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), significant obstacles remain unaddressed.

Walter emphasized that the government has not yet enacted

substantial reforms in critical areas such as human rights protection and religious freedoms, which are essential for achieving the SDGs.

"To make genuine progress, the government needs to transform the mindset of its leaders and the society at large," Walter remarked. "Only then can we start to tackle the underlying causes of these issues and enhance conditions for religious minorities in Pakistan."

HRFP has consistently advocated for increased international evaluation of Pakistan's human rights situation, especially regarding minority treatment. Naveed Walter called on global actors to hold Pakistan

responsible, ensuring that aid and support are connected to verifiable improvements in human rights and conditions for minorities.

Earlier, Human Rights Focus Pakistan (HRFP) published a critical report on the first quarter of 2025, highlighting a significant increase in victimization rates and the difficulties encountered by religious minorities in Pakistan.

The organization denounced the rising abuses, pointing out that relief and justice remain out of reach due to limited resources and the empowered attitudes of offenders, who are often supported by influential religious and political figures.

China accuses US of unilateralism, protectionism and economic bullying with tariffs

BEIJING, Apr 7 (Agencies): China on Monday accused the US of unilateralism, protectionism and economic bullying with tariffs, while calling on representatives of American companies including Tesla, to 'take concrete actions' to resolve the tariffs.

Putting 'America First' over international rules harms the stability of global production and the supply chain that can seriously impacts the world's economic recovery, Foreign Affairs spokesperson Lin Jian told reporters.

Last week, Trump put an additional 34% tariff on Chinese goods as part of 'Liberation Day,' coming on top of two rounds of 10% tariffs already declared in February and March, which

Trump said was due to Beijing's role in the fentanyl crisis.

China and other governments retaliated quickly.

China announced its own 34% tariff rate on US goods, mirroring Trump's tariff rate for China.

On Monday, Beijing struck a note of confidence even as markets in Hong Kong and Shanghai tumbled.

The People's Daily, the Communist Party's official mouthpiece, had quoted strongly against US, The sky won't fall, it declared, even if the US tariffs have an impact. Faced with the indiscriminate punches of US taxes, we know what we are doing and we have tools at our disposal," it added.

Beijing had announced

a slew of countermeasures Friday evening aimed at Trump's tariffs.

As part of these measures, China suspended sorghum, poultry and bonemeal imports from some American companies, and put more export controls on rare earth minerals, critical for various technologies, while launching a lawsuit at the World Trade Organization.

It is unknown if China's leader, Xi Jinping, will meet with Trump to make a deal on the tariffs.

Lin directed questions about a possible meeting to other departments. Pressure and threats are not the way to deal with China. The country will firmly safeguard its legitimate rights and interests, Lin added.

Still, over the weekend, Chinese government officials met a slew of American business representatives including Tesla, GE Healthcare and others.

The root of the tariff problem is in the US, said Ling Ji, a vice minister of Commerce, at the meeting with the 20 American companies, according to a readout of the meeting.

"We hope the American companies can address the problem at its root, issue reasonable statements, take concrete actions, and work together to safeguard the stability of the global supply chain," he added.

Ling also promised that China will remain open to foreign investment and that it was safe to invest.

GDC Kishtwar observes World Health Day in collaboration with Assam Rifles

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Apr 7: The NCC Senior Wing (SW) Unit of Government Degree College, Kishtwar celebrated World Health Day with great enthusiasm and commitment under the able guidance of Prof. Basharat Iqbal, Principal, GDC Kishtwar, and the convenership of Dr. Tabassum Saleem on Monday. The event was organized in collaboration with Assam Rifles, highlighting the importance of health and wellness in today's fast-paced world. The program was graced by the presence of Prof Basharat Iqbal, Prof N K Manhas, Dr Yasar Ahmed, Prof Ajeet Kumar, Prof Vikram Singh, Dr Usman, Prof Ashfaq Wani. Dr Wali was the resource person, who delivered an insightful and engaging lecture on this year's World Health Day theme, emphasizing the



need for a collective approach to healthcare and the role of youth in promoting healthy practices.

Around 200 students along NCC cadets actively participated in the event, engaging in awareness activities, interactive sessions, and health talks.

The collaboration with Assam Rifles brought an added sense of discipline and community spirit to the event, further motivating the youth to adopt and spread healthy lifestyle

choices.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal Prof. Basharat Iqbal appreciated the efforts of the NCC SW Unit and praised the coordination between the college and Assam Rifles.

He emphasized the importance of such initiatives in shaping responsible and health-conscious citizens.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks and a pledge by the participants to contribute towards building a healthier society.

Ojas Hospital performs region's 1st physician-modified fenestrated EVAR for complex aortic aneurysm

Top News Report

PANCHKULA, Apr 7: Ojas Hospital, Panchkula a unit of Alchemist Hospitals successfully performed region's first physician-modified fenestrated EVAR for complex aortic aneurysm in a 73-year-old female patient.

Talking to media here on Monday, Dr. Ankur Aggarwal senior consultant vascular surgery at Alchemist and Ojas Hospital Panchkula said that the patient was suffering from a life-threatening aortic aneurysm.

This complex, minimally invasive procedure marks a major advancement in vascular care and is among only five such cases ever performed in the Tricity region, he informed.

Dr. Ankur further informed that the patient

had a 6 cm wide aortic aneurysm, a dangerous condition involving the ballooning of the main artery that carries blood from the heart to the rest of the body.

Left untreated, such aneurysms carry a risk of rupture, with a mortality rate of 80-90%. Open surgery — previously the only treatment option — is extremely risky for elderly patients, often requiring 7-8 hours of surgery and involving bypasses to both kidneys and intestinal arteries.

To avoid these complications, the vascular team led by Dr. Ankur opted for a cutting-edge technique known as physician-modified fenestrated EVAR.

"This advanced procedure allows us to custom-modify the stent on the operating table by creating tiny fenestrations (holes) to pre-

serve blood flow to vital arteries branching from the diseased aorta," explained Dr. Aggarwal.

"Once the stent is placed inside the body, four additional stents are inserted through these fenestrations to maintain continuous blood supply to the kidneys and intestines."

The entire surgery was completed via a small 3 cm incision in the right groin — a stark contrast to the large incisions required in traditional surgery — and the patient was discharged in stable condition just two days later.

This marks a new era in aortic aneurysm management, providing safer and more effective



options for high-risk patients through minimally invasive techniques.

