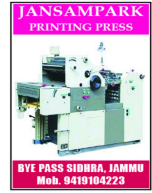


# JINDRAH IMAGES



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## Five soldiers killed in gunfight with terrorists in Rajouri



J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 5

Five soldiers were killed in a gunfight between terrorists and security forces in the Kandi area of Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, officials said on Friday.

"In the ongoing operation in Rajouri sector, three soldiers who were critically injured in the morning have unfortunately

subsequently succumbed to their injuries. The operation is still in progress," the Army said.

Earlier, the Army said the terrorists triggered an explosive device in retaliation. The Army team suffered two fatal casualties with injuries to four more soldiers, including an officer.

"On specific information about the presence of terrorists in the

Kandi Forest in Rajouri Sector, a joint operation was launched on 03 May 2023. At about 0730 hours on 05 May 2023, a search team established contact with a group of terrorists well entrenched in a cave. The area is thickly vegetated with rocky and steep cliffs.

"Additional teams from the vicinity have been directed to the site of

### J&K political leaders outraged over killing of soldiers in Rajouri

J1NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 5

Political parties in Jammu & Kashmir on Friday expressed outrage over the killing of five soldiers in a blast in Rajouri district, saying their sacrifice for the nation will not be forgotten.

As per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), condemning the attack, former chief minister Omar Abdullah said terror is a scourge that has blighted numerous lives over the decades in J&K.

In a tweet, he wrote, "Tragic news from Rajouri where 5 Army personnel have laid down their lives in the line of duty. Terror is a scourge

encounter.

"As per initial reports, a group of terrorists are trapped in the area. There is a likelihood of casualties in terrorist's group. The operation is in progress," the Army said. The Indian Army

## Congress nurtured and gave shelter to terror for the sake of vote bank politics: PM Modi

AGENCIES  
BALLARI (KARNATAKA), MAY 5

Mounting a fresh attack on the Congress, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday alleged that for the sake of vote bank politics, it has nurtured, given shelter and surrendered before terror.

He said the movie 'The Kerala Story' is said to be a work based on the terrorists' deceitful policies and conspiracies in just one state, and accused the Congress of indulging in backdoor political bargaining with people having terror inclinations.



"To make Karnataka number one state in the country, law and order is important. Karnataka remaining free from terror is equally important. BJP has always been harsh against terror. But whenever there is action against terror Congress will get a

stomach ache," Modi said.

Addressing a public meeting here ahead of the May 10 Assembly polls in the state, Modi said today the whole world is worried about the danger of terror and that India too has on several occasions suffered due to it. The country has lost a large number of innocent civilians due to terror attacks.

"Terrorism is anti-humanity, anti-human values and anti-development. I am surprised that for the sake of its vote bank, Congress has surrendered before

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## All minority employees association Kashmir calls on LG Manoj Sinha

J1NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 5

A delegation of All Minority Employees Association, Kashmir called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today at Raj Bhowan.

The delegation headed by its President Sanjay Koul projected various issues of employees of minority community under PMDP and other employment schemes,



who are working in Kashmir division.

The members of the delegation also expressed gratitude to the Lt Governor led UT administration for promptly resolving many of the issues of

the minority community employees.

The Lt Governor assured the delegation of appropriate redressal of the genuine issues and demands projected during the interaction.

## Article 370 is history, Wake up and smell the coffee: Jaishankar on Bilawal Bhutto's J&K remark



AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, MAY 5

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar rapped his Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari for raking the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir and blaming it as the reason behind the fallout between New Delhi and Islamabad.

"Article 370 is history. Wake up and smell the coffee," Jaishankar said while addressing the press after the conclusion of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting in Goa.

