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BRIEFLY

5.8-magnitude earthquake strikes Valley, No damage to life or property

SRINAGAR, Apr 12 (Agencies): A moderate intensity earthquake with epicentre in Pakistan struck Jammu and Kashmir at around 1 pm on Saturday, an official said.

Tremors were felt in many parts of the Valley, but there were no reports of loss of life or damage to property, he said.

The 5.8 magnitude earthquake occurred at a latitude of 33.63 degrees North and longitude of 72.46 degrees East in Pakistan at a depth of 10 kilometres, the official said.

Mehbooba Mufti writes to Chief Ministers M.K. Stalin, Mamata Banerjee, and Siddaramaiah

SRINAGAR, Apr 12 (Agencies): Mehbooba Mufti, former Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir, has addressed letters to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, and Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, urging them to continue standing up for the foundational values of the Indian Constitution amid an increasingly majoritarian political climate.

In her statement, Mufti expressed deep concern over the growing tide of majoritarianism that has gripped the country over the past decade. She said this trend poses a serious threat to India's core principles of plurality, diversity, and secularism.

"While the majority of citizens continue to reject this divisive agenda, those who propagate hatred and exclusion now occupy positions of power. They are systematically targeting our Constitution, democratic institutions, and the secular fabric of our nation. Minorities, particularly Muslims, have borne the brunt of these actions — the latest example being the arbitrary enforcement of new Waqf laws that undermine our religious freedoms."

Mufti further noted that these developments are not isolated but part of a broader pattern of systemic erosion of rights,

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J-K LG, Army Chief, Himachal CM pay tributes to JCO martyred in gunfight with terrorists in Jammu

JAMMU/HAMIRPUR, Apr 12 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi on Saturday paid tributes to a junior commissioned officer who died in an encounter with terrorists near the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu.

A wreath-laying ceremony for Subedar Kuldeep Chand was held at military garrison Tanda in Jammu's Akhnoor in the afternoon and his



mortal remains were despatched to his family in Himachal Pradesh for last rites, officials said.

Chand is survived by his son, daughter, wife

and elderly parents. His body would be cremated at his native village on Sunday.

They said senior Army, police and civil

officers led by General Officer Commanding of 10th Infantry Division Major General Sameer Shrivastava and Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu, Joginder Singh laid wreaths at the body and saluted the sacrifice of the junior commissioned officer (JCO).

Subedar Chand lost his life in a gunfight with terrorists attempting to infiltrate into India from the Pakistan side in the Keri-Bhattal area of the

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"Operations will go on until terrorists are eliminated": Army on ongoing encounter with terrorists in J&K

KISHTWAR, Apr 12 (Agencies): Amid the ongoing operations and terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, the Indian Army on Saturday reiterated its commitment to continue its operations across the union territories until "terrorists are eliminated."

The Director General of the Kishtwar-Doda Ramban range, Shridhar Patil, said during a press conference, "Until



terrorists are eliminated, the operations will go on. The people of the area have given full support to security forces. These operations show good coordination of security forces."

On Saturday, security forces in Kishtwar neutralised a total of 3 Pakistani terrorists, 2 today and 1 on Friday.

Brigadier JBS Rathi, Commander of 5 Sector Assam Rifles, said that security forces used UAVS and drones for real-time surveillance during the operations.

"On 9 April, Indian Army, J&K Police CRPF launched search operation, in the ensuing

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Handwara bus accident: Another student succumbs, toll 2

SRINAGAR, Apr 12 (Agencies): The death toll in the tragic Handwara bus accident has risen to two after another injured student succumbed to her injuries on Saturday.

The Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, however, expressed profound grief over the incident, that claimed two lives and left 22 others injured.

Taking to the micro-blogging site, X, the Chief Minister while expressing grief over the incident, stated that, "The loss of two young promising students from GDC

Sogam, in the tragic accident near Handwara is a tragedy that weighs heavily on all of us. My deepest condolences to their families in this hour of grief. Prayers for the swift recovery of the injured."

The Chief Minister also assured that the government is closely monitoring the situation and has directed the concerned authorities to ensure that all necessary medical and logistical assistance is provided.

Student dead, 15 injured in bus accident in north Kashmir's Handwara

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan visited GMC Handwara to take stock of the situation following the tragic bus accident in Vodhpura.

During the visit, the DC interacted with the injured students and hospital staff, assuring them of all possible assistance from the district administration.

The DC assured that the administration is committed to ensuring the best possible medical care and support for the victims and their families.

Case

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Three terrorists killed, M4 Rifle, other arms recovered in Kishtwar Encounter: Army

JAMMU, Apr 12 (Agencies): Security forces on Saturday said three terrorists were killed and a cache of arms and ammunition recovered during an ongoing encounter in the Chhatru forest area of Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a joint press conference at 5 Sector Assam Rifles Headquarters, Brigadier J.B.S. Rathi, Commander of 5 Sector Assam Rifles, and Deputy

Inspector General Shridhar Patil of the Kishtwar-Doda-Ramban Range said the operation began on April 9 following intelligence inputs about the presence of terrorists in the area.

Brigadier Rathi, said the joint operation by the Indian Army's White Knight Corps and Jammu and Kashmir Police continued despite tough terrain and weather conditions. He said the search teams killed one terrorist on April

11 and two more on 12 April.

He said arms recovered include one AK rifle and one M4 rifle, along with other items. The identity of the slain terrorists, he said, is being verified.

DIG Shridhar Patil said that the area remains under a strict security cordon and search operations are continuing.

He said the operation is being conducted in phases to ensure

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Statehood is BJP's promise, No need for Omar Abdullah to seek it: LoP Sunil Sharma



SRINAGAR, Apr 12 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir BJP on Saturday said there was no need for Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to seek restoration of the Union Territory's statehood as it was the saffron party's narrative, and that it would be restored at an

appropriate time. "It is unfortunate that the National Conference keeps on harping about statehood. Statehood is our narrative, it is the BJP's promise," said senior BJP leader and leader of opposition in the J-K assembly Sunil Sharma.

Talking to reporters here, he said Abdullah should rather focus on fulfilling the promises he made to the people.

Raising religious and provocative slogans inside the assembly will not accelerate the process of statehood restoration, Sharma said, alleging that National Conference leaders were attempting to provoke religious sentiments in the assembly.

"The assembly is not Jamia Masjid. Slogans that should be raised in Jamia Masjid were raised in the assembly.

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NC hits back at BJP's Sunil Sharma, Says he failed as opposition leader

SRINAGAR, Apr 12 (Agencies): Hours after Leader of Opposition and BJP legislator Sunil Sharma questioned National Conference over the killing of nearly 10,000 of its workers, the NC on Saturday hit back, saying that Sharma had likely been scolded by his party leadership in Delhi for failing spectacularly as an opposition leader in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly.

NC Chief Spokesper-



son and legislator Tanvir Sadiq mocked at Sharma's recent press conferences, saying, "Two press conferences in two days, and the BJP's Leader of the Opposition still can't manage to

explain anything, looks like he's been scolded by Delhi and his own party for failing spectacularly as an opposition leader in the assembly!"

In a post on X, Sadiq challenged the logic of LoP Sharma that around 10,000 NC workers were killed when Omar Abdullah and Farooq Abdullah headed the Home Department.

"One of these days, we might just expose the full extent of his

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10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Raj Mal** S/o Dharam Chand R/o Bari Brahmna.

10TH DAY will be performed on 14th April Monday at our residence Palli Morth opp. Sahib Bandaji Ashram.

GRIEF STRICKEN :
 (Son & Daughter in law)
 Mr. Jatin & Mrs. Tripta
 Mr. Harish & Mrs. Asha
 (Son in law & Daughter)
 Mr. Suresh & Mrs. Suman
 Smt. Mandeep Kaur (Wife)
 (Grand Son & Grand Daughter)
 Anyan, Ayush, Antriksh, Anadhaya, Sohni



SH RAJ MAL
(Retd. C.H.O Health Deptt)

Mob. 7889667001,
9697500560

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With Profound grief and sorrow we inform about the sad demise of **Smt. Rajni Dubey** W/o Sh. Raghubir Sharma R/o H.No. 95, Sector 3, (Near Suvidha Vet Clinic) Sanjay Nagar, Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 04-04-2025.

Tenth Day will be held on 13-04-2025, Sunday, at 11:00 am at our residence.

Kriya will be held on 14-04-2025, Monday at our residence.

Uthala will be held on 14-04-2025, Monday (05:00 to 06:00 pm) at Ram Mandir, Shastri Nagar.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
 Sh. Raghubir Sharma (Husband)
 Sayam Vashisht (Son)
 Hardik Vashisht (Son)
 (Jeths & Jethanis)
 Late Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma & Smt. Anuradha Sharma
 Sh. Rakesh Sharma & Smt. Sunita Sharma
 Sh. Raman Sharma & Smt. Vandana Aggarwal
 (Nanand & Nandoi)
 Smt. Veena Devi & Sh. G L Sadhotra
 Smt. Shakli Sharma & Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma
Contact No: 94191-23358, 77809-55740, 70518-02915, 96227-69875



SMT. RAJNI DUBEY
(Master Grade Teacher)

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, Vering, 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. Rubli Tickoo (Sister)
 Sh. Roop K. Bhat & Smt. Lovely (Brother-in-law & Sister)
 Anshu Bhat, Shivam Bhat, Sagar Bhat, Rushank Bhat & Vikasta Bhat (Sons & Daughter)
CONTACT NUMBERS: 9697541881, 9149454098



Lt. Sh. Awatar Krishan Bhat
(Billu ji)

CHOUBARSI

Those we love, don't go away, they wait beside us every day. Unseen and unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed!

Four years have passed away, yet it feels like yesterday since we last heard your voice, saw your smile and felt your embrace! Time has moved on but your absence has remained woven in our lives.

Choubarsi of our beloved, **Late Smt. Madhu Khajuria**, will be held at our residence, 36/6 Channi Himmat, Jammu, on 13th April 2025, at 12 Noon.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY
 Smt. Padma Khajuria (Mother in Law)
 Brig (Dr) Rakesh Khajuria (Retd) (Husband)
Devrani and Devnar
 Smt. Sunita and Sh. Suresh Khajuria, SE (R&B) (Retd)
 Smt. Sunita and Sh. Kamal Khajuria
 Smt. Champa Khajuria (Tali Ji)
 Smt. Anita & Sh. Inder Jeet Khajuria (Chachi Ji & Chacha Ji)
 Sh. Vijay and Smt. Geeta (Jiji Ji & Didi)
 Sh. Raj Mohan & Anita Sharma (Brother and Bhabhi)
 Smt. Raj Rani (Didi)
 Smt. Sureshtha (Bhabhi)
 Malika (Daughter-in-law) and Lt. Col. Ayush (Son)
 Children: Aakshya, Hardika, Rakshit, Harsha and Bhavanishu
Contact Number- 9717459955



Late Smt. Madhu Khajuria

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. Buntly 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 sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Koushalaya Koul** W/o Late Sh. Vasdev Koul R/o Vessu, Anantnag, A/p Hno 17/B Lane No 2 Vasuki Vihar Lower Barnai behind Army qrts Nether Kothian on 09-04-2025 (Wednesday).

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 18-04-2025 (Friday) at Muthi Ghat at 08:30 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
 Smt. Uma W/o Lt. Lassa Koul - SISTER IN LAW
SONS & DAUGHTERS IN LAW:
 Sh. Maharaj Krishan Koul
 Smt. Bimla Koul & Sh. Roshan Lal Koul
 Smt. Nirmala Koul & Sh. Ramesh Kumar Koul
 Smt. Sunita Koul & Sh. Nana Ji Koul

DAUGHTERS & SONS IN LAW:
 Smt. Jeeta Bhat W/o Late Sh. Makhan Lal Bhat
 Smt. Shanta Koul & Sh. Pran Nath Koul
 Smt. Sarita Dhar & Sh. Bhushan Lal Dhar

GRANDSONS & GRANDDAUGHTERS
Ph: 9622217837, 9419878980, 9419874340, 9103839991



Smt Koushalaya Koul

FIFTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the demise of **Sh. Tara Chand, Ex Sub Major** (27-03-1946 to 10-04-2025) H/o Smt. Krishna Kumar R/o Bhagwati Nagar Jammu.

FIFTH DAY will be performed on 14-04-2025 (Monday) from 11:00 AM onwards at H.No 165 Sec-02 Bhagwati Nagar Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
 (Sister in law & Brother in law)
 Smt. Joginder and Sh. Ram Lal Meenia
 Smt. Kanta Devi & Sh. Des Raj Meenia
 Smt. Veena Devi & Sh. Ashok Kumar Meenia
Nephew and Niece
 Dr. Renu, Ravi, Palak, Archana, Suresh, Ajesh, Sunil, Anil, Ruby, Sonia
CONTACT NO. 9086069767, 7006450791, 7006396706



SH. TARA CHAND,
EX SUB MAJOR

10TH DAY & KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Col Kuldip Singh** (Retd) S/o Late Col. Purn Singh Samyal R/o House No. 161 Sector-G, Sainik Colony, Jammu.

Tenth Day will be performed on 13 Apr 25 (Sunday) at 09 AM at their residence.

13th Day will be performed on 16 Apr 25 (Wednesday) at 12.30 PM.

Rasam Pagri will be performed on 16 Apr 25 (Wednesday) at 04.30 PM at their residence.

Grief Stricken
 Smt. Sunita Rani (Wife)
 (Son & Daughter in law)
 Col. Rahul Dev Singh & Smt. Ramni Anthal
Daughters & Sons in law
 Smt. Neena Salaria & Col. Sanjay Salaria
 Smt. Reena Rathore & Col. Omesh Rathore
Brothers & Bhabhis
 Sh. Kulbir Singh Samyal & Smt. Nishi Samyal
 Smt. Pawan Samyal W/o Late Prof. Parshotam Singh Samyal
 Smt. Manorma Samyal W/o Late Maj. Randhir Singh Samyal
 Master Yaduraj Singh (Grand Son)
Grand Children
 Vikrant, Rohan, Chandani, Virraj



Col Kuldip Singh (Retd)

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **KAKAJI** (Sh. O. P. Koul Rtd. Chief Horticulture Officer) S/o Lt. M. L. Koul originally resident of Gagan Mohalla Alkadal Srinagar, at present H.No 134 Sector 1 Gangyal, Jammu passed away on 10th of April 2025.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
 Smt. Nain Tara - (Wife) - 9796226378
 (Bhabhi & Brother)
 Smt. Bharti & Sh. Vinod Koul - 9419135635
 (Daughter-in-law & Son)
 Smt. Vipasana & Sh. Anuj Koul
 (Daughter & Son-in-law)
 Smt. Surbhi Koul & Sh. Nitish Bakshi - 7727961733
 Miss. Snigdha Koul (Daughter)
 Baby Kyra Koul (Grand Daughter)
 Smt. Shakli Kilam (Sister-in-Law)
 Smt. Jeema & Sh. Kuldeep Koul (Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law) 9419131931
KOUL'S, BHAT'S, TICKOO'S, PHALWAN'S, CHATTA'S, RAINA'S & BAKASHI'S



Sh. O. P. Koul (KAKAJI)
(Rtd. Chief Horticulture Officer)

10th DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Ashok Gupta Langer** S/o late Sh. Babu Ram Langer, R/o Ward No. 5, Akhnor 10th Day will be held today on 13th of April Sunday at 10:00 am to 11:00 am at Kameshwar Mandir Akhnor.

Grief Stricken
 Smt. Kanta Rani - Mother
 Smt. Cheta Gupta - Wife
 Kapish Gupta Langer and Harshul Gupta Langer - Sons
 Ramon Langer and Shweta - Brother and Sister in law
 Sanjev Langer and Suman - Brother and Sister in law
 Sh. Rakesh Gupta and Susma Gupta - Sister and Brother in law
All Langer Family
Mob. No.: 7051112535, 9797372755, 9419100289, 9419188364



Sh. Ashok Gupta Langer

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **SMT VEENA BHAN** W/o Sh. Bhusan Lal Bhan on 04-04-2025 R/o Trilokpur, Swarn colony Lane No 01 Near Shiv Temple.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 13-04-2025 (Sunday).

ASSEMBLY will be held at Muthi Ghat at 9.00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN (BROTHER & SISTERS)
 B.L. Bhan - Husband
 Ashok Bhan
 Kukoo J Bhan & Rajni Bhan
 Ramesh Salman & Bharti Salman
Son & Daughter in Law
 Sameer Bhan & Sheenu Bhan
 Daughter & Son in Law
 Shivani Bhan & Anvi Razdan

Grand Children: Shivam, Pari, Kyan
 Mobile No: 7006137380, 7008920010,
 9419131650, 9716605726



SMT VEENA BHAN

TENTH DAY KRIYA

We regret to inform the sad demise of **Smt. Somwati khah** W/o Late Sham Lal Khah originally resident of Zainakadal Srinagar Kashmir at 06-04-2025 (Sunday) at present address 207-A /1, Vipin Garden, New Delhi.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Badli Road, Sector-16, Rohini, New Delhi-42 on 15th of April 2025 (Tuesday) at 10 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
KHAH FAMILY
KOUL FAMILY
ANAND FAMILY
MATTOO FAMILY

**MOB: 9971449459,
8920796916**



Smt. Somwati khah

OBITUARY MAALYUN SIDE

This is to inform, about the sad demise of our beloved sister **Mrs. Kamta Ganjoo Kaul** w/o Mr. Mohan Lal Kaul (Mandloo) resident of Kharyaar, Habbakadal, Srinagar on 6th April 2025. Mourning shall be observed at Flat no. 601, T-12A, RPS Savana, Sec.88, Faridabad, Haryana.

In Grief: • Asha Koul (Kher), • Usha & Girdhari Lal Ganjoo • Usha & Shadi Lal Ganjoo, • Girija Ganjoo, • Munika & Ashutosh Ganjoo, • Shivani & Nitin Ganjoo, • Preeti & Avinash Ganjoo. **Samast Ganjoo Parivar.**



Mrs. Kamta Ganjoo Kaul

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that our beloved mother **Smt. Shama Pandita** W/o Late Sh. Soom Nath Pandit erstwhile resident of Kharwara Shopian and presently residing at H.No 37/A , Lane No.11, Gurha Keran Bamai Bantlab Jammu passed away peacefully to merge with eternity on 6th April 2025.