The successful outcome not only highlights the expertise available at Ojas Hospital, Panchkula but also places the region on the map for advanced vascular interventions.

Ojas Hospital is a

premier multispecialty facility and a proud unit of Alchemist Hospitals, committed to bringing cutting-edge healthcare to the region.

With state-of-the-art infrastructure and a team of expert specialists, the hospital delivers high-quality, patient-centric care across all major specialties.

Shakti Vijay Brigade in collaboration with Usha International Ltd inaugurates Tailoring and Embroidery Training Course



Top News Report

KUPWARA, Apr 7: In a continued effort to uplift and empower women in the remote region of Tithwal, Shaktivijay Brigade, in collaboration with the NGO Usha International Ltd has inaugurated a 15-day Tailoring and Embroidery Training Course at the Tithwal Community Development Centre (TCDC). The program, which commenced on April 7 and will run until April 21, 2025, aims to provide local women with practical skills that can open doors to self-employment and financial independence.

Upon successful completion of the course, participants will be awarded qualification

certificates that will serve as a valuable credential, enabling them to start their own boutique businesses or seek employment in the garment and textile industry.

This initiative is part of a broader mission to promote women's entrepreneurship and socio-economic development in the border region, fostering both confidence and self-reliance among the participants.

The course not only imparts technical skills but also represents a significant step toward creating sustainable livelihood opportunities for women in the area, making them active contributors to their communities and the local economy.

World Health Day celebrated at Army Goodwill School Hajinar

Top News Report

KUPWARA, Apr 7: Army Goodwill School Hajinar celebrated World Health Day with great enthusiasm and active participation from students and staff. The event was aimed at spreading awareness about the importance of health and well-being among young minds.

The celebration featured a variety of engaging programs including student speeches highlighting the significance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle, and a poster-making competition



where students creatively expressed health-related themes.

The event saw participation from 100 students, showcasing their talent and awareness.

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by the Vice Principal, Javid Ahmed Mir, who appreciated the students' efforts and emphasized the importance of observing such days to promote health consciousness in the community. The program was a great success, reflecting the school's commitment to holistic education and community well-being.

ciated the students' efforts and emphasized the importance of observing such days to promote health consciousness in the community. The program was a great success, reflecting the school's commitment to holistic education and community well-being.

NCC organizes ANO Conference in Kupwara to Broaden Outreach



Top News Report

KUPWARA, Apr 7: The 7th Battalion of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) on Monday organized a one-day conference for Associated NCC Officers (ANOs) at its Battalion Headquarters in Kupwara. The event aimed to enhance the reach and effectiveness of the battalion across the region.

The conference was formally inaugurated by Commanding Officer Colonel Amit Bhardwaj,

along with Second-in-Command Lieutenant Colonel S S Misquith. Over fifty ANOs from various educational institutions participated in the session.

Speaking on the occasion, CO Bhardwaj emphasized the objective of the conference—to engage ANOs and acquaint them with various operational and outreach aspects of the NCC.

"Our goal is to involve more students with NCC by strengthening our

collaboration with educational institutions," he said.

He further added that currently, 42 educational institutions in the Kupwara district are affiliated with the NCC, and many more are in the process of joining.

The conference included discussions on best practices, training modules, and strategies for increasing student participation in the NCC, which plays a vital role in youth development and nation-building.

From Page No: 1

Stock Market crash makes investors poorer by Rs 20.16 Lakh Cr in Morning Trade

cent, industrials dropped 6.39 per cent, commodities (6.14 per cent), IT (5.71 per cent), BSE Focused IT (5.57 per cent), consumer discretionary (5.42 per cent) and teck (4.84 per cent).

Waqf (Amendment) Bill: J&K Assembly Speaker adjourns house twice as NC MLAs create ruckus

the NC MLAs continued staging protests amidst anti-BJP shouts. Shouting slogans "Waqf Bill Na Manzoor", "Kala Kanoon Wapis Lo", "BJP hai-hai", the NC legislators from treasury benches tried to enter into the well, but were

prevented by the Marshals from reaching towards the podium.

In reaction, the BJP legislators also shouted "NC-Congress hai-hai", "desh vidrohi agenda nahi chalega", slogans.

Speaker J&K Legislative Assembly tried to settle down the protesting NC MLAs and also directed them to return to their seats.

"We only want discussion on Waqf Bill, which is an attack on our religion," Nazir Gurezi, NC MLA said.

As the ruling party MLAs and the opposition legislators were creating uproar, the Speaker adjourned the House for 20 minutes.

During ongoing budget session, the Speaker adjourned the House for the first time.

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju, CM Omar Abdullah visit Tulip Garden

about 30 hectares. It is situated on the foothills of Zabarwan Range with an overview of Dal Lake. The garden was opened in 2007 with the aim to boost floriculture and

tourism in Kashmir Valley. The tulip festival is an annual celebration that aims to showcase the range of flowers in the garden.

Waqf Law: Opposition parties Slam Omar for rolling out Red Carpet for Rijiju

province in India, the CM as a mark of protest stays away from Mr Kiren Rijiju, who presented the waqf bill. Instead he tags along Farooq sahib as well. What a shame," Lone said in a post on X.

The Union minister posted photographs of his meeting with the Abdullahs, and said the captivating Tulip Garden is the grandest in Asia.

"A refreshing morning walk amid the vibrant hues of the Tulip Garden in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir, with Hon'ble CM Shri @ OmarAbdullah ji and also glad to meet Dr Farooq Abdullah sahab," he said on X.

"With an astonishing numbers of varieties, this garden is a true

masterpiece. Let's cheer for the record visitors each year as they immersed themselves in the beauty of these vibrant blooms," he added.

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill was passed by Parliament last week. The Act aims to streamline the management of Waqf properties (assets permanently donated by Muslims for religious or charitable purposes) with provisions to safeguard heritage sites, and promote social welfare.

It also seeks to improve governance by enhancing transparency in property management, streamlining coordination between Waqf boards and local authorities and protecting stakeholders' rights.

Over 8 lakh beneficiaries receive monthly pension in J&K: Govt

assistance disbursement. "In instances where departmental funds are not available, payments may be delayed until after the mar-

riage, but only for applicants who applied at least one month prior to their wedding date", he said.