**We have to take disengagement process forward: Jaishankar on eastern Ladakh Border row**

AGENCIES  
BENALULIM (GOA), MAY 5

The relations between India and China cannot be normal if peace and tranquillity in border areas are disturbed, External Affairs Minister S

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## Northern Army Commander visits RoBs in Kishtwar, Rajouri reviews troops' operational preparedness

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 5

Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi visited troops at remote operating bases (RoBs) in Rajouri and Kishtwar districts of Jammu and Kashmir and reviewed the security situation and operational preparedness of troops, officials said on Friday.

This is the second visit of Lt Gen Dwivedi to the Rajouri sector to review the operational preparedness of troops after the April 20 terror attack in which five soldiers were killed in Bhatta Dhurian in Poonch.

Earlier, Lt Gen Dwivedi had visited Rajouri on April 26 and the attack site at Bhatta Dhurian on April 22.

Apart from reviewing



operational preparedness on Thursday, he reviewed the security situation and commended the troops for their sustained efforts in dominating the area, they said.

The search operation to track down terrorists responsible for killings has been going on for the past 15th day.

More than 230 people were picked up for questioning in connection with the terror attack with most of them being let off, they said.

A six-person module has been busted which gave full support to terrorists involved in the killings of five jawans, the officials said, adding they have been arrested.

## Northern Army Commander pays tribute to technician killed in chopper crash

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 5

Northern Army Commander Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi paid rich tributes to aviation technician who succumbed to his injuries on Thursday after the "hard landing" crash of the Army helicopter in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district.

An Army Aviation ALH Dhruv helicopter on an operational mission crashed while making a 'precautionary landing' on the banks of Marua River in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar, officials said on Thursday. As per the



statement, there were two pilots and a technician on board. The condition of two injured pilots was reported to be stable.

"Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi, Army Cdr NC & All Ranks Northern Command offer tribute to supreme sacrifice of CFN

(Avn Tech) Pabballa Anil, in the line of duty during Operational flying of ALH MK III near #Kishtwar #JammuKashmir & offer deepest condolences to the bereaved family," the official Twitter account of Northern Command of the Indian Army posted.

## AIIMS Jammu to be dedicated to public by Oct this year

J1NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 5

During a review of the progress of works on all the newly established Medical Colleges across J&K besides the ongoing work on the two All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) being established at Vijaypur (Jammu) and Awantipora (Kashmir) here with Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, it was stated that all five Medical colleges approved during phase one shall be completed before end of the financial year.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, Health; MD, JKPC; Chief Engineers of PWD Kash-



mir/Jammu besides other concerned officers.

It was emphasized that the academic and medical activities at these colleges should not get affected in any way.

The progress of two new Medical Colleges being established at Udhampur and Hand-

war (Kupwara) was also discussed. It was stressed that necessary steps be completed for starting academic activities there.

The meeting was informed that the Academic, Administrative and Hostel blocks at all the earlier sanctioned 05 Medical Colleges are nearing completion and only few minor works are under progress to be completed at an earliest.

It was further added that the work on Udhampur College has been taken in hand recently and the tenders for Handwara College have been opened and contract would be awarded soon.

Moreover it was added that with the operationalization of these 05

New Medical Colleges in Phase-I, the intake capacity of MBBS seats in the UT has increased from 500 to 1100 seats annually. The intake capacity is expected to further increase to 1300 MBBS seats this year with the start of academic session in GMC Udhampur and Handwara sanctioned under Phase-II of Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Establishment of Medical Colleges. The Letter of Permission (LoP) has been received in favour of GMC Udhampur and Handwara for 100 MBBS seats each recently from the National Medical Commission. Additionally, two new AIIMS at Vijaypur and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## J&K Bank records highest-ever net annual profit of Rs 1,197 crore



J1NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 5

Jammu and Kashmir Bank has announced its highest-ever net annual profit of Rs 1,197 crore in the results for the financial year 2022-23.

With a decade-high capital adequacy ratio of

15.39 per cent and NPAs at an eight-year low of 6.04 per cent, the bank also recorded its highest-ever quarterly profit of Rs 476 crore in the last quarter.