Tenth Day Kriya will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education on Tuesday 15-04-2025 at 9:30 A.M.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
 Samast Pandit Pariwar of Kharwara, Kandhari's, Bhat's, Tickoo's, Dhar's, Kichloo's, Raina's, Hangloo's.
 Mobile No: 6005736119, 9622215389, 7889626173, 9873837070, 7889588023



SMT SHAMA PANDITA

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



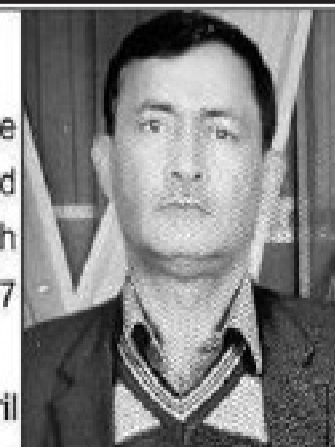
Smt. Laxmishori Pandita
(Chuni Ji)

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Vishwa Mitter Sharma** S/o LT. Sh. Devi Saran Sharma R/o ward no:-67 near ram mandir Muthi

10th Day will be performed on 16th April Wednesday at our residence(Muthi).

GRIEF STRICKEN :
SHARMA FAMILY
Mob. 9149956122, 7051098377



Sh Vishwa Mitter Sharma

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Smt Madhu Bhat** W/o Prithvi Nath Bhat originally resident of village Gugloosa Tehsil Trehgam Kupwara at present TRT No. 3 Block-E Purkhoo Camp Domana Jammu who left us for heavenly abode on 07-04-2025. May Lord Grant peace to her divine soul.

10th Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 16-04-2025 and Assembly shall be held at Muthi Ghat at 8.00 AM.

Grief Stricken
 Sh. Prithvi Nath Bhat - Husband
 Sister & Brother-in-law
 Sh. Poshkar Nath Bhat & Smt. Rupashri Bhat
 Smt. Santosha Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. Krishan Lal Bhat - Bhabhi
 Smt. Bimla Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. Prem Nath Bhat - Bhabhi
 Smt. & Sh. Ramesh Bhat - Son-in-law & Daughter
 Nilish Bhat - Son
 Nibika Bhat - Daughter
 All Nears & Dears
Mob. No. 9797534928, 9797439449



Smt Madhu Bhat
W/o Prithvi Nath Bhat

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Nachda Tappda Punjab – A Grand Cultural Celebration of Baisakhi at Guru Gobind Singh College of Management & Technology



the students to remain grounded in their heritage and contribute to its promotion.

One of the highlights of the day was a Traditional Punjabi Attire Competition, which added vibrant color and glamour to the celebration. The contest was judged by esteemed faculty members Ms. Megha, Palvi Chalana, and Arsh Yadav. The judges appreciated the creativity and authenticity reflected in the attire and presentation of the participants. In the Girls' Category, the top three winners were: Nisha Rani, Lavanpreet, Manpreet Kaur and In the Boys' Category, the prizes went to: Vishwadeep, Manpreet Singh and Gursharan-deep. The cultural performances that followed were a feast for the senses. Students from various departments presented a delightful series of Punjabi folk songs, Giddha, Bhangra, Choreographed dance pieces, and a meaningful Punjabi skit that reflected rural life and values. Each performance was met with enthusiastic

applause, highlighting the students' dedication, talent, and cultural pride.

The event culminated with Dr. Uppal honoring the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour with mementos, as a token of gratitude and appreciation. He also distributed prizes to the competition winners and participants, commending their enthusiasm and creative efforts.

His concluding remarks praised the organizing committee, faculty, and students for their excellent teamwork in making the event a resounding success. A formal vote of thanks was delivered by Prof. Gurjeet Singh, who extended heartfelt gratitude to the guests, organizers, volunteers, and audience for their contributions in making "Nachda Tappda Punjab" a memorable celebration of heritage, unity, and cultural expression.

This grand celebration not only highlighted the spirit of Baisakhi but also reinforced the mission of Guru Gobind Singh College to nurture holistic development by blending academics with culture and tradition.

Balbir presents portrait of Guru Ravidas to BJP national leader

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: Balbir Ram Rattan, the National General Secretary of the Guru Ravidas Vishwa Mahapeeth, General Secretary of the Indian branch of the British Ravidasia Heritage Foundation, and a member of the Begumpura Vishwa Mahasabha, presented a portrait of Guru Ravidas to Sanjay Nirmal, National General Secretary of the BJP SC Morcha, during his visit to Jammu.

This gesture was not only a tribute to the great 15th-century saint but also carried a profound message of cultural pride, spiritual unity, and reverence for the teachings that continue to inspire millions.

While presenting the portrait, Balbir Ram Rattan, emphasized the timeless relevance of Guru Ravidas' teachings. He stated that the saint's philosophy of equality, unity, and devotion deeply resonates with today's society, especially among Dalit communities.

He said, "Guru Ravidas' message of unity, compassion, and social justice is immensely significant in today's world. Honouring such great spiritual reformers



is essential for building an inclusive and morally conscious society."

He further added that in the current socio-political climate, where the values of brotherhood and equality are crucial, it is important to bring Guru Ravidas' teachings into mainstream discourse.

Accepting the portrait with reverence, Sanjay Nirmal appreciated this heartfelt gesture and acknowledged the lasting impact of Guru Ravidas on Indian society. He said that the teachings of Guru Ravidas have been especially influential in promoting the values of equality and human dignity. His philosophy aligns perfectly with our vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas,' which ensures inclusive development

and unity.

Sanjay Nirmal also mentioned that the government and the BJP SC Morcha are consistently working for the upliftment of the marginalized sections of society. He reaffirmed his commitment to inclusivity, equal opportunity, and honouring the contributions of historical reformers.

Both Sanjay Nirmal and Balbir agreed on the need to continue efforts to spread awareness about the life and teachings of saints like Guru Ravidas.

They emphasized the importance of more such meaningful initiatives that act as bridges between communities and inspire collective progress rooted in spiritual and cultural heritage.

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: Guru Gobind Singh College of Management and Technology, Gidderbaha, was immersed in colors, rhythms, and tradition as it hosted a spectacular cultural program titled "Nachda Tappda Punjab – A Glimpse of Vibrant Culture," dedicated to the joyous occasion of Baisakhi.

The event was organized under the auspices of the Bhai Veer Singh Punjabi Sahit Sabha, with the primary objective of showcasing Punjab's glorious cultural heritage and encouraging students to embrace their roots.

The event was meticulously coordinated by Dr.

Amandeep Kaur Dhillon and Prof. Amanjot, who curated a well-structured and lively program that resonated with the energy of Punjab.

The stage was managed by Simranjeet Kaur, a student of B.A. 4th Semester, and Sakshi, from the 2nd Semester, who kept the audience engaged and the proceedings seamless. The program commenced with a warm welcome address, followed by an enlightening speech by the college Principal, Dr. Rajinder Singh Uppal, who threw light on the historical, agricultural, and socio-cultural importance of Baisakhi in Punjab.

He emphasized how Baisakhi marks not just

the harvest festival but also the foundation of the Khalsa Panth by Guru Gobind Singh.

Dr. Uppal inspired the students to maintain a deep connection with their cultural identity and to take pride in their traditions, language, and values.

The event was graced by eminent personalities, with Manpreet Singh Makkar serving as the Chief Guest, and Mandeep Singh Rajora as the Guest of Honour.

Both dignitaries appreciated the efforts of the organizers and performers, lauding the college's initiative to keep Punjabi culture alive in the hearts of the younger generation. Mr. Rajora especially appealed to

Panun Kashmir slams Ruhullah Mehdi's statement as dangerous admission of religious hegemony

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: In a scathing condemnation issued on Saturday, Panun Kashmir's Head of Legal Affairs, Tito Ganju, denounced recent comments made by Srinagar MP Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi during a public discussion on X (formerly Twitter). Ganju described the remarks as a "chilling reaffirmation of the very ideological foundations that led to the genocide of Kashmiri Hindus."

Speaking on behalf of Panun Kashmir, Ganju said, "What pierced through the digital ether was far more dangerous than political bickering, something that should shake the very core of any soci-

ety that still believes in justice, equality, and the sanctity of civilizational identity."

Ganju highlighted Ruhullah Mehdi's unapologetic admission: "We all campaigned to stop the BJP, and not for governance." According to Panun Kashmir, this statement is not a mere political difference, but a stark revelation of religious exclusionism and a deep-rooted discomfort with civilizational pluralism.

"This isn't about policy, it's about hegemony, this is theocratic absolutism dressing itself in the vocabulary of democracy," said Ganju, pointing out that the concern was not about 'how' Kashmir is governed, but 'who' governs, and the fact that the BJP symbolizes

the possibility of a non-Muslim, Hindu Chief Minister from Jammu was deemed unacceptable by the MP. He added, "This isn't politics."

This is open religious hegemony. Ruhullah's words reflect the same supremacist mindset that declared in 1989 that Kashmir must be cleansed of its Hindus, convert, leave, or die. That ideology, once armed with guns, now sits in Parliament and speaks in soundbites, but its intent is unchanged."

Ganju emphasized that Ruhullah's remarks confirm what Panun Kashmir has always maintained: that the Kashmiri Hindu genocide was not merely physical, but ideological

and civilizational. The call to block the BJP, not for governance but because it would break a religious monopoly, is, according to Panun Kashmir, a civilizational war cry against Hindu existence in Kashmir.

"If you still doubt that we were victims of a planned, targeted, and ideologically driven genocide, just listen to Ruhullah," Ganju remarked. "His statement is not offhand; it is a mirror reflecting the theological totalitarianism that seeks to erase our identity."

Reiterating Panun Kashmir's foundational position, Ganju declared, "Our demand is not about return, it is about reparation. It is about creating a homeland where Hindus

are not relics of nostalgia but rightful citizens with civilizational agency. We are not here to be rehabilitated. We are here to reclaim sovereignty, not just over land, but over truth."

The statement concluded with a powerful assertion that Panun Kashmir is not a choice, it is the only answer. The organization warned that Kashmir cannot be healed until the supremacist ideology, as vocalized by Mehdi, is permanently dismantled.

Kesri condemns recent attack on police personnel in Bari Brahmana

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Rajesh Kesri on Saturday in a press conference strongly condemned the recent attack on police personnel in Bari Brahmana.

The press conference was attended by prominent figures, including State Vice President Balveer Kumar, Border President Sanjeev Sharma, Raj Kumar, Balwant Fouji and others.

The attack, which involved stone-pelting and assault on Police in uniform, left several officers injured. This incident is not isolated, as the drugs peddler's community has previously attacked police, including an instance where a Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) suffered a broken arm, added Kesri. Kesri expressed concern over the growing menace of drug peddling in areas like Balol Nallah, known as a "chitta spot."

Despite police efforts to curb the trade, smugglers continue to operate, often resorting to stone-pelting and firing to evade capture. He alleged that a notorious drug trafficker, Lav Gurjar, is behind these operations, claiming he has links with Pakistan and supplies drugs to Jammu and Kashmir.

Kesri demanded that Police officials colluding with drug traffickers be identified and punished, as they tip off smugglers about impending raids.

Vishwa Yog Sansthan celebrates Hanuman Jayanti

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: In a beautiful confluence of divinity and discipline, the Vishwa Yog Sansthan at Har Ki Pauri, Bage Bahu, Jammu hosted a grand celebration in honor of Hanuman Jayanti. The sacred aura of the location, steeped in spiritual heritage, added profound significance to the event, enveloping the gathering in a sense of peace and purpose.

The highlight of the program was the mesmerizing yoga performances by the bright young children from the VYS Udhampur branch. With grace and balance, they demonstrated the physical vitality and inner harmony that yoga offers, inspiring the audience to embrace this ancient art not just as an exercise—but as a way of life.

Yog Guru Karan, the guiding light of the Sansthan, addressed the gathering with heartfelt words: "Yog is the art of living. Let us come together each morning and breathe life into our souls. Join me in free yoga classes in Jammu and let's journey together toward wellness." His words echoed like a gentle call to awaken the body and the spirit.

The event was graced by the presence of several esteemed dignitaries, adding gravitas to the occasion. Among those present




were Vikram Randhawa, MLA of Bage Bahu; Sunil Bharadwaj, MLA of Ram Nagar; I.D Soni, President of the Old Age Society; Sham Lal Bassan; Baldev Raj Nargotra, Chairman of BDC; FC Bhagat (as special invitee); Bansi Lal Gupta; Ch. Balkar Singh; Sunny and Sham Lal Kasi.

With an aim to promote both community engagement and spiritual upliftment, the program encouraged youth to embrace yoga as a path not only to physical fitness, but also to inner clarity, shared values, and holistic well-being.

The Vishwa Yog Sansthan continues to offer meditation and yoga classes for individuals across all age groups and experience levels.

Around the sacred banks of Har Ki Pauri, seekers can find more than just yoga—they can immerse themselves in yoga ashrams that focus on mindful practice, inner exploration, and spiritual growth; meditation centres that provide serene spaces for reflection and self-realization; Ayurveda Ashrams, blending the wisdom of yoga with Ayurvedic healing for a complete and nourishing lifestyle.

This celebration of Hanuman Jayanti was more than just an event—it was a soulful reminder that in every breath, every stretch, and every silent prayer, lies the potential to reconnect with the divine, with the self, and with the community.



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) ELECTRIC DIVISION
JAMMU

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
xenpwdelecdiv.jammu@gmail.com
e-NIT No.EDJ/04 of 2025-2026 Dated 09-04-2025

For and on behalf of the **Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir** e-tenders are invited on Percentage Basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimated Cost (in lacs)	Cost of document (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in ₹)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening tender	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of way side Amenity Near Sati Mata Mandir at Shurighat Samlar (Electrical Part).	PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu	4.91	600/-	9880/-	Linked with Civil Works	22-04-2025 At or after (12:00 A.N)	"A" Class Electrical Contractor

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per below schedule.

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	09-04-2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 10-04-2025 to 21-04-2025, 4:00 P.M
3	Bid submission Start Date	10-04-2025
4	Bid Submission End Date	21-04-2025 up to 4:00 P.M
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	22-04-2025 at or after 12:00 A.N in the Office of the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of **e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date** and also indicating the name of work and NIT No. duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favouring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu. **uploading a copy of treasury challan/receipt.** The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, and relevant documents of **₹1** be submitted to the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu, at the time of allotment.

18.
No :- EDJ/ 451-60
Dated :-09-04-2025

DIP/J-227/25

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Electric Division
Jammu

EDITORIAL

ARCHITECT OF JUSTICE

Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, often hailed as the Father of the Indian Constitution, was not merely a jurist or political thinker; he was a revolutionary who challenged the deeply entrenched inequalities of Indian society. His legacy, built on the pillars of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity, continues to shape modern India's identity and inspire countless movements across the globe.

Born on April 14, 1891, in Mhow (now in Madhya Pradesh), Ambedkar belonged to the Mahar caste, considered 'untouchable' in the rigid Hindu caste hierarchy. From his early life, he was subjected to humiliation and exclusion. But rather than bowing to oppression, he turned pain into purpose. Through sheer brilliance and unyielding perseverance, he pursued education at Columbia University and the London School of Economics—becoming one of the most educated Indians of his time.

Education, for Ambedkar, was not just a tool for personal upliftment but a weapon for social transformation. He famously said, "Cultivation of mind should be the ultimate aim of human existence."

Ambedkar's most celebrated role came in 1947 when he was appointed Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution. He used this opportunity to script a vision of India that was radically inclusive. At a time when the wounds of Partition and colonial rule were fresh, Ambedkar anchored the newly independent nation in the values of democracy and social justice.

Under his leadership, the Constitution granted universal adult suffrage, abolished untouchability, ensured equality before the law, and laid the groundwork for affirmative action for historically marginalized communities. His vision ensured that India would not be merely free, but fair—a republic where every voice mattered.

Ambedkar's most powerful legacy lies in his unflinching fight against the caste system. He described caste as "a monster that crosses your path at every step." He not only criticized its discriminatory nature but also proposed radical reforms to annihilate it.

In his groundbreaking book *Annihilation of Caste*, Ambedkar boldly challenged orthodox Hindu leaders, calling for the complete dismantling of caste-based hierarchy. His clash with Mahatma Gandhi on this issue remains one of the most profound ideological confrontations in Indian history. Unlike Gandhi, who advocated reform within Hinduism, Ambedkar saw caste as inseparable from Hindu doctrine and sought liberation through total transformation.

This culminated in his conversion to Buddhism in 1956, along with half a million followers. He saw Buddhism as a religion of equality and reason, devoid of the caste-based discrimination that plagued Hindu society. This mass conversion was not merely spiritual—it was a powerful social and political act of resistance.

Ambedkar's legacy is also etched in his advocacy for workers' rights and gender justice. As Labour Minister in the Viceroy's Executive Council, he brought landmark labor reforms including regulated working hours, equal pay, maternity benefits, and health insurance. He was ahead of his time in recognizing women's agency and drafted laws ensuring their right to property and divorce.

In the Constituent Assembly, he vocally argued for gender equality, stating that the progress of a nation depended on how it treated its women.

Dr. Ambedkar passed away on December 6, 1956, but his ideas continue to breathe in India's democratic institutions, its movements for justice, and the aspirations of millions still fighting marginalization.

His legacy is not confined to statues or political rhetoric—it lives in universities, in grassroots movements, in policy debates, and in the hearts of all who believe in equality and human dignity. In recent years, global social justice movements have drawn from Ambedkar's writings, recognizing his relevance beyond national borders.

Across India and in parts of the world, April 14th—Ambedkar Jayanti—is celebrated not just as a tribute to a great leader, but as a commitment to the ideals of social justice.