Srinagar Police book two more drug peddlers under PIT NDPS Act

Spokesperson, The notorious drug peddlers namely Adil Hamid son of Ab Hamid Sheikh resident of Allochhi Bagh and Zahoor Ahmad Khan son of Gh Mohd Khan resident of Zakura, Srinagar have been booked under the PIT-NDPS Act after obtaining the formal detention orders from Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir on the basis of dossiers prepared by Srinagar police against them.

Consequently, these drug peddlers were detained and subsequently lodged in Kot Balwal Jail Jammu and District Jail of Bharderwah.

These drug peddlers have been involved in the peddling of narcotics among the youth of Srinagar on an alarming scale. Besides, they were also involved in several NDPS Act cases of various police stations of Srinagar. Despite sev-

eral NDPS Act cases registered against them, they did not mend their ways after getting bailed out from courts and were brazenly promoting drugs among the youth of the valley, especially in Srinagar, through their illegal narcotics network. Police has also set into motion the process to attach their properties under the provisions of PIT-NDPS Act.

Pertinently, Police has been systematically targeting and dismantling the illegal narcotics infrastructure in the Srinagar city in the last few months. Notably, 25 notorious drug peddlers have been detained under the PIT NDPS Act in Srinagar since the beginning of January, 2025. J&K Police affirms its steadfast commitment of eliminating drug peddling in the region with the full might of law. We also caution those engaged in this unlawful activity that the long arm of law would catch them sooner than anticipated and every offender will face justice.

For any information related to drug dealers/peddlers in Srinagar, citizens are encouraged to contact the police through official helpline number 9596770550.

Together, we can build a safer and healthier society.

World Health Day celebrated with food stalls and creative posters at Shoolini University



Top News Report

SOLAN, Apr 7: The Department of Bioengineering and Food Technology at Shoolini University celebrated World

Health Day with great enthusiasm. As part of the celebration, two engaging activities were organised – Healthy Food Stalls and a Poster Making Competition – to promote awareness

about healthy living, nutrition, and wellness.

Students from across the department participated actively, showcasing their creativity and awareness of global health issues. The highlight of the event was the setup of healthy food stalls by student groups. These stalls featured a wide variety of nutritious, innovative, and tasty dishes, all prepared with special attention to hygiene and sustainability.

The food stalls were judged on four key criteria: nutritional value, innovation and creativity, presentation and hygiene, and taste and appeal. The food stall named One Group won the first prize for their unique zero-waste themed setup, while Zesty Bite secured the second position.

In the Poster Making Competition, students expressed their

ideas on the theme "Healthy Living for a Better Future" through handmade posters. They used different art mediums to convey strong messages related to health and wellness. The posters were evaluated based on their relevance to the theme, creativity and originality, clarity and message impact, and neatness and aesthetic appeal. The winners of the competition were Varun, Ayush, and Shreya.

The event also included nutrition counseling stalls, where students and faculty members shared valuable tips on maintaining a healthy and balanced diet. To add an interactive element, a body fat analyser machine was used to assess the physical health of faculty members, who then received personalised wellness advice.

Shakti Vijay Brigade organizes special health awareness event for the local community in Tangdhar

Top News Report

KUPWARA, Apr 7: In observance of World Health Day 2025, FSC Ex 328 Field Hospital, under the aegis of 104 Brigade, organized a special health awareness event for the local community of Tangdhar.

The initiative aimed to promote awareness about common health issues and encourage preventive healthcare practices among civilians, ex-servicemen, and their dependents.

As part of the celebrations, a dedicated health lecture was conducted, addressing prevalent medical concerns faced by the local population.

The session emphasized the importance of early diagnosis, pre-



vention, and available treatment options. The informative and interactive lecture was well-received by the audience and highlighted the hospital's ongoing commitment to community welfare.

Additionally, a special Outpatient Department (OPD) was established for the day to provide attendees with medical consultations and per-

sonalized healthcare guidance.

The event witnessed participation from 140 individuals, reflecting the community's strong interest in health and wellness.

The efforts of the medical team at FSC Ex 328 Field Hospital were widely appreciated, reinforcing the vital role of healthcare outreach in remote and high-altitude areas.

Heritage School commemorates 20 Glorious Years of Excellence in Education



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: Heritage School jubilantly celebrated its 20th Foundation Day on 7th April 2025, marking two decades of excellence in education, character building, and holistic development. The occasion was a magnificent confluence of reflection, pride, and renewed resolve as the school community—students, parents, educators, and dignitaries—gathered to honour a journey that began in 2005 and has since blossomed into a paragon of academic distinction and values-based learning.

The milestone event was graced by the distinguished presence of Archana Mishra, an acclaimed educationist with over three decades of exemplary service in the field of education. As the spouse of a decorated Army officer, Mishra has also contributed immensely to the empowerment of Veer Naris through her engagement with various Army welfare initiatives.

Also in attendance were prominent dignitar-

ies and Members of the Management, Nirmal Gupta, Founder Dhanwanti Memorial Trust; Chairman Sunil Gupta, senior advisor Heritage School, D.P. Gupta and board of Trustees, Suman Gupta; Rohit Gupta, Vishal Gupta, Mrs. Shivani Gupta and Monika Gupta.

The day commenced with a warm welcome address by Archana Sharma, Senior Coordinator, followed by the auspicious lighting of the ceremonial lamp, invoking divine blessings for the institution's continued success. A vibrant and soul-stirring cultural programme, curated and performed by the students, added grandeur and joy to the celebrations, capturing the spirit and essence of Heritage. The main highlight of the celebration was the felicitation of students for their outstanding scholastic and co-scholastic achievements. Proud parents of the awardees were invited as special guests to witness the recognition of their children's accomplishments.

From Classes I and II, five students from each

section were awarded the Star Achiever Trophy for their consistent performance and excellence in both scholastic and co-scholastic activities throughout the session 2024-25.

Two students each from Classes III to IX were conferred the prestigious All-Rounders Trophy — an esteemed recognition awarded to those who demonstrate excellence not only in academics but also in co-curricular pursuits, truly embodying the ethos of Heritage School.

The All-Rounders Trophies, awarded by the Chief Guest for excellence in both scholastic and co-scholastic endeavours, were presented to Kiana Gupta, Gurvansh Singh, Devansh Bajaj, Swastika Choudhary, Dishita Choudhary, Asreet Kour, Vihaan Sharma, Samardev Bansal, Sanvi Kundal, Niyati Bajaj, Sanvi Sharma, Kavya Gupta, Siya Kaushal, Pranwat Singh Nagra, Jhanavi Raina and Aayaan Gupta.