"Jammu and Kashmir Bank has recorded Rs 1,197 crore as net profit for FY 2022-23 which

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## COVID-19 no longer a global emergency: WHO

AGENCIES  
GENEVA, MAY 5

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has announced that Covid-19 pandemic is over as a global health emergency.

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO, made the announcement while addressing a media briefing on Covid-19 and global health issues.

"It is therefore with great hope that I declare 'Covid-19 over as a global health emergency. However, that does not mean Covid-19 is over as a global health threat. Last week, Covid-19 claimed a life every three minutes - and that's just the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

# J&K Social Welfare Deptt grants Rs 10 lakh aid to Jammu unit of SOS Children's Village India

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: The J&K Social Welfare department has provided a grant of rupees 10 Lakh to SOS Children's Village of India, the largest self-implementing NGO for child-care in the country. This grant will be utilised to enhance the well-being of the children living at SOS Children's Village Jammu, encompassing their educational, nutritional and healthcare requirements.

Speaking about the grant, Mr. Sumanta Kar, Secretary General, SOS Children's Villages of India, stated, "With the help of the grant received for Children's Village at Jammu, expenditures including education, food, clothing, and other amenities will be covered, ensuring fundamental needs of each child is fulfilled. It is a significant contribution towards the betterment of the lives of children in need. SOS Children's Village Jammu is dedicated to providing a loving home and a bright future for vulnerable children. Our aim is to make a safe and nurturing environment accessible for all the children who have lost or are at risk of losing parental care. I am



grateful to the Social Welfare Department of Jammu for providing us with such a generous grant which will go a long way in supporting this noble cause." At present, over 119 children are being supported at 12 family homes and 3 youth homes under the Family Like Care programme at SOS Children's Village Jammu, ensuring each child receives family

like care, love, and holistic development till the time they become self-reliant. The grant announced by the Social Welfare Department, Jammu will be utilised towards providing essential amenities to the children at SOS Children's Village Jammu, ensuring they receive a safe and nurturing environment. Established in 1964, SOS Children's Villages of India provides children without parental care or at the risk of losing it, a value chain of quality care services that goes beyond childcare alone, ensuring comprehensive child development. Our customized care interventions such as: Family Like Care, Family Strengthening, Kinship Care, Short Stay Homes, Foster Care, Youth Skilling, Emergency Childcare and Special Needs Childcare are aimed at transforming lives and enabling children under care into self-reliant and contributing members of society. The organization empowers vulnerable families in communities to become financially independent, thereby enabling them to create safe and nurturing spaces for children under their care. Today, over 6,500 children live in more than 440 family homes, inside 31 SOS Children's Villages of India, in 22 States/UTs, from Srinagar to Pune, and Bhuj to Shillong. They are lovingly cared for and nurtured by over 600 SOS Mothers and Aunts. As India's largest self-implementing childcare NGO, SOS Children's Villages India directly touches the lives of around 45,000 children every year.

# BJP All Cells to celebrate 9 years of Modi rule: Rakesh Mahajan

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: Rakesh Mahajan, Incharge All Cells BJP J&K on Friday announced plan to hold month-long celebrations starting May 15 to mark the completion of nine years of BJP Government led by PM Narendra Modi at the Centre.

At the outset of the meeting, Ved Prakash, Co Incharge All Cells, presented a welcome address and gave the introduction of the meeting.