Ambedkar's vision was not bound by time. His fight was not only for the Dalits, or the oppressed, but for the soul of India. He dreamed of a country where merit triumphed over privilege, where the Constitution reigned supreme, and where no person was held back by the accident of birth.

In a world still grappling with inequality, caste, race, and class, Ambedkar remains a beacon—a reminder that justice is not a passive gift, but a hard-won right. His life teaches us that with courage, education, and resolve, it is possible to rewrite destiny—not just for oneself, but for generations to come.

Great Scottish Mathematician John Leslie

By: Vijay Garg

John Leslie was a Scottish mathematician who became Professor of Natural Philosophy at Edinburgh and wrote popular textbooks. In 1802 Leslie's explanation of capillary action was the first that is consistent with present-day theory. Two years later he published *An Experimental Inquiry into the Nature and Propagation of Heat*. In 1810 he froze water by using an air pump. Elected to the chair of mathematics at the University of Edinburgh in 1805, he was transferred to the chair of natural philosophy in 1819 and was knighted in 1832. Leslie was born on this day (April 10) in 1766.

Short Biography:-

John Leslie's mother was Anne Carstairs from Largo in Fife (about 10 miles south of St Andrews). His father, Robert Leslie, was a joiner and cabinet-maker with some knowledge of mathematics. John had an older brother Alexander who also studied mathematics and John learnt mathematics at home being taught partly by his father and partly by his older brother Alexander. He attended three local schools but his total school education still amounted to no more than a year before he began his university studies.

Leslie entered the University of St Andrews in 1779 at the age of 13. At this time the Scottish Universities competed with the schools for the most able pupils so it is not surprising that he entered university at such a young age. The Regius Professor of Mathematics at St Andrews at the time was Nicholas Vilant, and Leslie studied under him and also under his assistant John West. Leslie's abilities were quickly noticed by the Principal of the University who arranged a scholarship to enable Leslie to continue his studies. It was assumed that once his education was complete that Leslie would join the Church, which was the main occupation for educated boys, and it was on these conditions that the Principal gave the scholarship. While an undergraduate Leslie became friendly with John Playfair who was minister at Liff near Dundee, but an outstanding mathematician. In 1783

Playfair left the Church to become a private tutor for five years to Robert and Ronald Ferguson who lived near Kirkcaldy in Fife, and so Leslie in turn became friendly with the wealthy Ferguson family. This friendship proved useful for Leslie who some 25 years later would conduct experiments at the home of the Ferguson brothers. In particular Leslie constructed a machine to make ice in their home at Raith, near Kirkcaldy.

In 1785 Leslie went to the University of Edinburgh, matriculating as a divinity student. In the same year Playfair was appointed Professor of Mathematics at Edinburgh and Leslie became far more interested in attending classes in mathematics and science than he was in divinity lectures. He attended mathematics lectures by Playfair, science lectures by Joseph Black (a chemist who had discovered latent heat in 1761), Alexander Monro (a physician who held the chair of anatomy) and John Robison, and philosophy lectures from Dugald Stewart (son of Matthew Stewart and holder of the chair moral philosophy). In 1787 the Principal of the University of St Andrews died and Leslie no longer felt obliged to follow the conditions of his scholarship which required him to join the Church of Scotland. Instead he decided that he wanted to teach mathematics and Adam Smith (the philosopher and political economist) obtained a position for Leslie as a tutor to one of his relations. He took on other pupils too and in 1788 he sent his first paper to the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

Soon after this Leslie became tutor to Thomas Randolph who was a student at Edinburgh but was from Virginia in North America. Leslie, with strong recommendations from his lecturers at Edinburgh, obtained a position to tutor both Thomas and his brother William and he sailed to Virginia in 1888 to take up this position. However the Randolph family broke up after the boys' mother died and Leslie returned to Scotland in 1889. Hoping to improve his prospects of a job after being unsuccessful in Scotland, he went to London but, for a while, Leslie struggled to obtain a job

there. He was unsuccessful in finding positions as a tutor, or as an assistant to the astronomer royal, or as a lecturer in natural philosophy. He even considered joining the Church of Scotland which he had rejected several years earlier. However he was appointed as tutor to the Wedgwood family in 1790 and held this position until the end of 1792. At this point he travelled back to Scotland and was based in his home town of Largo until 1805.

During these years in Largo he made some money, as he had during his time in England, writing literary articles for publications such as the *Monthly Review*. He wanted badly to get a university position and, during these years in Largo, two possible chairs fell vacant. Both were in natural philosophy with one being at St Andrews and the other at Glasgow. The problem was that at Scottish universities (particularly St Andrews) chairs were largely political appointments but also the Church of Scotland had a major influence. Leslie did not support the correct political party and by this time the young man who had come close to joining the Church had practically become an atheist. However his luck changed in 1797, for in that year Thomas Wedgwood, who had earlier tutored, gave him a pension for life and his future became financially secure. This was the opportunity that Leslie needed to allow him to concentrate on his mathematical and scientific researches. His publications on heat, culminating in *Experimental Enquiries into the Nature and Properties of Heat* (1804) led to him being awarded the Rumford medal of the Royal Society of London in the following year.

After two further unsuccessful attempts at chairs of natural philosophy (one in St Andrews and one in Edinburgh) he was appointed as professor of mathematics at Edinburgh in 1805 after a bitter dispute, since he was not ordained by the Church. The story of this controversy is told in [2] and it is an interesting one since it revolves round whether the Church could control the scientific views taught in the universities.

Leslie was a successful professor of

mathematics, attracting large classes of students and publishing his lectures in popular textbooks such as the three part work *Elements of Geometry*, *Geometrical Analysis*, and *Plane Trigonometry* (1809). He mixed classical mathematical teaching with some new continental approaches to analysis and algebra particularly in his advanced classes. Leslie became professor in Natural Philosophy in 1819 after the chair fell vacant on Playfair's death. This was not without a battle, for again the Church put up a candidate but, having won a victory in the earlier encounter, this time proved much more straightforward. He gave courses which were filled with experiments on specially made apparatus, for which Leslie himself had paid over half the cost from his own pocket. He soon discovered that one of the main problems of teaching university level physics was the lack of mathematical background of most of his students. He wanted to rectify this by teaching mathematics courses specially tailored for his physics students, but the University of Edinburgh senate prevented him from giving such courses since these topics were deemed the responsibility of the professor of mathematics.

Leslie was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1807, a Corresponding Member of the French Academy of Sciences in 1820, and was knighted in 1832. Rather remarkably he asked for the knighthood which was conferred on him, writing to the Lord Chancellor in September 1831.

He published 10 books, many journal papers and several encyclopaedia articles in *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.

Leslie, who owned a townhouse in Edinburgh with fine library and beautiful paintings, purchased in addition an estate at Coates which is east of Largo, set back from the Fife coast but with a fine view over the Firth of Forth. In the autumn of 1832 he caught a severe cold which became a fever when he did not look after himself. He continued to work outside in the cold winter weather, organising improvements to his estate at Coates, and he died after the fever worsened.

All about celebrating Hanuman Jayanti

By: Omkar Dattatray

Hanuman Janmotsav, called Hanuman jayanti is a Hindu festival celebrating the birth of the Hindu deity Hanuman, and one of the protagonists of the Ramayana. The celebration of Hanuman jayanti varies by time and tradition in each state of India. In most northern states, the festival is observed on the full moon day of the Hindu month of Chaitra {Chaitra Purnima}. Hanuman is one of the most powerful and popular deities of Hinduism and considered the patron God in wrestling. Hindus celebrate the Hanuman Janmotsav or birthday of Hanuman with a grand festival known as Hanuman Jayanti. In most parts of India, the auspicious festival of Hanuman Jayanti is celebrated on full moon day {Purnima} of the chaitra month which usually falls in March or April of the English calendar. But moving towards south India, it is celebrated on different dates in different states. In Tamil Nadu and Kerala, it is observed on the Margashirsha Amavasya –new moon day, whereas in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, it is observed on the 10th, in Krishna paksha of Vaisakha month. Karnataka celebrates this auspicious festival on the Shukla Paksha Trayodashi –13th day of Margashirsha month and Odisha, the eastern state of India celebrates Hanuman Jayanti on the first day of the month of Vaishaka generally in April. According to mythology, Lord Hanuman is an incarnation of Lord Shiva –11th Rudra and the most powerful being in all realms. Lord Hanuman is one of the prominent heroes and a central character of the Hindu super epic Ramayana. According to epic, He is a Vanara and took birth to

assist Lord Ram. Lord Hanuman is a widely worshipped deity and has the ability to attain victory against all evils and provide protection to all his devotees. On the auspicious day of Hanuman Jayanti devotees visit Hanuman temples and offer prayers. Lord Hanuman was born at the time of sunrise, so after a holy bath in the early morning devotees perform various rituals before the dawn itself. They apply red tilak –vermillion on the forehead of Hanuman's idol, chant different hymns and mantras, read Hanuman Chalisa, offer Diya, offer sweets, coconuts as Prasad, do Aarti, Pradakshina as per tradition. Reciting Hanuman chalisa or lines from Ramayana –Sunderkand are common practices performed on this day. After completion of the puja, devotees apply red sindoor on their foreheads and distribute prasada. Lord Hanuman is considered as the 11th Rudra avatar of Lord Shiva and is worshipped as a symbol of strength, knowledge, and devotion. It is believed that He is an immortal being and possesses immense power to eradicate all kinds of negativity or temptations. Lord Hanuman is an adherent devotee of Lord Ram and Sita, and had never shown his strength or valor without any purpose. On this day, offering Prayers and chanting mantras to worship Lord Hanuman is helpful to achieve these kinds of virtues. As per the teachings of Hindu mythology, if you want Lord Rama to fulfill all your wishes, you can reach Him only through Lord Hanuman and Hanuman Jayanti is the most auspicious day for this Lord Hanuman is not only an absolute devotee of Lord Rama but also a merciful God who takes good care of His devotees. Devotees strongly believe that reciting the divine hymn

Hanuman Chalisa continuously helps to overcome all sorrows and difficulties. According to a popular legend, Lord Hanuman was born on a full moon day and his father Kesari was the son of Lord Brihaspati. His mother Anjana was a celestial body –apsara who got cursed by a sage to live on earth. She was redeemed from her curse after doing 12 long years of worship of Lord Shiva, and by giving birth to Lord Hanuman. Thus Hanuman is regarded as an incarnation or reflection of Lord Shiva. The holy epic, Ram Charita Manas written by Goswami Tulsi Das, beautifully narrates the role of Vayu dev –God of wind in Hanuman's birth. The epic describes that Vayu God played an important role to transfer Lord Shiva's energy to Anjana's womb. Thus, Lord Hanuman is often called Vayuputram or Pawan Putra which means the son of Vayu. On the day of Hanuman Jayanti devotees love to remember Him as a naughty character in his childhood days. One such legend beautifully explains that He crossed several mountains and flew to great heights to eat sun, thinking it as a ripe fruit. A baleful planet Rahu which was on its way to form an eclipse with the sun, came in front of the little Hanuman and stopped him midway. Hanuman easily defeated Rahu who later requested Indra, the king of heaven for assistance. To this Indra responded immediately and threw his powerful weapon Vajra –thunderbolt and hit the young Hanuman and made him unconscious. After this event, God vasyu found his son lying in an unconscious state on earth, and an angry Vayu made his life difficult for all living beings on the planet. Later, Lord Indra and all demigods realized that they made a huge mistake and revived the young

Hanuman and blessed Him with several boons. In short Hanuman Jayanti is celebrated to commemorate the birth of Hanuman who is an incarnation of Lord Shiva and a disciple of Lord Rama. On the day of Hanuman Jayanti, devotees in large numbers assemble at Hanuman temples to offer early morning prayers. It is an important festival of Hindus and is celebrated with great enthusiasm. People chant mantras, Hanuman chalisa, offer aarti with a belief that He is the living embodiment of Ram –Naam He is an ideal selfless disciple, a true Karmayogi. He was a great devotee and served Lord Rama with pure love and devotion. Every year on the auspicious day, devotees worship Lord Hanuman with pure heart, some observe complete fast to invoke His blessings for a successful life. This year Hanuman Jayanti falls on 12th April Saturday and the people will celebrate it with great pomp and show and worship Hanuman to get his blessings in the form of strength, valor, knowledge, power and the like. Let us celebrate this festival with devotion so that Lord Hanuman will bless us all and direct our energies towards fuller and meaningful life. Jai to Lord Hanuman may He bless us all on this day of Hanuman Jayanti. Hanuman is Mahashaktishali and is monkey God besides being the avatar of Lord Shiva.

(The author is a columnist, social, KP activist & Freelancer)

CEC Leh reviews progress of 25 MW Solar Power Project at Taru

Top News Report

LEH, Apr 12: Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson on Saturday chaired a review meeting at the Council Secretariat to assess the status of the 25 MW Solar Power Project at Taru, which includes a 20 MW/50 MWh Battery Storage System under the Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP).

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chairman Tsering Angchuk, Administrative Secretary PDD Vikram Singh Malik (IAS), DC/CEO LAHDC Leh Santosh Sukhadeve, Deputy General Manager (Projects) SECI, Chief Engineer Generation Leh, Xen PDD and other concerned officials.

SECI officials informed that the project contract has now been awarded to M/s Prozeal Green Energy, following the termination of the previous contract, and that survey work is currently underway.

While the approved project duration is 36 months, SECI assured the Council of its efforts to complete the project ahead of schedule.

The meeting also



reviewed recent developments including the execution of the lease deed and the opening of a dedicated LAHDC Leh bank account for the project.

Expressing concern over the delay in implementation, CEC Tashi Gyalson stated that the timeline mentioned in the original MoU has already lapsed.

He cautioned that continued delays could lead to the cancellation of the land allotment. SECI requested an amendment to the MoU and assured that timely execution would now be ensured.

The CEC directed SECI officials to visit Leh at the earliest to address all pending ground-level issues. The CEC also reviewed the status of the 220 kV Phyang-Disket transmission line. Dr. Aparup Paul, GM

RECPDCL, informed that site mobilization is expected within the next couple of days and that work will begin by April 15.

He added that a delay in cost escalation approval may affect timelines. The CEC assured full support from the Council and said that the matter would be taken up with the concerned ministry in the Government of India. Discussions were also held regarding the extension of excess power supply from the Mini Hydro Project Chulunkha to Diskit and the early completion of the 220 kV transmission line from Leh to Nubra.

The issue of providing CSR funding to LAHDC Leh through REC/RECPDCL was also taken up. The installation of rooftop solar systems for com-

mercial consumers was discussed as a measure to promote sustainable energy adoption.

The meeting also focused on several LREDA-related matters. Concerns were raised about the operation and maintenance of decentralised off-grid solar power plants installed by LREDA in remote villages and hamlets. It was decided that the energy generated from these plants would be paid for by the PDD to ensure proper operation, maintenance, and manpower deployment.

Regarding the Mini Hydro Projects, it was informed that five out of six projects commissioned by LREDA are currently operational.

However, the existing interim tariff of Rs. 2 per unit is inadequate to cover O&M costs. To address this, the meet-

ing approved providing grant-in-aid support for their continued functioning.

A proposal by LREDA to set up a 1 MW solar project at its campus through self-investment was also discussed.

The project, approved by the governing body of LREDA, will be executed with an on-grid setup, and the meeting also approved the related Power Purchase Agreement with the PDD.

CEC Tashi Gyalson reiterated the Council's commitment to expanding renewable energy infrastructure in the region and emphasised the need for timely and efficient execution of all planned initiatives.

It was also decided in the meeting that in un electrified areas such as Dipling and Zingchan, surveys to be conducted to assess feasible solutions, either by extending grid lines or by establishing dedicated solar lines.

Similarly, in other uncovered and un electrified areas across the district, surveys have been carried out, and the exercise to connect these regions through grid lines to ensure reliable electricity access.

Sakeena Ito expresses grief over tragic Handwara road accident Asks Director SKIMS to personally monitor critically injured students

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 12: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Ito has expressed profound grief and sorrow over the tragic road accident that took place today in Handwara, resulting in the loss of young promising student, Tabassum Mushtaq and leaving several others injured.

The Minister, while expressing deep shock over this tragic accident, said that my heart goes out to the family of Tabassum who lost her precious life in this heart-breaking incident. She also prayed for strength to bereaved family

to bear this irreparable loss.

The Minister urged Director SKIMS, Principal GMC Handwara, Director Health Services Kashmir and CMO Kupwara to ensure the best possible treatment for the injured students. She asked the Director SKIMS to personally monitor the critically injured students at the facility and ensure their effective treatment.

She further asked other hospitals administrations to prioritize the medical care of the injured students at their respective health facilities and offer all necessary support to the victims and their families.

GDC Kathua hosts workshop on PM Internship Scheme for Semester 6 students

Top News Report

KATHUA, Apr 12: Under the leadership of Prof. Seema Mir, Principal Govt. Degree College (GDC) Kathua, an informative workshop on the Prime Minister Internship Scheme (PMIS) was conducted on Saturday for Semester 6 students at GDC Kathua. Organised to empower students with career-oriented opportunities, the event aimed to familiarise participants with the transformative internship program launched by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India.

The workshop featured a detailed presentation by Prof. R.K. Manhas, who elucidated the objectives and benefits of the PMIS. He highlighted how the scheme offers students a unique chance to gain hands-on experience with India's top 500 companies, including industry giants like Mahindra & Mahindra, Tata Group, and Reliance Industries.

Prof. Manhas emphasized the financial support provided under the scheme, including a monthly stipend of Rs. 5,000, a one-time grant of Rs. 6,000, and comprehensive insurance coverage.

"This scheme is a game-changer for our youth, bridging the gap between academic learning and industry demands while foster-



ing employability," he remarked.

The session was followed by a technical demonstration led by Prof. Shiv Kumar, Head of the Department of Computer Science. Prof. Shiv Kumar provided a step-by-step guide on navigating the PMIS portal (<https://pminternship.mca.gov.in/>).

Through a live demo, he showcased the process of registering, creating a profile, and applying for internships. Students were walked through selecting up to five internship preferences based on their qualifications, interests, and preferred locations.