Adding to the festive spirit, Culture House was conferred with the Best House Trophy for excellence in co-curricular pursuits, an acknowledgment of the House's dynamic participation and collective effort throughout the academic year.

In her address, Chief Guest Mrs. Archana Mishra lauded the school's transformative role in shaping future-ready citizens. She praised the vision, resil-

ience, and tireless dedication of the leadership, faculty, and students. As a token of appreciation, she was presented with a commemorative memento by the Chairman, Mr. Sunil Gupta.

The Chairman in his address reflected about the proud journey of the school since 2005 till date and appraised the gathering that Heritage School has taken a quantum leap in digital transformation by installing Interactive

Flat Panels by Tata ClassEdge in all 80 classrooms.

Principal Mr. Akash Pradhan delivered the vote of thanks, expressing his heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Guest for her inspiring presence and encouraging words. He also extended his sincere appreciation to the parents for their unwavering trust and support, and to the entire school fraternity for their relentless commitment to the institution's vision.

Lecture on International Sports Day conducted at Shikari



Top News Report

REASI, Apr 7: As part of its ongoing efforts to promote physical fitness, community engagement and awareness of global initiatives, the Indian Army organized a special lecture on the occasion of International Sports Day for Development and Peace at the remote location of Shikari in Reasi district. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from local youth, school students and community members. Indian Army officials highlighted the significance of sports in fostering discipline, teamwork and peace, emphasizing how physical activity plays a crucial role in personal development and communal harmony. The lecture aimed to inspire the younger generation to adopt sports as a way of life and also to recognize its value in building character and leadership. The Indian Army also encouraged local talent to pursue sports more seriously, offering guidance and support wherever possible.

The initiative was well received by the villagers, who appreciated the Indian Army's continuous outreach efforts in remote areas, not just in matters of security but also in education, health and social welfare.

This event reflects the Indian Army's commitment to holistic nation-building and its role as a pillar of strength and unity in every corner of the country.

SMVDU co-hosts International Conference on Advanced Materials for a Sustainable Future



Top News Report

KATRA, Apr 7: SMVDU co-hosted the two-day International Conference on Advanced Materials for Sustainable Future (ICAMSF-2025), themed "Energy, Efficiency, Economy for Sustainability".

The event, held in collaboration with Chitkara University, Chandigarh, brought together a distinguished consortium of global academic institutions, including Bournemouth University (UK), Yonsei University (Seoul, South Korea), Asian Institute of Technology (Thailand), Lulea University of Technology (Sweden), University of Naples (Italy), and University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), alongside prominent Indian universities such as PEC Chandigarh, VNIT Nagpur, and NIT Nagaland.

Coordinated by Dr. Mir Irfan UI Haq (Associate Professor, SME), Dr. Ankush Raina (Assistant Professor, SME) and Dr.

Sanjay Mohan (Associate Professor, SME), the conference served as a dynamic platform for innovation and knowledge exchange.

It explored critical topics such as Material Synthesis for Environmental Remediation, Energy Storage and Conversion, Advanced Manufacturing in Industry 4.0/5.0, Materials for Extreme Functionalities, and Engineering Tribology.

The event featured 39 sessions, with 343 participants and 33 renowned speakers presenting groundbreaking research and insights. ICAMSF-2025 was generously supported by leading research organizations, including the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

The conference underscored SMVDU's growing stature in advanced

materials research and its commitment to fostering sustainable solutions for global challenges.

During the inaugural session, Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU, Prof. Pragati Kumar graced the event as a special guest.

In his address, he praised the organizers' efforts and highlighted SMVDU's potential as a key collaborator in cutting-edge research in materials science and tribology.

Dr. Yatheshth Anand, Head of the School of Mechanical Engineering, also emphasized the significance of such initiatives in positioning SMVDU at the forefront of technological innovation.

The conference not only showcased the latest advancements in the field but also reinforced international and national partnerships aimed at driving sustainable development through academic and scientific collaboration.

Centre cannot deny democratic/ constitutional rights to J&K people: Rattan Lal Gupta

Top News Report

Katra, April 7: The people of Jammu and Kashmir have played their inning fairly and bravely in the journey to restore democracy in the region. Now, it is imperative for the Central Government to honor its commitment by promptly restoring full-fledged statehood to the J&K.

This was stated by Adv Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), while addressing a day-long workers' convention at the holy town of Katra. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Raj Kumar Sharma, District President Reasi.

Making a strong appeal, the senior NC leader urged the Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who is currently on a three-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir,

to take concrete steps towards fulfilling the Centre's commitment of restoring statehood. "The people of J&K have displayed patience, resilience, and faith in the Constitution and democracy. It is time for the Central leadership, especially the Home Minister, to recognize this and act without further hesitation," he said.

Rattan Lal Gupta emphasized that the continued denial of statehood is not only unjustified but also a betrayal of repeated assurances given by the country's top leadership i.e. Prime Minister and Home Minister on multiple occasions. "The return to a full-fledged democratic setup with an elected government and legislative powers is essential for ensuring equitable development and safeguarding the unique identity of Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Earlier, Raj Kumar Sharma, District President Reasi and Ashok Mehta Block President Katra apprised the senior functionaries of the Party about the growing discontent among people due to lack of basic amenities and developmental stagnation by the earlier government headed by the BJP in J&K. "Development has come to a grinding halt due to the hollow policies of the previous administration. The local populace is bearing the brunt of bureaucratic indifference," they said.

Addressing the workers, the Provincial President said the present National Conference government headed by the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is committed to amplifying the voice of the common man and will continue to strive for equitable development across all regions of the Union Territory.

Samsung introduces SmartThings Powered 'Customized Cooling' for Bespoke AI Windfree range of Air Conditioners

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: The struggle of sleepless summer nights is finally over. Samsung, India's leading consumer electronics brand, is redefining home cooling with its latest innovation - 'Customized Cooling'. This first-of-its-kind feature synchronizes Samsung Smart Air Conditioners with WWST (Works with SmartThings) certified fans and switches, delivering uninterrupted comfort while optimizing energy efficiency.

India's electricity demand is growing at 6-7% annually, driven in part by increased use of air conditioners during the summer months (IEA Report). Despite this, many households still rely on both air conditioners and fans for comfort.