In the meeting, S.K Sharma, Professional Cell; Rajesh Thapa, Convener Legal Cell; Neejarj Anand Convener Industry Cell; Ravi Baikshi, Convener Tourism Cell; Ashu Mahajan, Convener Transport Cell; Col Retd Gurbaksh Singh, Convener Ex-Serviceman Cell; Jai Singh Manhas, Convener Border Cell; Vasant Raj Thakur, Convener VDC Cell; Kulbeer Singh, Convener Sanskriti Cell; J D Singh,



Convener Senior Citizen Cell and Sanjeev Sharma, Convener Co operative Cell were present. Chairing a meeting of BJP All Cells, Rakesh said that BJP All Cells is going to observe month-long celebrations from May 15 to June 15, 2023 in connection with completion of nine years of Modi Government at the Centre. He said that during the celebrations several programmes will be organized at various places across the region. Rakesh said that several

union ministers and top leadership of the party are also likely to be a part of these events. He said that the tenure of "Modi Government" so far remained phenomenal as several historical steps were taken by the BJP leadership with abrogation of Article 370 being the most momentous one as this has led to peace and development in J&K and also befitting response to the rogue nation Pakistan. "Of course, this was the master stroke of Modi

Government which changed the course of life of people in J&K as peace has replaced turmoil and development the destruction", he said asking the party cadre to disseminate this information among the masses so that BJP reclaim majority in all the ensuing political battles because BJP in power means India becoming more powerful. During the meeting, threadbare discussions were also held with regard to strengthening All Cells of the party.

# Attitude of Commercial Taxes (GST) Deptt is not Acceptable: Jammu Traders



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: Furious over the atrocious attitude of Commercial Taxes(GST) Department Officials, the business community under the banner of Traders Federation Ware House-Nehru Market (Regd.) Jammu has warned the UT Govt. of serious consequences in case the authorities of the GST department would not mend its ways. Protesting strongly over the attitude of GST department officials, the Federation has threatened to come on roads in case the govt. fails to check the malicious attitude of the concerned authorities.

While launching a scathing attack on the authorities, the Federation President, Deepak Gupta lambasted the government for not tightening the

noose of GST department officials who are creating hurdles in their trading activities least caring about the losses being incurred to them due to Covid-19 pandemic and Lockdown. Deepak Gupta while addressing a press conference on Friday in the presence of Yashpal Gupta, President Retailers Federation, Anoop Mittal, President Kanak Mandi Traders Association, Prishvi Gupta, Former General Secretary Chamber of Commerce and Industry Jammu and Sham Lal Gupta, Former Sr. Vice President Traders Federation Ware House-Nehru Market (Regd.) Jammu, alleged that GST deptt. Officials are hell bent to damage their business interests by putting Nakas at Various places enroute from Lakhnampur to

Banihal and harassing the members of trading community by resorting to undue checking of their vehicles carrying goods from Lakhnampur to Banihal. He termed this whole process as useless because whatever material they are bringing from outside, has already been checked by the GST department at Lakhnampur and they fulfilled all the formalities by submitting GST through e-way bill. Hence there is no need to further check their vehicles by the authorities. By doing so they are just resorting to harassment of the traders.

Yashpal Gupta, President Retailers Federation expressed concern over the behavior of GST deptt. officials who instead of providing a feasible atmosphere for busi-

ness, have resorted to undue interference in their working, posing serious blow to their business which is already in doldrums due to instability in the market.

Anoop Mittal, President Kanak Mandi Traders Association assailed the GST department officials for creating nuisance in the working of trading community in Jammu who are under hard pressed conditions due to instability. He said the traders have suffered heavy losses in the last few years. Now this time they were expecting good business turnover but the way the officials are treating the members of Trading Community, there is no doubt that this year, they have to undergo the same fate as was in the last few years.

All Trade leaders appealed to the Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Sh. Manoj Sinha to kindly come forward to rescue the trading community of Jammu and implement ease of doing business on ground.

Munish Mahajan, Sr. Vice President, Abhimanyu Gupta, Vice President, Sham Langer, General Secretary, Vishal Gupta, Secretary and Amit Gupta, Cashier of Traders Federation Ware House-Nehru Market (Regd.) Jammu also remained present on the occasion.

# Shiv Sena launches countrywide movement for free registration, toll waiver for Amarnath Yatris



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) leaders today took out a peace march from CPO Chowk to Raj Bhawan in Jammu seeking free registration of Amarnath Yatra starting from 1st July.