The interactive session equipped attendees with practical knowledge to confidently engage with the portal before the extended application deadline of April 15, 2025.

The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Prof. Deepak Gupta, who expressed gratitude to the faculty, students, and organizers for their enthusiastic participation.

The workshop was graced by senior faculty members, including Prof. Roop K. Pandita, Prof. R.K. Manhas, Prof. Yash Paul Sharma and other faculty members including Prof. Gotam Singh, Prof. Bharat, Prof. Sandeep Sharma, and Prof. Shivani Sharma, whose presence underscored the college's commitment to student development. The PMIS workshop reflects Govt. Degree College Kathua's dedication to preparing students for the competitive job market by connecting them with national initiatives like PMIS. With over 1 lakh internship opportunities available in Round 2 across 730+ districts, the scheme promises to open doors for young talent to gain skills, experience, and professional exposure.

For more information about the Prime Minister Internship Scheme or to apply, students are encouraged to visit <https://pminternship.mca.gov.in/> or contact the college's career guidance cell.

Madhuparamhans Ji enlightens devotees on Poornima in Ranjri

Top News Report

SAMBA, Apr 12: Under the serene glow of the full moon—on the auspicious day of Poornima—the revered Sadguru of Sahib Bandagi, Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj, shared the divine nectar of wisdom in Ranjri. As the gathering sat in stillness, the Master's words flowed like a gentle river, washing over hearts and stirring deep truths within.

He spoke of the soul—not as a resident of this perishable world, but as a traveler from the immortal realm, temporarily housed in the fragile shell of a body. In this human vessel, the senses pull the soul towards fleeting desires, while inner demons—lust, anger, greed, attachment, and ego—wage a silent war. Even the mightiest have fallen prey to these illusions, he said, for the soul finds no peace among such enemies. It is the mind that plays puppeteer, leading the soul astray in the world of form and name.

Sadguru Ji revealed a deeper mystery—the Apple principle of the



spiritual path: Nothing can be attained without the Guru. The divine Naam bestowed by the Sadguru is unlike any worldly name. It has no letters, cannot be written, cannot be read. It is felt. It glows from within. It awakens the antaratma—the inner conscience—and reveals the hidden enemies of the soul.

He illustrated this with a modern metaphor: "Like invisible waves enter a smartphone, the mind too sends waves from the void. You don't see them, yet they color your entire reality." Such is the illusion of Maya—the mind's vast web, pulling us into dreams of ownership and identity, making us forget the Self.

Sadguru Ji reminded everyone that the body

is merely a machine—lifeless without the soul's divine energy. Yet, the soul blindly obeys the whims of the mind, wandering aimlessly unless guided by the light of the Sadguru. "Nothing can function without the soul's power," he said, "and nothing can free the soul except the Guru."

He echoed Sahib's eternal truth:

"Guru Govind dou khade, kaake laagu paay?"

Balihari Guru aapne, Govind diyo bataay."

If both the Guru and God stood before me, whose feet would I touch first? I bow to the Guru, for it is he who has shown me the path to God.

Sadguru Ji also offered a poignant reflection on death, urging aware-

ness and humility. "It comes not with warning, but like lightning in the sky," he said. Teeth fall, the back bends, memory fades, senses dull, organs falter. The sun of life begins to set—and we don't even notice. "This life is no more than two hours," he whispered, "and yet Mind and Maya steal your time for bhajan, over and over again."

He warned the devotees to stay vigilant "This world is mortal.

Nothing is yours. 'This is mine, that is mine'—these are illusions. Nobody belongs to anybody. Wake up from this dream, and remember your true home."

In this poetic, fearless discourse, Sadguru Ji offered not only wisdom, but a spiritual call to arms—an invitation to rise above the pull of the mind, to reclaim the soul's rightful path, and to anchor oneself in the eternal shelter of the Sadguru.

GDC R S Pura organizes symposium on Life, work and Contributions of Dr. Ambedkar

Top News Report

R S PURA, Apr 12: NSS unit of Government Degree College, R.S. Pura, organized a thought-provoking symposium to honor the life, legacy, and monumental contributions of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Indian Constitution and a stalwart of social justice under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour, College Principal and supervision of Dr. Chanchal Angral, NSS Programme Officer.

The symposium, held in the college campus, started with paying floral tribute to Dr. Ambedkar

and it brought together students and faculty members to reflect on Dr. Ambedkar's enduring impact on Indian society. The event aimed to educate and inspire the youth by delving into his struggles, reforms, and vision for an equitable nation.

Dr. Chanchal Angral, NSS Programme Officer, inaugurated the session with a welcome address, emphasizing Dr. Ambedkar's pivotal role in shaping modern India and championing the rights of the marginalized.

She also highlighted various facts of Dr. Ambedkar's legacy—from his relentless fight



against caste-based discrimination to his contributions in law, economics, Female empowerment, education, and human rights.

The event also featured interactive discussions, and cultural performances paying tribute to his ideals. Students actively participated, expressing their admiration for Dr.

Ambedkar's dedication to justice, equality, and democratic values.

The event was coordinated by Dr. Chanchal Angral, NSS PO and NSS team members and the faculty members who graced the occasion were Dr. Neena Gupta, Dr. Rajinder Sharma, Dr. Anupama Pandotra, Dr. Neeti Chibber, Dr. Renu Sharma, Dr. Jugal

Kishore, Dr. Sudesh Kumar, Dr. Akriti Parihar, Dr. Hari Singh, Dr. Sunil Kumar and Prof. Rajinder Singh and other faculty members in the event.

The symposium concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Dr. Savleen Kour and a collective pledge to uphold the values Dr. Ambedkar stood for.

Handwara Bus Tragedy: Shabnum Khan extends condolences, prayers

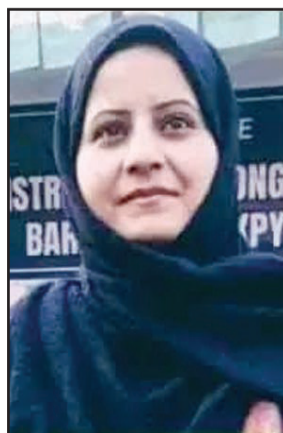
Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 12: The JKPYC Leader Shabnum Khan has expressed her deep anguish over the tragic bus accident at Handwara in which two young students lost their lives and some were injured.

Shabnum Khan has conveyed her heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased and

prayed to the Almighty to give the bereaved families the strength to bear the irreparable

The news of the death of two young students in Handwara College Bus accident is extremely heartbreaking. In this hour of grief, my thoughts are with the bereaved family members. Praying for the early recovery of the injured."



Sunny Deol, who plays the lead in the his latest movie Jaat, is now eyeing the OTT space

Following the massive success of *Gadar 2*, which reignited his popularity among fans, Hindi cinema star Sunny Deol says he is ready to embark on a new phase in his 42-year-old career with a few upcoming projects in the streaming space. Deol, the action star of 1990s films *Ghatak*, *Arjun* and *Damini*, returned to the movies with a bang in 2023 with the sequel to his 2001 blockbuster *Gadar: Ek Prem Katha*.

The 67-year-old actor, whose film *Jaat* was released on Friday, said his OTT debut will allow people to watch his work on more than one medium. "I'm doing a couple of projects for OTT and they are not meant for the silver screen because the audience for that is niche. So, it's best to go there (OTT). People keep watching your films on different platforms. It is an interesting medium for actors and directors because it offers all kinds of variety, and

you don't have to restrict yourself to something," Deol said.

The actor wants to explore 'newer kinds of roles'. "I'm already doing something like that, I'm looking into it. But it all depends if a writer and director offer you something different. If you try and look for it, then it becomes difficult," he added. Deol credited OTT platforms for making his films relevant for the new generation of cinema-goers. "Those who didn't see my films in cinema halls got to see them on digital platforms, today's generation got to see them. I thank God and everybody for loving us so much."

Billed as a high-octane drama with larger-than-life action sequences, *Jaat* is different from his previous movies, he said. "I enjoyed working on *Jaat* because it was a refreshing thing to do. Whenever we do South-Indian films, they are mostly remakes. For



me, it's a new film. For the first time, I'm working with a South-Indian director and it has been a great experience. We all learn so much from each other," he said.

For Deol, he always looks at the story before

signing a film, not action sequences. "It's the story and the characters that drive the hero to do what he does and all of this makes the action look good. Most of the subjects that I've done or the characters I've

portrayed are defending or fighting for something or are stuck in some situation wherein he (hero) stands up and fights. In real life, too, I believe you've to fight it out to be where you want to be," he said. Besides *Jaat* and his upcoming OTT projects, Deol has a host of films lined up, including *Border 2*, a sequel to his iconic 1997 film.

"I have emotions attached with every film because every film is a baby. You want to do your best every time. When you do part two (*Border 2*), you can justify things, and people get happy and satisfied, but there's always pressure as well. However, we will ensure that we don't overthink things," he added. He is also collaborating with renowned filmmaker and his long-time friend Rajkumar Santoshi on period drama *Lahore 1947* and will also play a pivotal role in Nitesh Tiwari's two-part *Ramayana*.

Mohak Matkar is happy with her role in Saru



In India, countless dreamers from small towns aspire for a brighter future. While education, sports and the arts open doors to these dreams, the journey to the big city often brings unforeseen challenges that test their resilience. Zee TV is all set to present such a story with its latest show

— *Saru* — a compelling narrative about a young girl who dares to dream beyond her small-town limits.

About her role, lead actress Mohak Matkar says, "Having been a part of Zee TV over the past year with *Hamara Parivar*, I am extremely excited to bag the lead role in a hard-hitting

show like *Saru*. When I was approached for the show, I was over the moon and it was like a dream come true. From the mock shoot to our outdoor shoot in Udaipur, I have enjoyed every moment with the entire team. We have collaborated and worked together on the lines, and I have truly enjoyed the process, making it a wonderful experience for me till now."

She adds, "What I love most about my character, *Saraswati*, is her determination to become a self-made woman. I admire her passion for education, her desire to learn, and her drive to achieve success. That's why she's striving to move to Mumbai—to create a better future for herself. *Saraswati* is a simple yet ambitious girl who wants to explore the world while staying true to her roots. I'm also absolutely in love with my character's look, and I can't wait for everyone to watch her story unfold."

Pratiksha Rai talks about her role in the show Vasudha

Actors undergo extensive rehearsals to perfect their characters and one such dedicated performer is Pratiksha Rai, who essays the role of the calculative and enigmatic *Karishma* in Zee TV's *Vasudha*.

Speaking about her role, Pratiksha Rai says, "*Karishma* is a multi-layered character whose actions are driven by her personal motives, often without regard for others' emotions. Portraying her is challenging because I balance her charming exterior with the manipulative traits hidden beneath. To prepare for this role, I worked extensively on her voice modulation and dialogue delivery, drawing inspiration from negative portrayals like *Priyanka Chopra* in *Aitraaz*. I am also incredibly grateful



for the guidance of my co-actors on the set of *Vasudha*, who have

played a crucial role in shaping my character's persona on screen."

Amritsar actors shine in massacre biopic

Several Amritsar-based actors have featured in a new six-episode biopic 'The Waking of a Nation', which presents the Jallianwala Bagh massacre from a different and lesser-explored perspective.

Local artistes *Kuldeep Singh*, *Sumeet Bharat*, *Pushp Bawa*, *Sangeet Sharma*, *GS Channi*, *Master Kuljeet*, *Ranjit Singh*, *Prabhjot Singh Sangha*, *Anmol* and *Ravinder Singh* have acted in the series, directed by acclaimed filmmaker *Ram Madhvani*—known for his successful productions like '*Arya*' and '*Neerja*'. The series is currently being streamed on the OTT platform *Sony Liv*.

Kuldeep Singh, 50, plays the role of *Satyagrahi Sachdhyan Singh* in the web series. A veteran of Punjabi, Hindi and Bengali theatre, *Kuldeep* began his acting journey in Kolkata with *Usha Ganguly's* *Rangakarmi* theatre group. He joined Punjabi theatre in Amritsar in 2012. While in Kolkata, he attended acting workshops with *Sohag Sen* and got an opportunity to work in *Aparna Sen's* film *Mr and Mrs Iyer*, portraying a Sikh



gentleman and co-passenger to lead characters *Rahul Bose* and *Konkana Sen*. Following the film's success, he received offers for Bengali serials and movies, and later landed a role in the Hindi TV serial *Sahib Biwi Aur Gulam* on *Sahara TV*, playing the general of revolutionaries alongside *Raveena Tandon* in the lead role.

Now employed with the Airports Authority of India (AAI), *Kuldeep* was transferred to

Amritsar in 2012, his ancestral city. Despite his professional commitments, he continued pursuing his passion for theatre and started working with *National School of Drama* alumnus *Rajinder Singh*.

Another local talent, 23-year-old *Prabhjot Singh Sangha*, a student of *Khalsa College*, portrayed the role of *Satyagrahi Salim*—an associate of *Dr Saifuddin Kitchlew*, the national freedom fighter from Amritsar.

Prabhjot, active in theatre for four years, has performed on stages in *Chandigarh's* *Tagore Theatre*, *Delhi*, *Patiala* and other cities.

Sangeet Sharma, a student pursuing a Bachelor's degree in vocational theatre at *Khalsa College*, played a negative character in the series. Meanwhile, the acting of *Anmol*, a female actor, was particularly appreciated by all.

The series delves into lesser-known reasons behind the *Jallianwala Bagh* massacre. It challenges the popular narrative that *Colonel Reginald Edward Harry Dyer*—the temporary brigadier-general who ordered the firing—was solely responsible.

The storyline presents a broader conspiracy, highlighting that five British citizens were killed in Amritsar's streets on April 10, which allegedly prompted the retaliatory attack. It also emphasises the role of *Michael O'Dwyer*, the then Lieutenant-Governor of Punjab, who was later assassinated in 1940 by *Shaheed Udham Singh* for his involvement in the incident.

Janhvi Kapoor, Ishaan Khatter-starrer Homebound selected for Cannes 2025

Filmmaker *Neeraj Ghaywan's* *Homebound*, which stars actors *Janhvi Kapoor* and *Ishaan Khatter*, has officially been selected for the 78th edition of the *Cannes Film Festival*. Directed by *Ghaywan*, the movie will be screened in the 'Un Certain Regard' section—a category known for presenting artistic cinema from across the world. The announcement was made as *Cannes* unveiled its official selection line-up for 2025, which also features global names, including *Wes Anderson* and *Ari Aster*.

Both *Janhvi* and *Ishaan* took to their Instagram to express their happiness. *Ishaan*, while sharing the news with fans on his Instagram account, described the role as 'most challenging' to date. "A film that I knew was special from the moment it entered my life and my most challenging part yet. This is what dreams are made of—pure intention, grit, compassion and truth. One of the proudest moments of my cinematic journey thus far. All led by my friend with a beautiful mind and a deep empathy not many possess — @neerajghaywan. This also marks my homecoming with @karanjohar



and @dharmamovies after 7 years," a part of his post read. *Janhvi Kapoor*, too, shared her excitement, adding that the team is honoured and can't wait to show the audience the film on the 'big screen'. "A moment where Indian cinema takes over the world. We are honored to announce that *Homebound* makes its way to the official selection at the 78th edition of the *Festival de Cannes* in the 'Un Certain Regard' category. Our hearts are full, and we can't wait to show you all this journey on the big screen!" she wrote.

For *Ghaywan*, this is a special return, as his first film, *Masaan*, which starred actor *Vicky Kaushal*, was also screened at *Cannes* and won awards in the same category back in 2015.

Meanwhile, *Homebound* is written and directed by *Neeraj Ghaywan* and stars *Ishaan Khatter*, *Janhvi Kapoor*, and *Vishal Jethwa*. The film is produced by *Karan Johar*, *Adar Poonawalla*, *Apoorva Mehta*, and *Somen Mishra*. The co-producers include *Marijke de Souza* and *Melita Toscan Du Plantier*. The 78th *Cannes Film Festival* will take place from May 13 to May 24.

Manish Goel believes in competitive spirit



Manish Goel, who is seen as *Raghav* in *Deepa Shahi* and *Rajan Shahi's* *Anupamaa*, has shared that he is a self-motivated actor. He likes healthy competition, as it pushes an actor to grow and perform better.

He said, "After 28 years in the industry, I know that everyone has their own perception of their character, their way of living life and how they approach their work. I am more of a secluded person—self-motivated, driven by my own goals as an actor and performer. So, yes, while a healthy atmosphere is important, I prefer a competitive atmosphere where everyone is pushing to give their best."

"A healthy competitive spirit always enhances performance. When you know the opposite actor is good, you will naturally push yourself to perform even better," he added.

PM Modi greets people on Hanuman Jayanti

NEW DELHI, Apr 12 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday greeted people on the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti.

In a post on X, he wished people happiness, prosperity and good health with Hanuman's blessings.

Mentioned in epic Ramayana as a devotee of Lord Ram and



a warrior of supreme strength, Hanuman is

a revered figure across the country.

Nadda inaugurates BJP MLAs, MPs training camp in Puri



PURI (ODISHA), Apr 12 (Agencies): BJP president and Union Health Minister J P Nadda on Saturday formally inaugurated a three-day training programme for party MLAs and MPs here.

Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, Union ministers Jugal Oram, Dharmendra

Pradhan and Ashwini Vaishnaw, Odisha BJP president Manmohan Samal and most of the party MPs and MLAs attended the programme.

The event, which began on Friday evening, will continue till April 13. The participants of the training camp are being impart-

ed skills on organisational functioning, governance, ideological clarity, and goal-oriented execution.

The training camp will ensure that the participants get knowledge of the promises made to the people by the party before the elections. The members will be told to make the people in rural areas aware of the achievements of both the central and the state governments, a senior party leader said.

Nadda reached Odisha on Friday and launched the Ayushman Bharat scheme in the state as promised by the BJP during the elections.

Rana Sanga's bravery will continue to motivate Indians: Yogi Adityanath

LUCKNOW, Apr 12 (Agencies): Rana Sanga's bravery will continue to motivate Indians for centuries to come to protect their self-respect, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said on Saturday, remembering the Rajput ruler on his birth anniversary.