In fact, Samsung's consumer experience study reveals that

most of the Indian homes have at least three fans, highlighting the significant role these devices play in daily life. Moreover 50% of Indian consumer's use both simultaneously, frequently adjusting settings throughout the night by turning the AC off when it becomes too cold or back on when the room warms up.

This constant adjustment not only disrupts sleep but also leads to higher energy consumption and discomfort. Recognizing this challenge, Samsung has introduced 'Customized Cooling', a SmartThings-powered solution in the 2025 Bespoke AI range of Air Conditioners that automatically maintains a consistently comfortable temperature throughout the night - and even during the day - without the need for manual adjustments.

This seamless integration

synchronizes Samsung Smart ACs with SmartThings-certified fans and switches, ensuring enhanced comfort along with reduced electricity bills.

"At Samsung, we believe true comfort goes beyond cooling - it's about intelligent, personalized experiences that adapt to the user's needs.

Indian consumers often rely on a combination of ACs and fans to stay comfortable, especially at night. With Customized Cooling, we are eliminating the hassle of frequent adjustments by seamlessly operating the 2025 Bespoke AI range of ACs with SmartThings-certified fans and switches.

This brings peace of mind, energy efficiency, and uninterrupted rest," said Ghufan Alam, Vice President, Digital Appliances, Samsung India. "Moreover, while the feature is designed

to optimize sleep, it's equally useful for staying comfortable throughout the day without compromising comfort or energy savings," he further added.

The 'Customized Cooling' feature eliminates the need for manual adjustments, ensuring a balanced and restful night's sleep. It automatically adapts to surrounding environment, adjusts fan and AC settings in sync, to maintain a comfortable room environment during sleep or any time of day, while reducing power consumption.

Available within SmartThings Energy Service, the 'Customized Cooling' feature ensures both comfort and sustainability. The feature is compatible with WWST-certified smart fans and smart switches, allowing users to integrate it effortlessly into their smart homes.

Dhoni's presence affecting balance as CSK face tricky Punjab test

In one of their worst starts to IPL season, CSK have now completed hat-trick of defeats, all while chasing

MULLANPUR, Apr 7 (Agencies): The distinct lack of firepower in Mahendra Singh Dhoni's death overs batting is a sensitive area that Chennai Super Kings need to address ahead of their away IPL clash against Punjab Kings here on Tuesday.

In one of their worst starts to an IPL season, CSK have now completed a hat-trick of defeats, all while chasing.

While Punjab Kings lost their previous game against Rajasthan Royals at home but on current form as well as on paper, Shreyas Iyer's side looks better-rounded than CSK who are grappling with combination problems.

Dhoni's presence at the back-end, which once was considered a boon, is turning out into a bane for the 'Yellow Brigade'.

But such is the aura of the man playing his 18th IPL season (only one apart from Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma) that no one in the CSK ranks can probably walk up to the man and show him the mirror.

While 'Brand Dhoni' still rules the hearts of CSK aficionados and the cheer is deafening when he enters the turf, the game against Delhi Capitals was certainly an awakening for his supporters that there is more to a team than their 'Beloved Thala' and probably it's time to move



on.

The opposition teams now expect to bat first and somehow score anything above 180 knowing that it would be an uphill task for CSK unless Shivam Dube fires.

Now Dube is a muscular hit and miss kind of a player and the odds of success with his template will always be 50-50.

Dhoni's greatness in all these years has been his immaculate sense of timing whether it is bidding adieu to captaincy or retiring from international game. Will he decide himself once again or wait for the nudge?

With Dhoni being the same player and no one to "bell the cat", CSK are in an unusual mess with a misfiring top-order

where the skipper Rituraj Gai kwad has had to give up his opening slot.

"No, that's not my role to put an end to it. I have no idea. I'm just enjoying working with him. He's still going strong. I don't even ask these days. You guys are the ones that ask (about retirement)," head coach Stephen Fleming's helplessness was evident after the 25-run loss to DC where the former skipper didn't even try at times to go for big shots.

Match-up against Chahal could be interesting

Yuzvendra Chahal, the seasoned leg-spinner, will certainly play a key role against Chennai Super Kings as he enjoys a favourable match-up against his

former India captain.

Chahal and Dhoni have been pitted against each other 10 times in various IPL games and the Haryana bowler has dismissed the legend five times.

For Punjab Kings, skipper Iyer and young Nehal Wadhwa's form keeps them in good stead.

Teams

Chennai Super Kings: Rituraj Gai kwad ©, MS Dhoni (wk), Ravindra Jadeja, Shivam Dube, Matheesa Pathirana, Noor Ahmad, Ravichandran Ashwin, Devon Conway, Syed Khaleel Ahmed, Rachin Ravindra, Rahul Tripathi, Vijay Shankar, Sam Curran, Shaik Rashid, Anshul Kamboj, Mukesh Choudhary, Deepak Hooda, Gurjanpreet Singh, Nathan Ellis, Jamie Overton, Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Ramakrishnan Ghosh, Shreyas Gopal, Vansh Bedi (wk), Andre Siddarth.

Punjab Kings: Shreyas Iyer ©, Yuzvendra Chahal, Arshdeep Singh, Marcus Stoinis, Nehal Wadhwa, Glenn Maxwell, Vyshak Vijaykumar, Yash Thakur, Harpreet Brar, Vishnu Vinod, Marco Jansen, Lockie Ferguson, Josh Inglis, Xavier Bartlett, Kuldeep Sen, Pyla Avinash, Suryansh Shedge, Musheer Khan, Harnoor Pannu, Aaron Hardie, Priyansh Arya, Azmatullah Omarzai.

Match Starts at 7:30 pm.

Mumbai Indians part ways with two-time WPL-winning coach Charlotte Edwards



MUMBAI, Apr 7 (Agencies): Mumbai Indians have parted ways with their two-time Women's Premier League head coach Charlotte Edwards, who has taken over as the head coach of the England women's team.

Edwards guided the Mumbai Indians to WPL title glory in 2023 and 2025. The franchise on Monday confirmed her departure with a heartfelt message: "Charlotte Edwards, who coached the team to two WPL titles in three seasons, will be missed by the #OneFamily and her girls, whom she inspired and helped develop over the course of the three years."

While reflecting on Edwards' departure, a Mumbai Indians spokesperson said, "Charlotte Edwards has been a leader for whom the entire #OneFamily has enormous admiration, appreciation and respect. The incredible achievements that Charlotte has driven the team towards include winning two titles in three years, developing and inspiring the girls to play their best cricket, taking the MI legacy forward and bringing joy to the MI Paltan. We wish her all the very best and are grateful for everything she has brought to our team over the past three years."