Headed by Manish Sahni, scores of party workers and leaders of other Hindu organizations gathered at CPO Chowk, Jammu and took out a peace march towards Raj Bhawan Jammu. The protesters raised slogans "free Amarnath yatra registration", "toll exemption for devotees and Langar service vehicles", and the Himshevling safe for Darshan. Sahni demanded free registration for Shri Amarnath Yatris, toll exemption for devotees coming by road and vehicles providing Langar service, including offering Darshan to the

holy Himshevling during the yatra period.

He said memorandums have been submitted to the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, who is also the Chairman of the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board, along with Home Minister Amit Shah and the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir. Despite all this there was no positive response received from anywhere. "We belong to a country where subsidy was given for religious pilgrimages. Registration on Amarnath Yatra in 2019 was just Rs 50 which has been increased to Rs 220/120," he said, adding that it cannot be tolerated.

Sahni said that government encroachment on religious places of Hindus has become mere profit making. He said that the collection in the name of registration of religious visits of Hindus in a Hindu-majority country

reminds of Jaziya of Mughal period. He said that if there is no positive response from the government, Shiv Sena will stage a Dharna at the Jantra Mantra in Delhi.

Sahni said that if the BJP government sitting at the Centre does not take an immediate decision in favor of the above demands, then it should give-up the claim of being a Hinduist.

Representatives of various social organizations including Thakur Hosivnar Singh Karni Sena, Col Pathania Sainik Samaj Party, All United Party, socialist Satish Poonchi, and others joined the peace march in Jammu and supported the demand of Shiv Sena.

Similarly, the same peace march was also conducted in Sopore of Kashmir regarding the above demands. The demonstration was led by Party Working President Abdul Rashid in Sopore, Kashmir in which Shiv Sainiks along with local Muslim brothers participated.

Shiv Sena units across the country including Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Himachal, Bihar, UP, Karnataka, Assam have staged sit-in demonstrations on the above demands. Many leaders and workers including President Women's Wing Meenakshi Chhibber, General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, President Kamgar Raj Singh, Vice President Sanjeev Kohli, Jatindra Arora, Mangru Ram, President Udhampur Sanjeev Sharma, Geeta Lakhotra, Dimple were present on the occasion.

# CollegeDekho launches Career Compass - Free test to help students make informed career choices

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: CollegeDekho, India's largest and most trusted higher education ecosystem, has unveiled its latest innovation - Career Compass. Keeping in line with the company's student-first approach, Career Compass is a free tool designed to end students' anxiety by recommending career streams based on individual personality traits. The offering is powered by a psychometric test based on the globally accepted Holland Personality Traits Test, which allows students to gain greater insight into their career interests whilst unearthing dormant skills and identifying potential

career paths. The Career Compass test identifies the top three personality traits through a technology tool developed in-house by CollegeDekho. Created specifically for Bharat, it is a simple test that takes only three to five minutes to complete and is available in English, Hindi, Telugu, Marathi, Bengali and Gujarati to aid students in making more informed career choices. CollegeDekho plans to launch this test in more languages in the future. Each student's free personalised Career Compass report is based on their responses to the sixty questions in the test that is devoid of any right or wrong answers. The report includes helpful information such as potential career paths, work environment preferences, and even job suggestions. Students will also get free customised guidance from CollegeDekho's highly experienced and trained counsellors based on the report and student requirements, for no cost.

The company's website provides students with access to useful information about their career choices. CollegeDekho also won awards for the 'Best Edtech Company of the Year' and 'Best Enrollment and Admissions Platform of the Year' at the recently concluded 3rd Technology Excellence Awards 2023 and Education Innovation Summit and Awards 2023, respectively.