"On the birth anniversary of the mighty Rana Sanga Ji, who was dedicated to the protection of religion, many salutes to him!" Adityanath posted on X in Hindi.

"His story of glory, a symbol of patriotism and sacrifice, is a golden chapter in history. His bravery will continue to

irrigate the land of India with self-respect for centuries," Adityanath added.

Notably, several Kshatriya groups are assembling in various parts of Uttar Pradesh, with a mega show of strength in Agra on Saturday to mark Rana Sanga's birth anniversary.

Earlier on April 8, around three dozen Kshatriya groups gathered in Lucknow and protested against Samajwadi Party's Rajya Sabha MP Ramji Lal Suman over his statement referring to Rajput king Rana Sanga as a "traitor".



The groups, including the Karni Sena and the Akhil Bhartiya Kshatriya Mahasabha, gathered at the 1090 crossing and demanded an apology from Suman.

Following Suman's row-stoking remarks in Parliament, scores

Aurangzeb who labelled himself Alamgir was defeated and buried in Maharashtra: Shah

RAIGAD, Apr 12 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday praised the valour of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, emphasising that Aurangzeb who called himself Alamgir and fought against Marathas in Maharashtra throughout his life died as a defeated man and was buried in its soil.

Shah paid tributes to Shivaji Maharaj at Raigad Fort on his 345th death anniversary.

He said Shivaji Maharaj's ideals of "swadharm and swarajya" continue to inspire India's ambition to become a superpower by the 100th year of Independence.

"I appeal to the people of Maharashtra to not keep Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj restricted to the state. His tremendous willpower, determination, and courage inspire the country as he strategically united all sections of the society," Shah said while addressing a gathering.

Shah said Shivaji Maharaj defeated "Mughal shahi" (rule of Mughals).

"The ruler who called himself Alamgir fought Marathas till he was alive and died a defeated man in Maharashtra. His (Aurangzeb's) samadhi (tomb) is located on its soil," Shah said.



Notably, Maharashtra had witnessed a huge political row over the demand by right-wing organisations to remove the tomb of the 17th Century Mughal emperor in Khultabad, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar district.

"The legendary Maratha warrior king's ideals inspire India during its journey to celebrate its centenary of independence and become a superpower. The Narendra Modi government works on the ideals of Shivaji Maharaj," Shah said.

The home minister described Raigad Fort, which served as the capital of the Maratha kingdom and houses Shivaji Maharaj's samadhi, as a source of inspiration for future generations rather than a tourist spot.

He credited Shivaji Maharaj's mother, Jijabai, for sowing the seeds of protecting

"swadharm" and founding "swarajya." As India moves toward its centenary of independence in 2047 and aspires to become a superpower, Shah said Shivaji Maharaj stands tall as an inspiration.

His "rajmudra" (royal sign) is used as the ensign of the Indian Navy, symbolising his enduring influence on the nation.

Shah stressed the importance of continuing the fight for "swadharm" and upholding Shivaji Maharaj's teachings on good governance and justice.

Shah was accompanied by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, his deputies Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar, and BJP MP Udayanraje Bhosale and state Minister Shivendrasinh Bhosale, both descendants of the Maratha warrior king.

Fadnavis reiterated his government's commitment to construct-

ing Shivaji Maharaj's memorial in the Arabian Sea, noting that a petition regarding the project has been referred back to the Bombay High Court.

"We will present the case skillfully," he said.

Fadnavis also accepted Udayanraje Bhosle's demand for a national memorial of Shivaji Maharaj in Delhi and pledged to discuss the matter with Amit Shah.

Bhosle highlighted Shivaji Maharaj's teachings on social justice and communal harmony.

He demanded a law making insults to Shivaji Maharaj a cognisable and non-bailable offence with a 10-year jail term and proposed the establishment of a censor board to ensure historical accuracy in cinematic portrayals.

"Despite dedicating his life to others, he is still being insulted. I demand that a law be enacted, making insult of Shivaji Maharaj a cognisable and non-bailable offence with no bail for 10 years.

"There should be a censor board to check the cinematic liberty and factual errors on government-certified history," he said.

Bhosle remarked that the upcoming memorial

of Shivaji Maharaj in the Arabian Sea may have been delayed because of environment and ecological issues, but it can be constructed on 48-acre land at Raj Bhavan.

Bhosle suggested that the delayed Arabian Sea memorial could be constructed on 48 acres of land at Raj Bhavan.

Earlier, Shah and other dignitaries offered floral tributes to Jijabai at Pachad near Raigad Fort.

Shah will have lunch with NCP MP from Raigad Sunil Tatkare at the latter's residence in Sutarwadi.

Tatkare told reporters there would be no political discussion during the luncheon.

The luncheon meeting comes against the backdrop of differences among the Mahayuti allies over the guardian minister post for Raigad district.

Fadnavis had appointed cabinet minister Aditi Tatkare as the guardian minister but had to stay the decision after opposition from the Shiv Sena, which wants Bharat Gogawale in the post.

Tatkare said the issue of the guardian minister was not on the agenda for the lunch meeting.

3 Naxalites killed in encounter with security forces in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur



BIJAPUR, Apr 12 (Agencies): Three Naxalites were killed in an encounter with security forces in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district on Saturday morning, police said.

The gunfight broke out in a forest in the Indravati National Park area around 9 am when a joint team of security personnel was out on

an anti-Naxalite operation, Inspector General of Police, Bastar Range, Sundarraj P said.

Personnel of the District Reserve Guard (DRG) from Bijapur and Dantewada districts, the Special Task Force (STF), and the 202nd and 210th battalions of CoBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action)—an elite unit

of the CRPF—were involved in the operation, he said.

The official said the bodies of three Naxalites, along with a cache of weapons and explosives, were recovered from the spot.

The operation was underway in the area, he added.

With the latest encounter, 138 Naxalites have been gunned down in separate encounters in the state so far this year. Of them, 122 were eliminated in the Bastar division, comprising seven districts, including Bijapur.

Two killed, 15 injured as bus hits stationary truck in UP's Basti



BASTI, Apr 12 (Agencies): Two people were killed and 15 others injured when a double-decker bus hit a stationary truck on the National Highway 28 in Basti district late last night, police said on Saturday.

According to police, the incident occurred near the Vikramjot crossing in the Chhawani Police Station area around midnight.

Police said the speeding double-decker bus (registration number RJ 27 AP 9558) travelling from Gorakhpur to Lucknow rammed into the rear side of the truck parked on the roadside at the Vikramjot crossing by its driver after its broke down.

The bus hit the truck with such force that the bus' front portion was badly mangled, and two people died while several passengers received serious injuries, the police said.

The truck, coming from the Gorakhpur side, developed some fault after which the driver parked it on the roadside near a shop, owned by Santosh Kumar.

The Police said the impact of the crash was so intense that passengers were thrown about inside the bus, and some suffered multiple injuries.

The local police, led by Vikramjot outpost in-charge Ritesh Singh, rushed to the spot and took the injured to the Community Health Centre (CHC) in Vikramjot.

Fourteen people, including children and elderly passengers from Bihar and Rajasthan, were reported injured in the crash.

Among the injured were residents of Gopalganj, Siwan, Motihari, and other districts of Bihar, as well as a few from Rajasthan.

Many had sustained severe injuries and were later referred to the Medical College in Darshan Nagar, Ayodhya, for further treatment.

Seven of them are said to be in critical condition, the police said.

Police confirmed that two people died on the spot due to the impact, though their identities have yet to be established.

Authorities said they are continuing with further legal proceedings in the case.

Four firemen injured as LPG cylinder explodes during firefighting ops in Gandhinagar



AHMNEDABAD, Apr 12 (Agencies): Four firefighters were injured after an LPG cylinder exploded while they were trying to put out a blaze in a hut in Gujarat's Gandhinagar, an official said on Saturday.

Three of the firefighters sustained critical injuries in the blaze that broke out late on Friday night, the official said.

A fire erupted in a temporary structure next to a public toilet in the Sector 4 area of Gandhinagar, causing an LPG gas cylinder in the hut to explode, in-charge chief fire officer Rajesh Patel said.

He said four firefighters were injured in the flash fire, and three were rushed to Ahmedabad civil hospital.

The official said, "The fire department received a call around 11 pm about a fire in an electrical double pole near a public garden. Firefighters rushed to the site, and as soon as they laid the hose pipe and fixed the nozzle, an LPG cylinder kept inside the temporary structure exploded."

Firefighter Mahavirsinh Chauhan sustained 65 per cent burns, while Ranjit Thakor and Vipul Desai sustained 55 and 45 per cent burn injuries, and Bhupendra Patel sustained minor burn injuries, he said.

Waqf Act will not be implemented in West Bengal: Mamata Banerjee

KOLKATA, Apr 12 (Agencies): The Waqf (Amendment) Act will not be implemented in West Bengal, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said on Saturday amid violent protests in the state.

Banerjee said the law was made by the Centre and answers should be sought from it.

"My sincere appeal to people of all religions, please remain calm, remain restrained. Do not engage in any irreligious behaviour in the name of religion. Every human life is precious; do not incite riots for the sake of politics. Those who are inciting riots are harming society," she said in a post on X.

Several vehicles, including police vans, were set on fire, stones were hurled at security forces, and roads were blocked as violence rocked Malda, Murshidabad, South 24 Parganas and Hooghly



districts during protests over the new legislation on Friday.

"Remember, we did not make the law over which many are agitated. The law was made by the central government. So the answer you want should be sought from the central government," the CM said.

"We have made our position clear on this matter -- we do not support this law. This law will not be implemented in our state. So what is the riot about," she

asked. Banerjee said legal action will be taken against those inciting riots.

"We do not condone any violent activity. Some political parties are trying to misuse religion for political gain. Do not give in to their persuasion," she said.

"I think religion means humanity, goodwill, civilisation and harmony. I appeal to everyone to maintain peace and harmony," she added.

Doing really well: Trump stands by tariff policy amid market jitters, China blowback

WASHINGTON, Apr 12 (Agencies): Donald Trump has defended his on-again, off-again tariff policy, which has unleashed massive turmoil in stock markets and stoked fears of an all-out trade war between the US and China.

"We are doing really well on our TARIFF POLICY. Very exciting for America, and the World!!! It is moving along quickly," the US President posted on Truth Social, expressing optimism over the strategy.

His remarks came just hours after Beijing upped tariffs on US imports to 125 per cent, retaliating against the Trump administration's decision to impose steep new duties on Chinese goods. The tit-for-tat escalation has sent shockwaves through global markets over the past week.

US stocks ended the week higher after days of volatility, but gold prices surged to a record high. The dollar weakened sharply, indicating invest-



tor unease with US economic stability.

Trump's top trade adviser Peter Navarro downplayed the impact of policy shifts on Wall Street and dismissed investor concerns.

"It's just normal retracement after a big day. It's no big deal," Navarro told agency.

The President, too, dismissed the turbulence, insisting that his grand plan would ultimately

strengthen the American economy and its currency.

"When people understand what we're doing, I think the dollar will go way up," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One. "The bond market's going good. It had a little moment but I solved that problem very quickly."

The White House announced that duties on incoming Chinese goods were at 145 per cent now.

Beijing hit back by ratcheting up its own tariffs on American goods. In his first reaction to the tariff tensions, Chinese President Xi Jinping signalled no intention of backing down, stating China was "not afraid" of a prolonged trade conflict.

White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt reinforced the administration's combative stance: "The president made it very clear: When the United States is punched, he will punch back harder."

Despite the growing uncertainty, the White House said more than 75 countries have expressed interest in negotiating trade deals with the US. India and Japan are reportedly among the nations making progress toward new agreements.

Trump predicted tariffs would eventually stabilise around 10 per cent as deals are struck, adding, "Once we finish trade deals with the countries that want to negotiate, it's going to bring a lot of certainty."

Russia launches drone attack on Ukraine, 4 injured, buildings damaged



KYIV, Apr 12 (Agencies): Russia launched a barrage of drones in an overnight attack on Ukraine, injuring four people and damaging residential and commercial buildings in Kyiv and other parts of the country, Ukrainian officials said on Saturday.

Ukraine's air defences shot down 56 of 88 Russian drones, its air force said. It added that

24 drones were "lost" as the military used electronic warfare to redirect them.

Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko said that three people were injured in the capital as a result of the drone attacks.

Drone debris also destroyed a private house and damaged several commercial buildings, causing large fires in different parts of

Kyiv, city officials said.

One more person was wounded in the city of Kharkiv in the northeast, Kharkiv's mayor, Ihor Terekhov, said.

Regional officials also said that residential and commercial buildings were damaged in the central Dnipropetrovsk region, and the military reported damage in the Odesa region in the south.

UAE assumes Chair of INTERPOL Committee on Governance

PARIS, Apr 12 (Agencies): The UAE, represented by the Ministry of Interior, has been elected to chair the Committee on Governance, a key advisory committee of the INTERPOL. This achievement further demonstrates the UAE's strong reputation, its strategic role in fostering influential international partnerships, and its ongoing commitment to collaborative international action.

Lieutenant Colonel Dana Humaid Al Marzouqi, Director General of the International Affairs Office at the Ministry of Interior, secured 67 per cent of the votes from the representatives of INTERPOL member states during the committee's session, held at INTERPOL's headquarters in Lyon, France.

The Committee on Governance is one of the main advisory bodies within INTERPOL, tasked with examining and enhancing the governance of the organisation. The com-

mittee's role is pivotal in ensuring good governance, which supports the effective development and performance of INTERPOL and its member countries, while ensuring that the organisation meets its strategic objectives.

At the 92nd INTERPOL General Assembly in Glasgow in late 2024, a resolution established the Committee on Governance as a standing committee of the General Assembly, transforming the former Working Group on Governance into this permanent body. The UAE is the first country to chair this newly formed standing committee, which is tasked with reviewing and advising on matters related to the governance of INTERPOL.

As part of its mandate, the Committee on Governance will review the INTERPOL Statute, General Regulations, and their annexes. It will provide advice to the General Assembly

regarding proposals to amend these documents or on any proposals concerning their interpretation, in addition to other relevant matters within its competencies.

The committee's membership consists of high-level experts in governance and public international law, representing member states and ensuring broad, inclusive participation in the committee's work.

As Chair of the Committee on Governance for a two-year term, the UAE will lead discussions and facilitate decision-making within the committee. It will also represent the committee in reports to the General Assembly and the Executive Committee, and will coordinate between member states to ensure the successful implementation of the committee's mandate, thus contributing to the overall success of INTERPOL's governance.

"Violence is not the solution of the wise," says UAE's Global Imams Council leader

DUBAI, Apr 12 (Agencies): Imam M Tawhidi, Senior Imam of the Global Imams Council, said that extremism and violence are not the solution of the wise.

Tawhidi, while talking to agency about the Waqf Board in the UAE, said that some extremists tarnish the image of the people practising the religion.

"So for example, the leaders in the UAE are not just political rulers and state leaders, leaders of emirates, they're also Muslim leaders. Also leaders for the religion and the region, right, so the President, yes, he's the head of state, but he's also a representative of the religion because he's a Muslim role model who runs a Muslim majority country, so we should learn from him how Muslims should behave, how we should have a positive outlook to the future. People who live with us in society, violence is not the solution of the wise," he said.

He did not specifically spoke about the issues regarding the Waqf Amendment Act recently passed by the Parliament in India, but said that a tiny majority who attempt to tarnish the entire religion should not be given that leverage.

"Regardless of what's hap-



pening in India, I want to say something that is a fact. Islam comprises of nearly 2 billion people. It's not fair for Islam as a religion and Muslims that a few 1,000 people can tarnish the reputation of our religion, right? So the same way the extremists attempt to tarnish our reputation in the media. We have to look at the positive Muslim leaders," he said.

He added that the Waqf Board must serve humanity and the Muslims of the society.

"I believe that Waqf Board should be focused on serving Islam and Muslims and society and humanity as we have them in the UAE. Firstly, law-abiding, a positive outlook on how religious communities can operate and serve society," he said.

He added that in the UAE, Waqf Boards are legal entities

and are not at loggerheads with the law.

"In the UAE, the Waqf Boards are professional entities, and they are legal in their standing in society. They are very respected and of course they manage various parts within the Muslim religious framework of the country," he said.

Tawhidi said that the Waqf Board in the UAE strive to be a role model for Muslim communities across the world.

"I believe that the Waqf boards that we have in the UAE are a role model to Waqf boards in Muslim countries and Muslim societies in countries such as India for example. So to give you a very simplified response, the UAE in all of its sectors and aspects of religious approach has been a role model, truly genuinely a role model to Muslims in the region and beyond," he said.

Tawhidi stated that the laws in the UAE are positive, and hence the law doesn't clash with Waqf Board.

"Well, the Waqf board does not oppose the law to begin with. So whatever the Waqf issues as directives, it is itself following the law. And that is the duty of Muslims and all Muslim entities in the UAE to follow the law and

the law, as you can see, is a law that is very positive," he said.

He further said that in the UAE, it's not just the Muslims that are protected, but also other religious communities and places of worship.

"It embraces people, it embraces not just the Waqf Board for Muslims and also protects the temples and churches, and other places of worship, they are all embraced and protected under the law and they are served and cared for by the government. So it's one thing to take a look at only Waqf Board but there is no special treatment. Everyone has to follow them," he said.

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill was tabled in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on April 2 and 3, respectively.

It was passed in both Houses and later received the President's assent, after which it became a law. On April 5, President Droupadi Murmu gave her assent to the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

While the Opposition has been protesting against the Waqf Act, the BJP has launched a 'Waqf Reforms Awareness Campaign', which will run from April 20 to May 5. The initiative will tell the benefits of the Waqf Act to the Muslim community.

UK Parliament meets in emergency Saturday session to approve rescue of British Steel

LONDON, Apr 12 (Agencies): U.K. lawmakers returned to Parliament from their Easter break on Saturday to approve an emergency rescue of the country's last remaining factory that makes steel directly from raw materials.