Edwards is a former

England captain who represented her country over 300 times, winning two World Cups and lifting the Ashes five times across a 20-year playing career. With 10,273 runs in 309 international matches with 13 centuries, she is one of the most decorated international batters ever.

She replaced Jon Lewis after an underwhelming ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 and 16-0 drubbing to Australia in women's Ashes away from home.

Since retiring from playing in 2017, Edwards has coached across English domestic cricket and global T20 leagues, enjoying success with Southern Brave in regional cricket, Southern Brave in The Hundred, Sydney Sixers in the Women's Big Bash League and Mumbai Indians in the Women's Premier League.

As Edwards begins a new chapter in her life, "Mumbai Indians wish Charlotte Edwards all the very best in her new role with the England Women's team and the #OneFamily will continue to cheer for one of the greats of the game."

Road to UEFA Champions League semi-finals begins as top eight teams in Europe clash

NEW DELHI, Apr 7 (Agencies): The UEFA Champions League is entering its final stages, with the quarter-finals set to begin on Wednesday, with more drama and action on the cards in what has been an extraordinary tournament so far, full of surprises and excitement.

In one fixture, defending champions Real Madrid will face off against an injury-depleted Arsenal, while Bayern Munich will take on Inter Milan in the other.

In the first match, Real Madrid will be hunting for another victory against an Arsenal side that has been ravaged by injuries. Mikel Arteta faces a major dilemma as key players Ben White, Riccardo Calafiori, Gabriel Magalhaes, and Jurrien Timber have all been sidelined.

While Bukayo Saka's return is a boost for the Gunners, facing a team like Real Madrid without their full-strength squad will be a monumental challenge. Real Madrid enters the match in high spirits, with recent victories in both La Liga and the Copa del Rey. All eyes will be on Kylian Mbappe, who is increas-

ingly being viewed as a future legend at the club, drawing comparisons to Cristiano Ronaldo's time there.

Meanwhile, Bayern Munich will take on Inter Milan in what promises to be an exciting clash. Bayern, with six Champions League titles under their belt, will look to put on a commanding performance against an Inter side that has impressed, especially after their dominant 4-1 aggregate victory over Feyenoord in the Round of 16.

Bayern's star striker, Harry Kane, who has scored 10 goals in the competition and is in superb form domestically, will be a key figure. Inter, however, boasts one of the tournament's most formidable defences, having kept eight clean sheets—the most by any team. It will be a battle between Bayern's offensive strength and Inter's defensive resilience.

On Thursday, Barcelona will take on Borussia Dortmund in a highly anticipated match. Barcelona has been in sensational form this season, with their young squad firing on all cylinders. They are the tournament's top scorers

with 32 goals, and captain Rafinha, alongside Robert Lewandowski, is among the top five scorers.

Despite Barcelona's dominance, Dortmund will aim to spoil the party. The odds are in Barcelona's favour, as they have never lost to Dortmund in their five previous Champions League encounters.

On the same night and time, Paris Saint-Germain will look to extend their momentum after their impressive win over Liverpool. Under coach Luis Enrique, PSG has undergone a transformation, evolving into a more consistent team despite the absence of stars like Neymar and Kylian Mbappe.

The Parisians have yet to concede a penalty in the tournament and have kept five clean sheets. With 25 goals scored, they rank among the top attacking teams. Aston Villa, on the other hand, is enjoying a fairytale run, reaching its first Champions League quarter-finals since the 1982-83 season. The UEFA Champions League quarter-finals will be live on Sony Sports Ten 1, Sony Sports Ten 2 SD and HD.

Narine meets his 'fanboy' Rathi as KKR, LSG look to sustain momentum

KOLKATA, Apr 7 (Agencies): Sunil Narine will come face-to-face with his 'clone' and biggest fan Digvesh Rathi when Kolkata Knight Riders host Lucknow Super Giants in a high-stakes IPL afternoon clash at the Eden Gardens here on Tuesday.

Both sides are locked at four points from as many games—two wins apiece—going into the contest. For the home side, it has been a season of mixed returns so far. After early defeats to Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Mumbai Indians, KKR roared back to form in their last outing—a commanding win over Sunrisers Hyderabad—following a long-awaited middle-order resurgence.

Their costliest buy Venkatesh Iyer finally delivered while Rinku Singh and veteran Ajinkya Rahane provided vital contributions.

Promising youngster Angkrish Raghuvanshi also caught the eye with his fluency and textbook technique.

But one area of concern continues to plague the Knight Riders—their misfiring opening partnership.

The opening duo of Quinton de Kock and Sunil Narine has strug-



gled to give them the flying starts that Phil Salt provided last season.

Their highest stand this season has been 44 runs while the openers have managed 4, 1, and 14 in the other games.

Narine has looked scratchy and inconsistent, raising questions over his role at the top. It wouldn't be surprising if Raghuvanshi is pushed up alongside de Kock.

Narine vs Rathi

KKR know that Narine's importance is not just about scoring runs. With Narine and Rathi in opposite camps, it will be fascinating to see who outshines the other—the master or the apprentice.

Rathi, who was spotted after a strong Delhi Premier League showing, now finds himself against the man who 'shaped his cricketing dream'.

His control over length and clever variations have earned praise from experts and coaches alike.

While Rathi's bowling has been exceptional, his on-field celebrations have courted controversy. He has already been fined twice—once for physical contact with PBKS batter Priyansh Arya, and again after the MI game for his 'notebook' celebration.

He now sits on three demerit points—a point away from a one-match suspension.

Will Rathi risk his signature celebration again in front of his hero Narine? That remains to be seen. LSG come into this contest riding high after a 12-run win over Mumbai Indians in Lucknow. Mitchell Marsh has been striking the ball cleanly at the top, while Aiden Markram, after a quiet start to the season, returned to form with an impactful fifty against MI.

However, Rishabh Pant's poor run thus far in the IPL has already sparked criticism from fans and experts alike.

Having been bought for a record INR 27 crore, the pressure is only growing on the LSG skipper, especially with team owner Sanjiv Goenka known for his

passionate involvement in the game.

After a much publicised 'schooling' session with KL Rahul last season, it remains to be seen how long Goenka's patience holds if Pant's lean patch continues.