Founder, Ruchir Arora said, "We are proud to launch CollegeDekho Career Compass, which is designed to help our students discover a career direction and receive free guidance for college admissions. We believe this feature will be of immense help to the student community, especially those that have just completed their class 12th and are confused about their career choices." CollegeDekho also won awards for the 'Best Edtech Company of the Year' and 'Best Enrollment and Admissions Platform of the Year' at the recently concluded 3rd Technology Excellence Awards 2023 and Education Innovation Summit and Awards 2023, respectively.

# Will spread awareness about Hinduism to prevent 'conversion': Rajesh Kesri

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K Chief P. Rajesh Kesri today said that HSS activists will raise awareness about Hindu religion and culture in order to stop groups and agencies working for the conversion of Hindus. This was stated by Kesri while interacting with villagers of Madola after complaints of religious conversions in border villages by tricking and luring them with money. Cautioning that there are various organizations and agencies that are involved in conversion of Hindus to other religions, Kesri asked volunteers to spread awareness about their own religion and cul-

ture and strongly protest those involved in such anti-national activities.

Stressing on development of villages which are the base of the economy and culture, Kesri said that focus should be to develop villages across the country. He also emphasized on the importance of cows, calling for a 'cow-centred' village economy. Several attempts have been going on since long to convert Hindus into other religions but failed to gain anything as our roots remained strong thanks to the efforts of our ancestors, Kesri said. So, the society should understand that deceit. We have to strengthen the faith," he said. Deceptive people raise some questions about

religion to waver the faith, he said, adding, "Our society never faced such people earlier so people get skeptical. We have to remove this weakness, added Kesri."

There have been many incidents in recent days that have drawn attention towards the issue of religious conversion in border areas using foreign money and anti-India propaganda by organizations and their interference in our internal affairs. Religious conversion leads to separatism. Conversion separates one from the roots. Hence, we should strive to stop religious conversion," Kesri said. "If we want India to remain as India, we have to be what we are or else India will not remain India.

Hence, we have to ensure that 'Dharma' should pervade all over," he added.

Kesri emphasized upon focusing on Indian culture such as respecting the elders and treating women with dignity. "Modern way of teaching imparts education but it distances from culture. If we have to strengthen culture and commitment, then we have to associate ourselves with some form of worshipping, which the seers alone can do," Kesri said.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Balveer Kumar, Vijay Kumar, Raj Kumar, Labba Baba, Sanjeev Kumar, Darshana Devi, Jyoti Devi, Rajni Devi, Ujjagar Singh, Lata Singh.

## Sham Lal pays obeisance at Bawa Kailakh Dev Temple, prays for peace & prosperity of J&K



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: Senior BJP leader and former minister Sham Lal Sharma today called for a united effort for harmonious growth of the society, saying that the bonds of amity and brotherhood need to be further strengthened to make this world a better place to live in.

The senior BJP leader was speaking at the annual congregation of Fawa

Mahajan Biradari at Bawa Kailakh Dev Temple, Thattar Bantabal, Jammu. On the occasion, State BJP Swachh Bharat Abhiyan Coordinator Dil Bahadur Singh, Councillor JMC, Kuldeep Singh, Chairman Fawa Mahajan Sabha Shiv Gupta, President Pawan Gupta, Vice President Satish Gupta, Treasurer Vijay Gupta, Shakti Dutt and Dev Raj accompanied the former minister.

Sham Lal Sharma prayed

to Bawa Kailakh Dev for the peace and prosperity of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory. He said that religious tourism has a great potential in Jammu and Kashmir and it was one of the major contributors to the Union Territory's economy. He said that there is dire need to bring Baba Jitro Shrine and Bawa Kailakh Dev Temple on the tourism map of Jammu as both the places have the potential to boost the reli-

gious tourism in the Union Territory.

Sham Lal Sharma said that promotion of harmonious society holds the key to creating an enabling environment for peace and progress of mankind. He said that the congregation being held at the iconic place of Bawa Kailakh Dev Temple reminds of the glorious ethos of Dogras, who are the proud inheritors of great cultural heritage.