Prime Minister Keir Starmer summoned lawmakers for the highly unusual Saturday sitting to debate a bill aimed at blocking British Steel's Chinese owners, Jingye Group, from closing blast furnaces at its Scunthorpe plant in the north of England.

If the bill passes, which is expected, Business Secretary Jonathan Reynolds will have the power to direct the company's board and workforce, ensure workers get paid and order the raw materials necessary to keep the plant's two massive blast furnaces running.

Starmer said that the future of the plant "hangs in the balance," necessitating the need

for the quick-fire legislation and the recall of Parliament.

Though Starmer did not use the term "nationalization," he did say all options remain on the table for the steel works, which employs around 2,700 workers directly.

The decision to introduce the emergency legislation was given added urgency by the recent move by Jingye to cancel orders for the iron pellets used in the blast furnaces. Without the pellets and other raw materials, they would likely have to shut for good, potentially within days.

It's unclear what role Jingye, owner of British Steel since 2020, will have in the day-to-day running of the steel-works once the legislation passes.

Jingye, which has said the Scunthorpe plant is financially unsustainable due to "challenging market conditions" and

increased environmental costs, has for months sought a government rescue but discussions have failed to reach a successful outcome. Last month's decision by U.S. President Donald Trump to impose a 25% tariffs on imported steel was another blow.

Though Starmer has expressed disappointment, he has not retaliated and is seeking to negotiate the tariffs away.

Unions have welcomed his initiative to call back Parliament and voiced hope that it will eventually lead to the government taking ownership of the plant.

"It is in the national interest that a solution is found to secure a future for British Steel as a vital strategic business," said Roy Rickhuss, general secretary of the union Community. "We can't allow Britain to become the only G7 country without primary steel-making capacity."

At its height in the postwar period, British steelmaking was a global leader, employing more than 300,000 people, before cheaper offerings from China and other countries hit production. It now employs about 40,000 directly, with the industry accounting for just 0.1% of the British economy.

Britain's remaining steelmakers are under pressure to reduce carbon emissions. Most have shifted to electric arc furnaces that make steel from recycled material. That has left Scunthorpe as the only factory with blast furnaces capable of turning iron ore into virgin steel.

The steel industry is "part of our national story," Starmer said.

The last time lawmakers have been called back from their recess to sit on a Saturday was in 1982, in the aftermath of Argentina's invasion of the Falkland Islands in the south Atlantic.

Hundreds of flights cancelled in China as strong winds hit capital



BEIJING, Apr 12 (Agencies): Hundreds of flights have been cancelled and train lines were suspended as gales hit Beijing and northern China on Saturday.

By 11:30 local time (03:30 GMT) on Saturday, 838 flights had been cancelled at the capital's two major airports, according to the news agency.

Wind gusts of up to 93mph (150 kph) - the strongest in the Chinese capital for more than half a century - are set to continue through the

weekend, forcing the closure of attractions and historic sites.

Millions were urged to stay indoors on Friday, with some state media outlets warning that people weighing less than 50kg may be "easily blown away".

Train services including the airport's express subway line and some high-speed rail lines have been suspended. Parks were also shut, with some old trees reinforced or trimmed in preparation but almost 300 trees have already fallen over in the capital.

A number of vehicles were damaged but no injuries were reported - in Beijing most residents followed authorities' advice to stay indoors after the city warned 22 million residents to avoid non-essential travel.

"Everyone in Beijing was really nervous about it. Today there are hardly any people out on the streets. However, it wasn't as severe as I had imagined", a local resident told the news agency.

While a businessman from the Zhejiang province had his flight home

cancelled.

"Because of the severe winds, all flights scheduled for last night and today were cancelled. So I will probably rebook my flight in a couple of days. I'm now basically stranded in Beijing," he said.

The strong winds are coming from a cold vortex system over Mongolia and are expected to last through the weekend.

Beijing issued its first orange alert for strong winds in a decade with the strongest winds expected on Saturday.

China measures wind speed with a scale that goes from level 1 to 17. A level 11 wind, according to the China Meteorological Administration, can cause "serious damage", while a level 12 wind brings "extreme destruction".

The winds this weekend are expected to range from level 11 to 13, with conditions expected to ease by Sunday.

Dr B R Ambedkar commemorated on 134th Birthday Anniversary at GDC Bani



of Dr B R Ambedkar's ideology for the Nation building. He has persuaded the female students to complete their studies under any circumstances. He said that educating female child is our utmost pri-

ority and necessity. He has advised that every Indian should follow the path of positivity and not the ego.

The Programme was also attended by Surinder Raina, SHO Bani and Deepak K Sharma.

GDC Khour organizes series of activities on Dr. Ambedkar's 134th Birth Anniversary

Top News Report

KHOUR, Apr 12: The NSS unit of the college in collaboration with the department of Political Science organized a series of activities like awareness lecture, pledge taking ceremony, Padyatra, debate and quiz competition in connection with the celebration of 134th Birth Anniversary of Dr. B R Ambedkar under the patronship of worthy Principal Prof. (Dr) T. K Sharma. The event started with the floral tributes to the portrait of Dr. B.R Ambedkar followed by awareness lecture.

The resource person of the lecture was Dr. KhurshedAhangar (Lecturer in Political Science).

He enthralled the audience on the values, efforts and contribution of Dr. B.R Ambedkar for the poorest sections of the society and the nation as a whole.

He gave great insight on the life history and teachings of Dr. B.R Ambedkar. After the lec-

ture, pledge taking ceremony was held at the Administrative block of the College.

Some volunteers namely Madhvi, Partikasha, Arti of Second Semester actively participated in debate competition on the Life history and role of Dr. B.R Ambedkar in making Indian Constitution and were adjusted with 1st, 2nd & 3rd positions respectively.

The whole event was organized by Dr. Rashmi Sharma (HoD Political Science) and Prof. HimanshuKhajuria, NSS PO. In his address, the Principal of the College encouraged the students to follow the footprints of Dr. B.R Ambedkar and imbibe in themselves the principles enshrined in the Constitution.

The event concluded with the padyatra in the College premises sensitizing the fellow students of the College of the contribution of Dr. B.R Ambedkar to the Indian Constitution and society.

Apni Party express grief over death of two female students in Handwara accident

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 12: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari and other senior party leaders have expressed deep grief and sorrow over the tragic road accident near the Vodpora area of Handwara, which claimed the lives of two young female students and left 22 others injured, some critically.

Pertinently, an ill-fated bus, which was en route to Srinagar for a picnic, met with an accident, leaving over two dozen students injured.

One girl died on the spot, and the other succumbed to her injuries in the hospital.

Expressing his deep grief and sorrow over the tragic incident, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari wrote on his X handle, "Saddened to know about the

tragic road accident near the Vodpora area of Handwara, which claimed the lives of two young female students and left 22 others injured, some critically."

He added, "My heartfelt condolences to the parents of the deceased girls. Praying for the swift and full recovery of all the injured students. I urge the authorities to ensure all necessary assistance and the best possible treatment for them."

The other prominent party leaders who have expressed grief and sorrow over this tragic accident included party's Senior Vice President Gulam Hassan Mir, Chairman of the party's Parliamentary Affairs Committee (PAC) Mohammad Dilawar Mir, General Secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir, Provincial President Mohammad Ashraf Mir, District President Baramulla Shabir Ahmad Shah, and others.

Top News Report

BANI, Apr 12: As sequel to 134 Birth Anniversary of the Real architect of Indian Constitution Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar, NSS Unit of Govt. Degree College (GDC) Bani organizes an invited lecture on the topic "Life, Work and Constitutional Contribution of Dr B. R. Ambedkar".

Lecture was delivered by Predhyun Attri, Tehsildar Bani as Resource Person. He has enthralled the students and staff on the values, efforts and contribution of Dr B. R. Ambedkar for the poorest sections of the society and the nation as a whole.

Degree College Bani organizes a debate competition on the topic "Life, Work and Constitutional Contribution of Dr B. R. Ambedkar".

It was organized by Dr. Resham Singh, the organizing Secretary and NSS Programme Officer under the overall guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Manohar Lal, Principal of the College. More than seven students have participated in the debate competition.

NSS Unit of the College also organized a Pledge on Indian Constitution. It was organized by Dr. Resham Singh, the organizing Secretary and NSS Programme Officer under the overall guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Manohar Lal,

Principal of the College and the Chief Guest of the Programme.

Ameen Bhatt, DySP Bani was also present as a Guest of Honour during the pledge taking ceremony.

While addressing the students before the pledge Ameen Bhatt addressed the students for eradicating the individual differences from the hearts and the minds. He has stressed that everyone should work and act for equality and brotherhood in real sense for giving real tribute to Dr B R Ambedkar. He also encouraged the students to work hard and become successful in every sphere of life.

Prof. (Dr.) Manohar Lal showcased the essence

Free medical checkup camp organized by LFO-BHF

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Apr 12: Live For Others-Being Helpful Foundation (NGO), in collaboration with ZNS Nist Shiksha Academy Udhampur and JK Medicity Ujala Cygnus, successfully organized a Free Medical Checkup Camp at ZNS Nist Institute, near Nand Palace, Dhar Road. The camp offered free consultations including specialist services from a gynecologist, along with free

medications. The medical team from JK Medicity Ujala Cygnus included Dr. Devit Sharma (Medical Officer), and Dr. Nivedita Sharma (MO). The event was coordinated by the faculty of NIST — Shivangi Dogra and team — and actively supported by NGO members Abhinandan Sharma, Stuti Abrol, Diya Sharma, Radhika Mahajan, and Bharti.

An awareness lecture on the theme of "MISSION R-SAP (Remove

Shyness & Apply Pads) was delivered by Stuti Abrol (General Secretary Jammu Province & Health Domain incharge). This initiative aimed at promoting accessible healthcare and spreading awareness about women's health. 120+ young minds were participated and 1000+ Sanitary napkins were distributed. The foundation extended thanks to all participants and supporters who made this event a success.

GDC for Women Kathua organizes Tug of War contest under Fit India Campaign

Top News Report

KATHUA, Apr 12: Government Degree College for Women, Kathua organized an energetic Tug of War Contest in the college ground under the banner of the Fit India Campaign, with the objective of promoting physical fitness, teamwork, and a spirit of healthy competition among students.

The event was held under the able supervision of the Principal, Dr. Savi Behl, who lauded the enthusiasm and active participation of the

students.

Two teams, Team A and Team B, comprising 17 students each from different semesters, participated in the contest with great zeal. The thrilling competition drew the attention and applause of students and faculty alike.

In the contest, the Team B emerged victorious, showcasing excellent coordination, strength, and determination. The winning team was applauded for their performance and team spirit.

The event was coordinated by PTI Sanjeev Jamwal along with the organizing committee,

which included Prof. Yash Paul (Convener), Prof. Karam Chand, Prof. Manjot Singh, Prof. Sonika Jasrotia, Prof. Surbhi Gupta, Dr. Mukesh Kumari, Prof. Sayed Nasir, Prof. Ram Murli, and Librarian Sh. Sourabh Dutta. Dr. Rachna Devi, a senior faculty member, also graced the occasion with her presence.

The Principal appreciated the organizing team and the participants for their efforts and emphasized the importance of incorporating physical activities into daily routines to build a healthy lifestyle.



and his vision for an inclusive society.

In the series of events an oath taking ceremony was organized reaffirming values of equality, and justice. An essay writing competition was also held on the ideals and philosophy of Dr. Ambedkar.

Tamanna Sharma (Sem 6), Tajba Akhter (Sem 2) and Aryan Sharma (Sem 6) were

adjudged 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively. An awareness lecture was also organized on From Margins to Mainstream: Dr. Ambedkar Social Reformer, Architect of Modern India".

The lecture was delivered by Prof. Sunil Kumar (Department of Political Science). All the events witnessed enthusiastic participation from the students.

From Page No: 1

J-K LG, Army Chief, Himachal CM pay tributes to JCO martyred in gun-fight with terrorists in Jammu

Akhnoor sector late on Friday night.

In a condolence message, Lt Governor Sinha said, "I salute the supreme sacrifice of our Army braveheart Sub Kuldeep Chand who laid down his life in the line of duty. His valour and sacrifice will never be forgotten. The entire nation stands firmly with the family of the martyr in this hour of grief."

Additional Directorate General of Public Information (ADGPI) of the Indian Army, in a post on X, said the Chief of Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi and all ranks of the Indian Army salute the supreme sacrifice of the braveheart.

"The Indian Army offers deepest condolences and stands firm with the bereaved family in this hour of grief," it said.

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu has expressed grief over the death of Kuldeep Chand and said, "The news of Kuldeep Kumar ji, a resident of Kohivi village of my assembly constituency Naudan, being martyred is very sad.

"His unforgettable contribution to the service of the country will always be remembered with respect. I pray to God to give peace to the departed and give strength to the bereaved family," he added.

"Operations

will go on until terrorists are eliminated": Army on ongoing encounter with terrorists in J&K

firefight three terrorists were killed. Real time surveillance of area UAV, drones were deployed," the Brigadier said during the joint press conference.

"This operation also brought to the fore the seamless coordination between the Indian army and the J&K Police, especially the SOG. Rapid reinforcements were deployed in terms of the Special Forces with the help of the Indian Air Force to carry out real-time surveillance of the area," the Brigadier added.

The operation and exchange of fire between security forces and terrorists have been happening for the last 4 days.

Handwara bus accident: Another student succumbs, toll 2

will be registered and police investigation to follow," she said.

Medical Superintendent of GMC Handwara, Dr. Aijaz confirmed that most of the injured students are in stable condition. He stated that while two critically injured students were referred to Srinagar for

advanced treatment, the remaining are being closely monitored and are responding well to medical care.

"We are ensuring all necessary treatment and support for the injured. Their condition is largely stable," he said.

Notably, a tragic accident occurred this morning at Vodhpura Handwara when a bus carrying college students enroute to a picnic overturned, leading to a major accident.

The accident resulted in death of two students and left 22 others injured.

Three terrorists killed, M4 Rifle, other arms recovered in Kishtwar Encounter: Army

through clearance of the area and safety of personnel involved. He also said that the ongoing operation is part of a larger strategy to counter terrorist activity in the region.

The DIG said security forces have increased surveillance and area domination across Kishtwar, Doda, and Udhampur districts.

"Technologies such as drones, facial recognition systems, and vehicle scanners are being used to detect movement and prevent infiltration," he added.

The officers also urged people to remain alert and report any suspicious activity to the security forces.

Statehood is BJP's promise,

No need for Omar Abdullah to seek it: LOP Sunil Sharma

The assembly is a place for debate and legislation," the BJP leader said.

"Do they want to make assembly a ring of jehad? Do they want to instigate legislative jehad? Such activities will not be accepted," he said, adding, "No citizen of Jammu and Kashmir, including the Muslims, will accept a statehood in which such slogans are raised in its assembly." Sharma said the ruling party was "enacting a drama" inside the assembly to run away from discussions over people's issues.

"It was for the first time in the history of the assembly that the government itself did not allow the House to run. The government was theirs, the Speaker was theirs, but they enacted a drama opposing the Waqf Amendment Bill and did not allow the House to run for three days because they did not want people's issues to be discussed," he said.

The leader of opposition said two assembly sessions were held in the last six months, but none of the promises in the National Conference's manifesto were reflected in either the assembly or in normal governance.

"They gave free bus rides to women, but they increased the fares and fuel prices. The routine governance and the assembly sessions reflect the failure of the National Conference government. It reflects betrayal of the people,"

he added.

Sharma said the BJP-led Central government is committed to the holistic development of Jammu and Kashmir. "All centrally-sponsored schemes will continue to run without any hurdles," he said.

He however, said there will be no compromise on terrorism and separatism.

"We will not rest until we wipe out terrorism, separatism and stone-pelting. There will be no compromise until peace is established fully," he stated.

Sharma said situation in the Union Territory has improved significantly and the BJP will not allow the return of violence.

"The situation has improved significantly. Schools are open, there are no hartals, no stone-pelting. Since Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah took the responsibility of the security, normalcy has returned to downtown Srinagar and it is flourishing," he said.

He accused the National Conference (NC) of never trying to establish peace in Jammu and Kashmir.

"When the NC government was in power, schools, hospitals and government buildings were burnt. NC says that 10,000 of its workers were killed. But they were killed during NC governments when Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah were heading the home department," he said.

"Since law and order came under the Union Home Ministry, not a single NC worker has been killed," he added.

NC hits back at BJP's Sunil Sharma, Says he failed as

opposition leader

nonsense. But for now, let's address his latest gem: blaming the NC for the deaths of NC workers during our government. By that logic, is the BJP responsible for every single security force casualty from 2019 till today—including the tragic martyrdom of a JCO just now? May he RIP. Whose failure is it then, LOP sahab?," questioned Sadiq.

Mehbooba Mufti writes to Chief Ministers M.K. Stalin, Mamata Banerjee, and Siddaramaiah

including the abrogation of Article 370 and the dismemberment of Jammu & Kashmir.

In her letters to the three Chief Ministers, she acknowledged their consistent and courageous opposition to such injustices:

"In these dark and difficult times, your clarity, courage, and commitment to justice have been a rare beacon of hope. Alongside a few principled voices, you have upheld the inclusive and democratic idea of India. I write to convey my deepest respect and the gratitude of countless people who feel voiceless and marginalized today. With your continued leadership and support, I believe we can reclaim our constitutional values and safeguard our shared future."

Mufti's outreach aims to strengthen solidarity among leaders committed to protecting India's democratic ethos and the rights of all its citizens.

JYBT celebrates Hanuman Jayanti Parav at Sankat Mochan Panchmukhi Shree Hanuman Mandir



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: It was a matter of immense pleasure and a proud moment for the Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust Jammu/Haridwar, Jammu that on Saturday Trust has celebrated the auspicious occasion of "Shree Hanuman Jayanti Parav" with great fervour and enthusiasm at its "Sankat Mochan Panchmukhi Shree Hanuman Mandir, B.C. Road, Jammu.