Teams (from): Kolkata Knight Riders: Quinton de Kock (wk), Sunil Narine, Ajinkya Rahane ©, Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Venkatesh Iyer, Rinku Singh, Manish Pandey, Andre Russell, Raman-deep Singh, Harshit Rana, Spencer Johnson, Varun Chakaravathy, Anrich Nortje, Vaibhav Arora, Anukul Roy, Luvnith Sisodia, Moeen Ali, Rovman Powell, Mayank Markande, Rahmanullah Gurbaz and Chetan Sakariya.

Lucknow Super Giants: Rishabh Pant (c & wk), Abdul Samad, Akash Deep, Akash Singh, Avesh Khan, Ayush Badoni, Matthew Breetzke, Yuvraj Chaudhary, Rajvardhan Hangargekar, Himmat Singh, Shamar Joseph, Aryan Juyal, Arshin Kulkarni, Aiden Markram, Mitchell Marsh, David Miller, Nicholas Pooran, Prince Yadav, Digvesh Rathi, Ravi Bishnoi, Shahbaz Ahmed, Manimaran Siddharth, Shardul Thakur and Mayank Yadav.

Match starts: 3.30pm.

Big improvement needed in all three departments for SRH but Vettori not pressing the panic button just yet

HYDERABAD, Apr 7 (Agencies): Sunrisers Hyderabad head coach Daniel Vettori says their fourth loss in a row in the IPL was down to the subpar showing in all three departments of the game and that will have to change if they are to arrest the slide.

SRH, who made the final last year with an uber-aggressive style of play, have not been able to carry their belligerent run into this season.

Their top three—Travis Head, Abhishek Sharma and Ishan Kishan—have failed to find consistency thus far.

"I think everyone in the room understands

that and it hasn't really been close in the last four games."

"But obviously the challenge for us moving forward because every IPL team at some stage goes through a run of losses and now we have a five-day break before we play Punjab who's been exceptional so far in the tournament. We need to get ourselves up for that game," said Vettori after the loss to Gujarat Titans on Sunday night.

However, it is not in his and skipper Pat Cummins' nature to press the panic button.

"It's probably slow. This is glacial, maybe, in terms of starts. I don't think Pat's ever panicked in his life and I think I'm pretty

similar. But we understand the ramifications of losing four in a row and how difficult it makes the season. And it's tough because obviously you come into the season with high expectations after last year and then a very good start." Vettori had no qualms in admitting that his team has been far below its best.

"We just haven't been near our best in any of the last four games. And I think that's all three disciplines. I think the barometer of most teams is how their fielding is going and we've been pretty poor in the field. So those will be the work-ons between now and the Punjab game," said the former

New Zealand spinner.

SRH reaped rich rewards for their fearless display at the top of the order but on slower pitches, it has not worked for the team in the competition so far.

"So I think we know the style that's going to work, but we have to respect conditions and we have to assess really well. And that's probably something we haven't done as well.

And also have to respect how well other teams are bowling, putting a lot of planning into our top three," added Vettori.

Bowling late in the powerplay helping me do my job better

Titans' pacer Prasidh Krishna has been impressive in the middle overs and was one of the star performers on Sunday night alongside Mohammed Siraj.

"So, that is helping me do my job better (bowling late in the powerplay)." On Siraj, he added: "We've had great sessions together.

All the work that he's (Siraj) put in from January or February that he's been working on. Everything is going well."

"I think if you look at the wins that we've had, they came with a lot of understanding of what the wicket is behaving like and adjusting our game plans accordingly."

Bee Enn Nursing Institute & BECON celebrate World Health Day 2025



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: In a beautiful convergence of compassion, knowledge, and community, Bee Enn Nursing Institute (BNNI), in collaboration with Bee Enn College of Nursing (BECON), commemorated World Health Day 2025 with grace and purpose.

This year's global theme — "Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures" — set the tone for a thoughtful and empowering day focused on promoting health, wellness, and

equity for mothers and newborns.

The event began at 11:00 AM, with a melodious welcome song that stirred hearts and the ceremonial lighting of the lamp — a symbolic gesture honoring knowledge, life, and new beginnings.

Mini Patiyal from the Department of Mental Health Nursing opened the event with a warm welcome address, setting the stage for an enriching exchange of ideas and experiences. Neetu Sharma, Principal of BNNI, delivered a thought-provoking ses-

sion on the importance of nurturing health to shape hopeful futures. Her words resonated deeply with the audience, many of whom were young nursing students preparing to serve as the guardians of public health.

A serene yoga session led by Dr. Sujata Sathu followed, illustrating the healing harmony between the body and mind.

Participants embraced the calming power of breath and movement, highlighting the importance of mindfulness in holistic health.

Adding an inspiring spark to the event was Drishti Pawan Sharma, a renowned sports personality from Jammu & Kashmir. With anecdotes of discipline, resilience, and balanced living, she captured the essence of how lifestyle choices echo through our health journeys.

In a captivating keynote, Dr. Vasanta Kohli, a respected nutritionist, along with Simple Sharma, spoke passionately on the pillars of a healthy diet and the role of balanced nutrition in maternal and child health. Their address served as a vital reminder that wellness begins in the womb and extends into every bite, every breath, and every heartbeat.

The programme concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks to all dignitaries, speakers, faculty, and students by the organizing committee, applauding their efforts in making the event meaningful and memorable.

SMVDU Civil Engineering students complete Surveying Camp at Khajjiar

Top News Report

KATRA, Apr 7: Fourth-semester students from the School of Civil Engineering (SoCE), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), participated in a week-long surveying camp at Khajjiar, Himachal Pradesh.

The camp aimed to provide hands-on training in essential surveying techniques, allowing students to bridge the gap between classroom learning and practical applications.

Throughout the camp, students worked with modern instruments such as Total Stations and Auto Levels while also engaging in traditional methods like Plane Table and Com-

pass Surveying. These activities enhanced their understanding of topographic mapping, contouring, and levelling. The serene and challenging terrain of Khajjiar served as an ideal location for students to apply their skills in real-world scenarios.

The camp not only strengthened their technical proficiency but also developed problem-solving abilities and teamwork. By conducting field exercises in diverse surveying techniques, students gained confidence in handling advanced equipment and executing precise measurements.

The experience reinforced their ability to analyze data, interpret survey results, and create accurate maps—



crucial skills for their future careers in civil engineering.