The event was marked with special prayers, Bhajans and discourses on the life and teaching of Lord Hanuman, while speaking on this occasion Pawan Kumar Shastri, President of the Trust has said that Lord Hanuman is revered as 11th Rudra Avatar of Lord Shiva and a devoted Bhagat of Lord Rama's. Hanuman is also considered one of the eight Charanjivi immortal and is believed to be still alive and active in the world, born to Anjana and Kesari.

As a manifestation of Lord Shiva's divine energy, Hanuman embodies the qualities of cour-

age, wisdom and Loyalty. His life and teachings continue to inspire millions, and his legacy as a devoted servant of Lord Rama remains unparalleled. His birth was a result of Lord Shiva's blessing, and "Vayu Dev" played a crucial role in his birth, making Hanuman his spiritual son. As a child, Hanuman Ji was mischievous and curious once mistaking the "Sun" for a ripe fruit and leaping into the sky. "Surya Dev" was his "Guru", teaching him the Vedas and other scriptures.

He further, said that Goswami Tulsidar Ji, a 16th Century Poet and Saint written the "Hanuman Chalia", it is a collection of 40 verses (chaupais) that praise Lord Hanuman Ji and briefly describe his divine qualities. In the "Hanuman Chalisa", Goswami Tulsidas Ji describes Lord Hanuman Ji as "Sankat Mochan". This title reflects Hanuman Ji's role as a protector and saviour who helps his devotees overcome challenges and obstacles. Hanuman Ji is considered a highly revered deity in Hinduism, known for his unwavering devotion to Lord Rama and his extraordinary abilities.

He is often worshipped for his strength, courage and protective powers. According to Hindu mythology, Hanuman Ji provides protection to his devotees from various dangers, including evils spirits, diseases and negative energies said Pawan Kumar Shastri, President of the Trust.

While briefly Hanuman Ji's, Panchmukhi form also said that "Panchmukhi Hanuman" is a unique and powerful form of Lord Hanuman Ji, where he is depicted with five faces (Panchmukhi) each face represents a different aspect of his personality and power as: 'Hanuman', 'Narasimha', 'Garuda', 'Varaha' and 'Hayagriva'.

He further said that here in our "Sankat Mochan Panchmukhi Shree Hanuman Mandir" is a revered site, attracting devotees seeking spiritual enlightenment and material benefits. The Trust's efforts aim to provide of sacred space for worship community service and personal growth.

By performing daily Puja Archana and Langer seva, the Trust fosters a sense of unity and devotion among its followers. The Trust conducts daily worship ceremonies, offering prayers and performing rituals to honour Lord Hanuman, besides Trust serve free Langer seva to the devotees, promoting a sense of community and spirituality, 600-700 devotees visits this "Panchmukhi Hanuman Ji" temple daily seeking blessings and spiritual growth, devotees receive blessed offering, believed to bring prosperity and well being.

The Panchmukhi Hanuman form is worshipped for protection, strength and spiritual growth, it is believed to offer protection from evil forces, negative energies and obstacles, while also promoting inner peace and spiritual enlightenment said Sh. Pawan Kumar Shastri, President of the Trust.

The celebration was attended by devotees from all walk of life, who gathered to seek the blessings of Lord Hanuman Ji and pay homage to his divine spirit. The Trust's efforts to promote spiritual harmony and community bonding were evident in this grand celebration, which was a testament to the enduring legacy of Lord Hanuman's teachings. The Trust expresses its gratitude to all the devotees who participated in the celebration and made it a grand success. The event concluded with sense of peace, harmony and spiritual rejuvenation, leaving a lasting impact on all those present.

Among others, following dignitaries were also participated on this auspicious occasion to make the celebration of grand success. Sunaina Sharma Principal, Revenue Training Institute, Devyani Rana vice President of BJYM, Arvind Gupta MLA (BJP), Ajay Sharma SP South Jammu, Raj Kumar Gupta Trustee JYBT, Senior Advocate/Trustee Lilla Kiran Sharma, Administrator B.R Sharma, JYBT, Rajesh Rakwal Private Secretary to President JYBT, Balbir Singh Field Officer JYBT, Rashpal Sharma Engineer Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust.

General Category People's Front calls for equality act, questions reservation policies



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: A meeting of the General Category People's Front, Jammu and Kashmir was held under the chairmanship of Raj Kumar Banathia, where members discussed the pressing challenges faced by the general category community. The meeting emphasized the need for equal rights, fair governance, and an end to divisive reservation politics.

Yash Paul Sharma, President of the Front, alleged that successive governments have fostered caste-based vote bank politics by labeling certain professions—like Nai, Dhobi, Kumhar, and Lohar—as castes.

He stressed that the Cabinet Sub-Committee (CSC) constituted by the J&K Government should consider all relevant Supreme Court verdicts while framing policies on reservation. He asserted that reservation is not a fundamental right, and that any extension should be based on quantifiable data demonstrating inadequate representation in public services.

Sharma further demanded the exclusion of the creamy layer from reservation benefits and adherence to the 50% ceiling on reservations to protect meritocracy.

Som Nath Sharma, General Secretary, highlighted the financial distress caused by

rising inflation, multiple taxes, and record unemployment. He noted that 84% of households—particularly the lower middle class—have suffered income loss. He also criticized the alleged misuse of the SC/ST Atrocities Act, calling for checks to prevent its exploitation for personal vendettas.

Jagdish Dogra, Chief Patron, demanded reduced electricity and water rates and the introduction of domiciliary land laws similar to those in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. He called for ending subsidies and freebies to ease the tax burden on citizens.

The Front passed a resolution urging the government to introduce an "Equality Act" and remove the terms Caste, Class, and Reservation from the Constitution. Mr. Banathia concluded by thanking attendees and wishing all a Happy Vikrami New Year 2082.

Lecture on World Health Day conducted at Gursai

Top News Report

POONCH, Apr 12: On the occasion of World Health Day, the Indian Army organized a lecture at Government Higher Secondary School, Gursai. The event emphasized the importance of global health and well-being, highlighting key issues currently affecting global health and exploring potential solutions. The initiative aimed to raise awareness among students and the local community about pressing health challenges and



to encourage proactive efforts toward achieving better health outcomes for all. The lecture witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and staff, who engaged actively in discussions and gained valuable insights into maintaining personal and community health.

The initiative not only educated the young minds about the significance of a healthy lifestyle but also reinforced the Indian Army's commitment to community welfare and nation-building beyond its operational role.

"Modi begins new era of development for youth"

Massive progress, peace in J&K signalling end of separatism: Raman Suri



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) executive member Raman Suri on Saturday hailed the unprecedented progress and peace dawning in Jammu and Kashmir, attributing the transformation to the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In a powerful statement, Suri emphasized that the changing perception among the people of Jammu and Kashmir, including the separatist factions, reflects a growing realization that the region's development and prosperity lie in embracing mainstream opportunities and shunning divisive ideologies.

"The concentrated efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi have brought about a paradigm shift in Jammu and Kashmir. His policies have focused on empowering the youth, providing them with ample opportunities to shape their own futures, and fostering an environment of peace and progress," Suri said.

"The result is clear that separatism in Kashmir is breathing its last, and the shops of separatists are on the verge of shutting down permanently." Suri highlighted the diminishing influence of the Hurriyat Conference, once considered a prominent voice of separatism in the region.

"The way separatist leaders are breaking ties with the Hurriyat Conference every day is a testament to its growing irrelevance. The Conference, which once claimed to represent the aspirations of Kashmiris, has now become completely ineffective. Not only the common people but even sepa-

ratist leaders are now ready to walk the path of development," he noted.

The BJP leader pointed out that the Central Government's resolute policies have systematically dismantled the ecosystem of separatism and terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

While acknowledging recent terrorist incidents in the Jammu division, Suri stressed that these are desperate attempts by anti-national elements to assert their presence.

In a significant development, Suri cited the recent decision by the president of the Jammu-Kashmir Mass Movement to sever all ties with both factions of the Hurriyat Conference and publicly renounce connections with any anti-national organizations, both within India and abroad. "This move has scattered the separatist camp and sent a clear message that the era of divisive politics is over," he said. Suri also referenced ongoing actions against separatist ele-

ments, including raids conducted last Thursday on the residences of two prominent leaders.

"These operations underscore the Central Government's unwavering commitment to rooting out separatism. It is only a matter of time before the shops of separatists in Kashmir are completely shut down," he added. The BJP leader expressed optimism about the future, stating that the transformative policies of the Modi government have laid a strong foundation for lasting peace and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The youth of Kashmir are now looking toward a brighter future, one filled with opportunities for growth and progress. The Central Government's efforts to end separatism and terrorism are bearing fruit, and the results are there for all to see," Suri concluded.

The Bharatiya Janata Party reaffirms its commitment to supporting the people of Jammu

and Kashmir in their journey toward peace, development, and integration with the mainstream of India's growth story.

Lecture on Disaster Awareness by NDRF at NTA Nagrota

Top News Report

NAGROTA, Apr 12: A special lecture and demonstration was conducted by A Coy Ex 13 Battalion NDRF for the National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets of 4 J&K bn NCC Jammu who are presently undergoing Annual Training Camp at the NCC Training Academy (NTA), Nagrota, focusing on Disaster Awareness and Measures to mitigate its impact.

The session aimed at equipping young cadets with essential knowledge and skills to respond effectively during natural and man-made disasters. The lecture began with an



insightful briefing on different types of disasters such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, and fire accidents.

A significant portion of the session was devoted to first response techniques and basic first aid. Cadets were taught the ABCs of first aid—Airway, Breathing, and Circulation—and how to manage injuries such as bleeding, fractures, burns, and unconsciousness. Practical demonstrations by the NDRF

team provided cadets with hands-on experience in rescue and relief operations.

The highlight of the lecture was the discussion on the Yuva Aapda Mitra initiative, which encourages youth participation in disaster management efforts. NCC cadets, with their discipline, training, and sense of service, were urged to volunteer and serve as frontline responders in their communities. The Company Commander from A Coy ex

13 Bn NDRF, Maj Uttam stressed that cadets can play a pivotal role in spreading awareness, assisting in evacuation, providing first aid, and supporting civil authorities during emergencies.

The session concluded with an interactive Q&A, followed by a vote of thanks. The Camp Commandant at the NTA Col Kuldeep Kachru appreciated the efforts of 13 Bn NDRF and encouraged cadets to actively contribute to disaster resilience as responsible citizens and future leaders. This collaborative initiative marks another step forward in building a trained, aware, and responsive youth force ready to face emergencies with courage and competence.

Dera Baba Badbhaag Singh Yatra flagged off

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: With the wish of peace, prosperity and mutual brotherhood, today a group of followers of Baba Badbhaag Singh Dera left for the main religious place situated in Una district of Himachal which was flagged off by Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Manish Sahni by showing saffron flag.

Every year on the occasion of Baisakhi festival, a huge group of hundreds of followers of Dera leave from Dera Baba Badbhaag Singh Darbar of Mishri Wala, Jammu for the main Darbar situated in



Una district of Himachal.

It is believed that one gets freedom from evil spirits and mental disorders in the court of Dera Baba Badbhaag Singh.

The famous Baba Badbhaag Singh religious place of North

India is 42 km away from Maidi Una district of Himachal.

This Holy place is the place of penance of Sodhi Saint Baba Vadbhaag Singh (1716-1762). 300 years ago, Saint Baba Vadbhaag Singh, son of Baba Ram Singh,

had immersed himself in penance here.

It is believed that one gets freedom from all evil spirits here. On this occasion Shiv Sharma, Balwant Singh, Baba Lakhdai Singh, Gopal Singh, Bhola Nath were present.

Army Chief reviews operational readiness of Vajra Corps on Western Front

Top News Report

NEW DELHI, Apr 12: Chief of the Army Staff, General Pendra Dwivedi visited the Indian Army's Vajra Corps to assess its operational preparedness along the Western borders.

He was accompanied by General Officer Commanding in Chief, Western Command. During a comprehensive briefing General Officer Commanding, Vajra Corps, updated the COAS on the prevailing security environment and the Corps' readiness posture. General Dwivedi later visited select forward locations to gain a firsthand appreciation of ground level preparations by frontline formations. The Army Chief expressed his satisfaction with the seamless synergy among the Indian Air Force, Border Security Force, Punjab Police, and other stakeholders in safeguarding both the border and the hinterland.



Commending the troops' high morale, professionalism, and unwavering dedication, he urged them to maintain the Army's exacting standards of operational excellence. General Dwivedi also encouraged all ranks to harness cutting edge technologies in line with the Army's transformation roadmap toward a modern, agile force under the national vision of Viksit Bharat – India@2047. A key highlight of the visit was the

COAS's interaction and felicitations of Veterans for their selfless service and ongoing contribution towards Nation Building.

Accompanying him, Sunita Dwivedi, President, Army Women Welfare Association (AWWA), reviewed various welfare initiatives being undertaken by Vajra Corps for the well-being of families and ex-servicemen, reflecting the Army's holistic approach towards welfare and community support.

India head coach Gautam Gambhir extends wishes to entire nation on occasion of Hanuman Jayanti

India head coach Gautam Gambhir offered prayers at the Chhatarpur Temple here in the national capital and extended wishes to the entire nation on the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti.

NEW DELHI, Apr 12 (Agencies): India head coach Gautam Gambhir offered prayers at the Chhatarpur Temple here in the national capital and extended wishes to the entire nation on the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti.

Gautam visited Chhatarpur Temple on Saturday and took part in the rituals. He extended his wishes and told reporters, "Best wishes to all the Indians on the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti. May Hanuman ji's blessings stay with everyone."

Former India opener Shikhar Dhawan also extended wishes on the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti and wrote on X, "Jinke mann mein baste hain Shri Ram, har sankat mein jo bane dhaal, woh hain humare veer Hanuman! Hanuman Jayanti ki hardik shubhkamnayein. Jai Bajrang Bali!"

Devotees across the country thronged to the temples to offer prayers on the auspicious occasion of Hanuman Jayanti.



Earlier on Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi wished the nation a happy Hanuman Jayanti.

"Best wishes to the countrymen on Hanuman Jayanti. With the blessings of Sankatmochan, may all of you always remain healthy, happy and prosperous in life; this is my wish," Prime Minister Modi posted on X.

On the cricketing front, Gambhir savoured success last month

after months of criticism, largely due to India's shambolic Test performance. India defied the odds stacked against them, rode high on stellar performances and stayed unbeaten to lift the Champions Trophy in Dubai.

India outclassed New Zealand in all facets of the game to stand triumphant with a four-wicket victory. This was India's second ICC title in a span of a year. Under former head coach

Rahul Dravid, India scripted a memorable 7-run victory against South Africa in Barbados in the T20 World Cup 2024 final.

India's Champions Trophy story of success came after a turbulent period which saw India crash out of the race for a spot in the World Test Championship final. It all began after New Zealand orchestrated a historic series whitewash in the subcontinent, which left India's road to the WTC final an intricate affair. After ending up on the wrong side of a 3-0 series defeat, India had to defy the odds in Australia with a series win.

Despite the historic win in the opening game in Perth, India's hopes of a series win faded with each passing game, and the five-match series ended with Australia reclaiming the BGT after 10 years with a 3-1 series win. India will begin its WTC 2025-27 campaign with a five-match series against England in June.

"We did not have enough runs on the board": Dhoni after losing IPL 2025 clash against KKR



CHENNAI, Apr 12 (Agencies): After losing the clash against defending champions Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025, Chennai Super Kings (CSK) stand-in skipper MS Dhoni opened up on the reason behind the team's loss in the 25th encounter of the cash-rich league.

Sunil Narine turned in a match-winning all-round performance to help the Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) return to winning ways with a commanding eight-wicket victory over Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in the Indian Premier League (IPL) at Chennai.

KKR chased down the target in just 10.1 overs. They ended at 107/2, not only sealing their third win of the season but also significantly boosting their Net Run Rate. With this victory, KKR climbed to the third spot on the points table with three wins in six games. CSK's campaign continues to falter, as they suffered their fifth consecutive loss and

remain in the ninth position in the standings. "It has been quite a few nights that have not gone our way. The challenge has been there, we have to accept the challenge. Today, I felt we did not have enough runs on the board. It has been the case over there; when we bowled in the 2nd innings, it stopped a bit. Today, it did in the first innings. When you lose too many wickets, there is pressure and with quality spinners, it is difficult. We never got any partnerships, and a bit more partnerships, application, and we would be fine. What is important is to see the conditions," MS Dhoni said in the post-match presentation.

Further, the wicketkeeper-batter said that the middle order needs to step up; if they don't, it will be difficult for the five-time champions to win the game this season. "We have done a couple of games decently well, so back your strengths and play the shots you can play. Not match to someone's else play. Our openers are good openers, play authentic cricket shots, they don't slog or look to hit across the line. It is important not to get desperate seeing the scorecard. If we start looking for 60 with our lineup, it will be very difficult for us. Get partnerships going, maybe capitalise in the middle and later overs, and if we lose wickets, the middle order has to do their job differently. And the slog will be delayed for quite a while," the 43-year-old player added.

Paddler Fan Siqui, Bernadette Szocs join rising Indian stars in UTT Season 6 Player Auction

NEW DELHI, Apr 12 (Agencies): Chinese paddler Fan Siqui, world No 13 Bernadette Szocs, Olympians Aruna Quadri and Alvaro Robles, and several rising Indian paddlers led by Junior World No 6 Ankur Bhattacharjee, will headline the Ultimate Table Tennis Season 6 player auction, set to take place in Mumbai on Tuesday.

For the first time in UTT history, team rosters will be shaped through a unique player auction, giving franchises greater control over their recruitment and strategies.

Among the 56 players in the auction pool, youngsters Diya Chitale and Yashaswini Ghorpade, India's top-ranked women's singles players, teenage sensation Syndrel Das, and former U-17 World No. 1 Payas Jain lead a group of 25 rising Indian stars under 25, who have earned their spot alongside seasoned pros like two-time champion Harmeet Desai, former winners Sathiyann Gnanasekaran, Manika Batra, Sutirtha Mukherjee, and WTT Contender Lagos 2024 winner Sreeja Akula.