The camp was organized under the guidance of Dr. Naqeeb Ul Islam (Assistant Professor, SoCE, and Course Coordinator), Dr. Shankar Singh Khushwaha, and Dr. Yati Aggarwal (Assistant Professors, SoCE), along with Mr. Love Sharma (Lab Assistant).

Their mentorship and expertise provided students with valuable insights into real-world surveying challenges. Beyond academics, the trip also fostered a sense of adventure, as students explored the breathtaking landscapes of Khajjiar, making the learning experience both enriching and memorable.

BJP activist R L Kaith, supporters mark BJP's 45th Foundation Day with grandeur

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: BJP activist R L Kaith, supporters marked BJP's 45th Foundation Day with grandeur, enthusiasm and by installing Lotus Flags at their respective homes.

A brief function organised in Surya Vihar on Sunday, commenced with lighting of lamp of integrity and unity. Speaking on the occasion, the BJP Activist R.L.Kaith highlighted the illustrious journey of Bharatiya Janata Party since its inception in 1980. He said Bharatiya Janata Party has always created love, affection, brotherhood and social ties among all sections of the society.

Kaith said, the Bhartiya Janata party is the only party that doesn't

look at one's family name before making leaders. Even a small party worker can one day occupy the party's top position, for we honour individual talent and not the family name as is done in other political parties.

Appreciating the Bharatiya Janata Party's State President Sat Sharma, Kaith said his broad vision and experience has strengthened the Bhartiya Janata party in Jammu and Kashmir.

The celebration concluded with a reaffirmation of Bharatiya Janata Party's commitment to its core values and objectives, leaving the attendees inspired and proud of the organisation's legacy.

Prominent among those present on the occasion included Ravikant Sharma, Baldev Chand Sandhu, Naresh Kumar, Jagdish Raj, Anita



Ganjoo, Neha Pandita, Kamlesh Kumari, Neha Kalsi and Sonali Kumari.

Dimple leads protest for J&K Statehood, demands action on special status, Articles 370 and 35-A



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: In a fiery show of defiance and determination, Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood Jammu Kashmir, led a passionate protest against the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), accusing it of creating a ruckus in the legislative assembly instead of sincerely engaging in debate over the restoration of Jammu & Kashmir's statehood and special status.

Amid the echoing slogans and fluttering placards, hundreds gathered under Dimple's leadership, calling out the alliance government for its silence and delay in addressing the critical issues of statehood,

Article 370, and Article 35-A.

The protesters decried the newly passed Waqf Bill, alleging it to be a deliberate attempt to stoke religious divisions between Hindus and Muslims — a move Dimple termed as "communal and divisive."

"What is the definition of the 'appropriate time'?" Dimple thundered, directly questioning the recent statement by Home Minister Amit Shah. "The BJP has failed to honor its promise — made not only in Parliament but to the very soul of Jammu & Kashmir. The people will no longer wait in silence."

Calling the situation intolerable, Dimple expressed grave dis-

appointment at what he described as backtracking on assurances regarding state restoration post-elections. He further warned of intensifying the agitation if swift action is not taken.

"The sacred Dogra land is now gripped by liquor and mining mafias," Dimple alleged. "We demand an immediate ban on liquor sales and mining exploitation in our state."

In a strategic political move, Dimple announced that an all-party meeting will soon be convened in Jammu to chalk out a united front and road-map toward reclaiming J&K's special constitutional identity.

Appealing directly to Chief Minister Omar

Abdullah, Dimple urged for bold leadership and a firm stand in the assembly. He called on the state government to press forward with long-standing resolutions submitted to the Government of India, demanding free electricity (200 units), twelve free LPG cylinders, double rationing for citizens, and the revival of the traditional Darbar Move in April.

He also made a fervent demand to liberate PoK, Gilgit, and Baltistan and integrate them into Jammu and Kashmir.

"The confrontation between Raj Bhawan and the elected government is sowing chaos and stalling progress," Dimple lamented. "Youth are disillusioned, work is halted — and the people deserve answers."

Standing with him were prominent figures including Rocky Kapoor, Shami Kumar, Ashok Sharma, Happy Kumar, Narender Chowdhary, Sanjeev Kumar, Rajesh Kapoor, Suny, Raju, and a host of other activists, unified in voice and purpose. As the chants rang through the air, one message rang clear: Jammu & Kashmir is no longer willing to wait. The time for promises is over. The time for action is now.

GGM Science College holds meeting to shape fourth year of FYUG Programme

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 7: An interactive and forward-looking meeting to deliberate on the implementation of the fourth year of the Four-Year Undergraduate (FYUG) programme was held on today in the conference hall of the College.

The session brought together key academic stakeholders including Prof. (Dr.) Naveen Anand, Dean of Academic Affairs, CLUJ; Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Gupta, Principal, GGM Science College; and all Heads of Departments (HODs), who engaged in in-depth discussions regarding the structure, content, and delivery of the fourth-year curriculum. The primary focus of the meeting was to finalize the subjects to be introduced in the fourth year and to collaboratively draft a dynamic syllabus aligned with academic excellence.

HODs provided valuable inputs from their respective disciplines, emphasizing a balanced approach that addresses students' diverse academic interests and career aspirations.

Discussions revolved around the



introduction of new elective and core subjects, with special attention to interdisciplinary topics that foster critical thinking, adaptability, and holistic education, highlighting the integration of recent advancements in their fields, ensuring that the curriculum remains contemporary and competitive.

Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Gupta affirmed that GGM Science College is fully prepared to implement the fourth year and is also ready to support research-based coursework. "The college is equipped with state-of-the-art infrastructure and experienced faculty capable of delivering quality education and research mentorship," he stated.

Adding further depth to the conversation, Prof. (Dr.) Naveen Anand emphasized the pivotal role of research in the fourth-year

framework. "CLUJ is committed to embedding research components into the curriculum to enrich the academic experience and better prepare students for higher studies or professional pathways," he said.

He also urged faculty to proactively prepare for mentoring research students in the upcoming academic sessions.

Each HOD presented departmental feedback, discussing key opportunities for student development, potential challenges in curriculum delivery, and ways to ensure effective implementation. The meeting concluded with a collective resolution to continue refining the syllabus with broader faculty involvement, and to schedule further discussions for the seamless integration of the fourth year into the FYUG course structure.

GupShup

RESTAURANT

Where Hunger Meets Happiness

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

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



ORDER NOW