All eight teams have been allotted 50 lakh virtual tokens to bid on the players, along with a one-time Right to Match (RTM) card to retain a player from the previous season by matching the final bid price. The franchise-based league will take place from May 29 to June 15 at the

EKA Arena in Ahmedabad.

Twelve of the 16 foreign paddlers to feature in the UTT Season 6 auction are Olympians. Among those returning from previous seasons are UTT Season 2 champion Adriana Diaz and Spaniard Maria Xiao.

Making their debuts are Britt Eerland, Dina Meshref, Zeng Jian, and Giorgia Piccolin. France's Lilian Bardet, who impressed in his debut last season, returns, while former UTT champion Tiago Apolonia and Kirill Gerassimenko add experience. Kanak Jha, Ricardo Walther, and Izaac Quek are entering the player pool for the first time.

Meanwhile, the Indian contingent is packed with emerging stars, including World Youth Championship medalists Taneesha Kotecha, Suhana Saini, and Sayali Wani, Asian Championships medalist Sarth Mishra, and rising talents like Jennifer Varghese, Abhinandh PB, and Deepit Patil, who are looking to go shoulder-to-shoulder with senior stalwarts.

Players will be divided into four base price categories: Pool A (11 lakh tokens), Pool B (7 lakh), Pool C (4 lakh), and Pool D (2 lakh). Bidding will follow a structured format with increments of 10,000 tokens, ensuring a competitive and strategic selection process as teams build their squads for UTT Season 6.

Vinesh Phogat to build world-class sports academy for young athletes

NEW DELHI, Apr 12 (Agencies): Former Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat has announced that she would build a world-class sports academy for young athletes with the Rs 4 crore prize money that she received from the Haryana government.

Phogat received this award under Haryana's premier sports policy, which allows medal-winning athletes to choose between a government job, a land allotment, or a cash reward. The policy grants Rs. 6 crore for an Olympic gold, Rs. 4 crore for silver, and Rs. 2.5 crore for bronze. Despite being disqualified from the women's 50kg category due to a slight weight infraction, Phogat was still awarded the cash prize equivalent to a silver medalist.

Vinesh took to his official social media



handle and announced the decision to build the sports academy.

"When a player's hard work is recognised, that is the real victory. The public has given me a lot - love, respect, trust, courage and encouragement. Now is the time to

repay the debt of all this. As a public representative, and given the struggles I have been a part of, my responsibilities are now not just towards one player but towards thousands of dreams of those who want to build their future through

sports in a safe environment. It has always been my dream to provide better facilities and a good sports environment to the next generation of players. Now that time has come. I will always be grateful for the respect and honour given to me by the entire society and the Haryana government for my performance in the Olympics," the former wrestler wrote in a post on X.

"This prize money given by the government is not just a reward--it is an opportunity, a means to realise the dream that I have been seeing for years. Therefore, this prize money will be used to establish an international-level sports academy, where young players can take their talent to new heights with the best resources. An academy where young players are not only free from lack of resources,

but also get the respect and inspiration that every hardworking player deserves. That is why I will need your support, because this is not just my dream but the dream of all of us and it is our responsibility to fulfil it," the post added.

Vinesh switched to politics after announcing her retirement from wrestling a short while after she was disqualified from the Paris Olympic Games.

In her 50-kg category weigh-in, she was found overweight by about 100 gm before the final. Vinesh was set to play for the gold medal in the final against the United States' Sarah Ann Hildebrandt.

After joining the Congress party last year, Vinesh contested the Haryana Assembly elections and is currently serving as an MLA from Juliana.

Delhi Capitals vs Mumbai Indians: Rohit faces spin test, Rahul up for Bumrah challenge

NEW DELHI, Apr 12 (Agencies): An out of sorts Rohit Sharma will strive to keep himself relevant going forward in the Indian Premier League (IPL) when he is challenged by Delhi Capitals' effective troika of spinners in Mumbai Indians' next clash here on Sunday.

As Rohit is fighting for form, MI will bank on their lethal weapon Jasprit Bumrah to deliver and ask some probing questions to KL Rahul, easily opposition's best batter on view, and other batters.

Delhi Capitals, the team to watch out for during the first quarter, will start as favourite in this game. The hosts are eyeing their fifth consecutive win while MI, under lone warrior Hardik Pandya, would want to avoid the ignominy of five defeats in six games. In IPL, just one defeat can make or break momentum and Mumbai Indians are on the cusp of having another nightmarish season after finishing at the bottom of the table in the last edition.

In times of crisis, fans expect their much-loved stars to put their hand up and contribute handsomely and Rohit needs to come out all guns blazing. He has managed only 38 runs in four matches he has played so far.

But it would be easier said than done against a Delhi attack, that has the best-performing spin unit led by skipper Axar Patel. There is peerless Kuldeep Yadav, who is ably supported by rookie Vipraj Nigam.

Kuldeep, whom former Australian skipper Michael Clarke, termed as the best bowler in the tournament so far, has finished his quota in all games, taking 8 wickets at a brilliant economy rate of less than six runs per over. Vipraj, a fine all-rounder in the making, has five wickets at an economy rate of a shade over 8 while skipper Axar has so far gone wicketless.

However against MI, the Capitals skipper might once again open the bowling against Rohit, who doesn't enjoy a match-up against left-



arm spinners or wrist spinners. If Axar brings himself on first up or gives the ball to either Kuldeep or Vipraj, it would be an interesting battle on watch.

At the same time, Rohit has enjoyed a degree of success against Mitchell Starc and what the Australian has up his sleeves will be there for everyone to see.

For MI, the failure of Rohit, Tilak Varma and vice-captain Suryakumar Yadav has proved to be a huge issue. While Tilak and Surya have enjoyed some sporadic

success, they haven't been authoritative.

The Bumrah Factor A fit-again Bumrah didn't look rusty in his first game in three months. The home top-order would have a slightly difficult challenge in terms of quality as to what they have faced till now.

Jake Fraser-McGurk has looked completely out of place but it hasn't affected the team as it hasn't chased big totals in two of the four games.

Facing Shardul Thakur, Prince Yadav, Mukesh Choudhary or Bhu-

vineshwar Kumar is very different from decoding Bumrah, easily the best fast bowler across formats in world cricket.

The Bumrah vs Rahul will be a mouth-watering contest where a supreme artist will try to outwit a technician par excellence with a wide range of strokes in his repertoire.

"Pitching it right It will be Delhi Capitals' first game at home this season. They have played two matches at Visakhapatnam which is a "second home" for the franchise because

co-owners GMR have business interest in the region. The tracks at Kotla have undergone a sea change in last couple of seasons with plenty of runs on offer. The current DC team management, comprising head coach Hemang Badani and Director of Cricket Venugopal Rao, would probably won't want such a pitch. It can't be confirmed whether the coaching staff has requested for a slightly tacky track where the ball grips, making it a low-scoring affair.

James Anderson to receive Knighthood for remarkable England career



LONDON, Apr 12 (Agencies): Legendary fast bowler James Anderson is set to be knighted in recognition of his outstanding 21-year career with England. His name appeared on the resignation honours list of former UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, as per ESPNcricinfo.

The 42-year-old retired from international cricket in 2024 after claiming 704 Test wickets--the most by an English bowler and the most by any fast bowler in history. He played 188 Tests, ending his England career with a final match against the West Indies at Lord's in July 2024. His journey began at the same ground back in May 2003, when he made his debut against Zimbabwe.

Although Anderson hasn't played white-ball cricket for England since 2015, he still holds the national record for most wickets in ODIs (269) and also took 18 wickets in T20Is, finishing just nine short of 1,000 international wickets.

Despite retiring from England duty, Anderson hasn't fully stepped away from the game. He is recovering from a calf injury and plans to play domes-

tic cricket for Lancashire this summer, much like Alastair Cook, who kept playing for Essex after receiving his knighthood in 2019.

Richard Thompson, the ECB chair said, "Congratulations Sir Jimmy Anderson. This is a really well-deserved honour for an England legend who has given so much to our sport," as quoted from ESPNcricinfo.

"Jimmy's career has been marked by extraordinary achievements, not least in winning the Ashes four times and becoming England's all-time leading wicket-taker. His skill, determination, and sportsmanship have inspired millions of cricketers and fans alike, in England and around the world," he added.

"This is fitting recognition for a true world-great who has given so much to the game on and off the field," he noted.

Rishi Sunak, who was also a cricket enthusiast, had once faced Anderson in the nets at The Oval while announcing funding for grassroots cricket. Sunak's honours list includes five other knighthoods, mostly for his former cabinet members, and also includes filmmaker Matthew Vaughn.

The knighthood for Anderson had been expected since his retirement. Former England captain Andrew Strauss, who himself was knighted in 2019, had earlier said that Anderson's achievements made him very deserving of the honour.

"Very much so!" Strauss said, as quoted from ESPNcricinfo.

"I think any fast bowler that plays 188 Test matches deserves a knighthood, I'll put it that way," he added.

Commander NCC Group Headquarter Jammu visits SMVDU

Top News Report

KATRA, Apr 12: Brigadier D. N. Pandey, Commander, NCC Group Headquarter, Jammu, visited Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) to review and interact with the NCC cadets of the university.

He was accompanied by the Col. Sumit Bana, Commanding Officer of 6 J&K Battalion NCC, who also took part in the campus visit and interaction sessions.

During the visit, Brig. Pandey was presented with a detailed overview of the various NCC activities undertaken by the cadets at SMVDU.



The cadets showcased their participation in numerous events including awareness campaigns, adventure activities, and commu-

nity service initiatives. The Group Commander appreciated the discipline, enthusiasm, and commitment displayed by the cadets.

Brig. Pandey and the Commanding Officer also held a meeting with Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of SMVDU. The discussion

focused on enhancing NCC engagement and expanding opportunities for cadet development within the university framework.

The Vice Chancellor expressed his appreciation for the role of NCC in character-building and assured continued institutional support.

The visit was coordinated by Dr. Varun Dutta, NCC Coordinator, SMVDU. Dr. Dutta provided an in-depth briefing on the structured implementation of NCC activities. The presence of senior NCC officials served as a great source of motivation for the cadets.

APSCC hopes festival of Baisakhi would be harbinger of peace, prosperity



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 12: Expressing joy and happiness over the festival of Baisakhi the All Parties Sikh Coordination Committee (APSCC) has expressed hope that the festival of Baisakhi would be harbinger of peace and prosperity in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

In his message APSCC Chairman Jagmohan Singh Raina said that a festive like Baisakhi brings about happiness and joy among the people. Raina said such festive occasions provide a chance to the people of different communities to come close to each other while exchanging pleasantries.

"For Sikhs, Baisakhi is celebrated as the day of the creation of the Khalsa Panth. Baisakhi is really a sacred and pious day for the community and the community especially the youth should follow the path shown by Guru Gobind Singh for peace and development," said Raina.

The APSCC Chairman said that every household of Sikh community celebrates Baisakhi day in nearby Gurudwaras.

"I appeal to the sikh community on this auspicious day to remain united and calm for redressal of our long pending issues by the government and pray that our issues dont last for long", Raina said.

The other APSCC leaders who extended greetings include Ajit Singh Mastana, Principal Niranjan Singh, Kanwal Kashmiri, Navtej Singh, Sandeep Singh, Eng. Jetinder Singh, Dr. Rekhi Singh, D.P Singh, Davinder Singh, Sant Singh, Gurdayal Singh, Manjeet Singh and others.

Raina regretted that the successive governments of Jammu and Kashmir have not taken the festival of Baisakhi seriously even though it is very important for the Sikh community.

He said that glaring issues like neglect of Punjabi language, unemployment and relatively less attention to the celebrations and festivals of sikh community are haunting the people.

Wellwa Launches Water Ionizer in J&K

'Wellwa Life India showcases ionized alkaline water solutions for better health'



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: Wellwa Life India, a company specializing in water ionizers, showcased its latest products and their health benefits during a press conference held here today.

The event marked the official launch of Wellwa's operations in Jammu & Kashmir. Jaidev Rajwal, Marketing Head of Wellwa, provided an in-depth overview of the company, its innovative products, and its pan-India operations. In the inaugural address, Dalip Kumar and Anil Kumar, along with other distributors, welcomed Rajwal and extended their support to Wellwa's expansion

in the region. While addressing the press, Rajwal emphasized the critical role of ionized alkaline water in promoting a healthy lifestyle.

He explained that ideal drinking water should possess four essential properties: natural alkalinity, antioxidant potential, hydrogen richness, and micro-clustered structure.

"If your drinking water has these properties, you are consuming healthy water," Rajwal said.

"Such water can detoxify the body, act as a powerful antioxidant, aid in weight loss, improve hydration, boost the immune system, support digestion and liver function, slow down aging,

balance the body's pH levels, and help combat serious health issues such as cancer, diabetes, blood pressure, and heart problems."

He cautioned that consuming water lacking these beneficial qualities could increase the risk of various health problems.

To raise public awareness about the importance of ionized water, Wellwa plans to conduct Water and Health Awareness Programs across Jammu & Kashmir in the coming months.

Speaking about the product, Rajwal added, "Wellwa offers premium-quality ionizers featuring the latest technology. Our products are chemical-free, energy-

efficient, low-maintenance, and competitively priced.

In pH calibration, a 5-inch smart touch screen, and an extensive warranty of 1+4 years, supported by

strong service and delivery networks across India."

The event was attended by prominent distributors and stakeholders including Riyaz Ahmed, Kuldeep Kumar, Ghansham Sharma, Munish Gupta, Om Narain Sharma, Surinder Sharma, and others.

DFSS holds protest against attack on police personnel

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: The Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS), under the leadership of their President Ashok Gupta, organized a massive protest in Jammu city, condemning the brutal attack on police personnel and the growing drug menace plaguing the region.

Speaking at the rally, Gupta expressed grave concern over the alarming rise in drug addiction, calling it a "ticking time bomb" that is dismantling families and destroying the lives of the region's youth. "These drug peddlers have become so emboldened that they now attack our police without fear,"

he said. "This is a dangerous sign. The fear of law must return, and a strong message must be sent."

He further emphasized that drug offenders must not be granted bail, especially repeat offenders. "Once released, they return to their trade, further ruining the lives of innocent youth," he warned, demanding stricter laws and uncompromising enforcement.

The Balole Khad area, once a serene riverside stretch, has tragically evolved into an infamous drug hotspot, now linked with 6 to 7

drug-related deaths in the past month alone. As part of a massive crackdown, Samba Police recently arrested 60 to 70 drug peddlers, who have since been transferred to Kathua Jail, marking a significant step in breaking the drug chain operating in the area.

Despite the attack, Ashok Gupta praised the efforts of Jammu and Kashmir Police, acknowledging the sting operations led under the guidance of DGP, IGP, and DIG, which have led to numerous arrests in recent months. "Their commitment is laud-



able. They are risking their lives for the safety of our children," he stated.

However, he warned that such violent incidents highlight the fearlessness of drug peddlers and the need for a harsher stance. "This is not just a law and order issue - it is a war for our future," Gupta

concluded. Prominent members who stood in solidarity during the protest included Abhishek, Ganesh, Bantu, Prem, Vikky, Kalu, Naresh, Ashish, and many others from the Dogra Front and Shiv Sena, showing a united front in the face of this growing menace.

DBPS to celebrate Bhagwan Shri Parshuram Jayanti by organizing series of events from April 20

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 12: Dogra Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha (DBPS) is going to celebrate Bhagwan Shri Parshuram Jayanti by organizing a series of functions and events on April 20, 24, 27, 29 and 30 at Sabha Bhawan with fervor and enthusiasm.

While interacting with media persons here on Saturday, President of the DBPS, Ved Parkash Sharma gave details of the celebrations in connection with Bhagwan Shri Parshuram Jayanti falling on April 29, 2025. Sharma disclosed that the series of events will begin with a free medical camp by Dr Sushil Sharma, HoD Cardiology Super Specialty Jammu on April 20, 2025 in the premises of the Sabha at 11 AM.

Dr. Rakesh Sharma Orthopaedician of Nirmya Hospital Udhewyala Jammu is also scheduled & conduct Medical checkup of the patients related bones and joints diseases. Whosoever is desirous for medical check-up, he/she is advised to register his/her name at Brahman Sabha Parade Jammu, he added.



On 24th of April 2025 a debate competition based on teachings of Bhagwan Parsuram will also be organized in which students of various school will participate it.

"On April 27th Shobha Yatra would be take out at 10:30 AM. The shobha yatra will start from Brahman Sabha Parade Jammu enroute Moti Bazar, Pacca Danga, Chowk Chabutra, Jain Bazar, Link Road, Purani Mandi, City Chowk, Kanak Mandi, Rajinder Bazar, Raghunath Bazar & Shalamar etc and culminate at Chanakya Chowk Parade in which various religious organizations are participating," informed Ved Parkash Sharma and added

that the religious function would be organized on 29 April, the day of Bhagwan Parshuram Jayanti, at 9 A.M, beside Yago Paveet programme will also be held on 30th April 2025 in the premises of Sabha at 8 A.M onward.

Chairman of DBPS Advocate P.C Sharma disclosed that the Jayanti is also being celebrated at District/Tehsil level across Jammu region in which people from all walks of life are expected to take part.

Sabha will also hold Bhandara at 2 pm on April 27, 2025.

"We appeal all Biradaries and other communities to attend and participate in the function and get the blessing of Shri Bhag-

wan Parshuram Ji," said the DBPS president.

Pt V.M. Magotra, N C Sharma, M L Sharma, Advocate Chander Mohan Sharma, Satyanand Sharma, Subash Shastri Spokeperson (DBPS), Soujanya Sharma, Rajesh Sharma, M L Padha, Shiv Ram Sharma, Ritiz Khajuria, Jagan Nath Sharma, K L Sharma, B S Jamwal, Davinder Sharma (Baboo), S S Baru, Barita Ram Sharma, Gurdass Sharma, Sat Paul Sharma, Raman Sharma, Rajesh Bargarota, Prem Balotra, Ramesh Sharma, Tarun Sharma, Bubesh Thappa, Sunil Sharma and others were also present in the press conference.

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