Sham Lal said social justice, compassion, amity and peace has been the sole motivation of the saints and sages who have blessed the greatest civilization across the country in general and Jammu in particular. Their message of peace and tranquility has to be imbibed in letter and spirit for bequeathing it to the posterity to make this world a better place to live in, he added.

The former minister called for strengthening the bonds and brotherhood, saying this has been the cornerstone of Jammu's glorious ethos.

## Tony, Kundal seek 'Vote and Support' for Rinku to make AAP stronger to serve people of Punjab

J I NEWS SERVICE

NAKODAR, MAY 5: Taranjit Singh Tony, Chairman Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Jammu and Kashmir for Administrative Engagement and Minority Affairs, and DDC Member Suchetgarh while appealing to the people in Punjab to vote and support AAP candidate Sushel Kumar Rinku in the upcoming Parliamentary poll has asserted that AAP has proved that it is the only Party in India which delivers whatever it promises whether prior to polls or while in governance and people fully realize that it is the common man's party in letter and spirit.

The senior AAP leader accompanied by Yashpal Kundal from Jammu and local AAP MLA Charanjit Singh expressed this during a meeting as part of election campaign for AAP candidate Sushel Kumar Rinku at Village Bilga near Nakodar here today. Both AAP leaders from Jammu also participated in an awareness march conducted by AAP Punjab Unit for highlighting the achievements of Bhagwant Maan Govt. Prominent among others accompanying



Taranjit Singh Tony and Yashpal Kundal were Mandeep Choudhary and Atri. Taranjit Singh Tony while elaborating on the promises made by AAP and fulfilling these said that unlike the rest of the parties including the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Akali Dal who have done only Jumlabandhi till date, AAP has practically delivered on ground by providing free education, free water, free power and free health services at their door under its governance. He lamented that all the parties except AAP only exploited the people to the

hilt just for securing their vote bank interest by making false promises and beforsing the people.

Tony vociferously asserted that as of today there is only one politician who is serving the people of this nation with truth and honesty in words as well as deeds and that is our senior-most party leader Arvind Kejriwal. He added that Kejriwal instead of making promises guarantees the people the delivery of good governance and services at their door step. He said that it is because of such policies of Kejriwal nobody repents or feels cheated after voting

for AAP candidates. On the contrary by voting for candidates of other parties the voters have to ultimately cut a sorry figure and keep repenting till the next election.

The AAP leader from Jammu Yashpal Kundal also appealed to the people to vote for AAP candidate Sushel Kumar Rinku in the elections to make the party stronger to serve the people of Punjab by addressing pressing issues of the people of Punjab.

Earlier, Vicky Pathiawan, District Vice President of Akali Dal joined the AAP due to pro people policies of Kejriwal Govt.

## JKMEF highlights prevailing situation in Health Department

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: Jammu Kashmir Medical Employees Federation under the Presidency of Sh. Sushil Sudan held Press Conference to high light the prevailing situation in Health Department which created mess among health employees.

Federation also urged to Government to consider the following demands at the earliest in the best interest of Public and Employees.

The post of Director Health Services is lying vacant from 1st April 2023 after the retirement of Dr. Saleem Ur Rehman. Due to non availability of Director Health Services and Director Family Welfare lot of work are lying pending in both the wings of Health department. Public as well as Employees are wondering Pillar to post for their genuine work. It is first time in history after independence that such a Decorative post are kept vacant for prolong time. Many employees are waiting for their transfer for which the portal has been



closed on 01/04/2023 and federation request the Government to keep this portal open till the post of Director Health Service is not filled. Number of files of Health employees and public are waiting the nod of Director Health for terminal ill patients who are waiting to get their treatment of Kidney/Liver Transplant from higher institute. Release Salary of FMPHW- The salary of FMPHW- is pending from last six month and they are persistently demanding for release of Salary. Despite of

repeated request to Government the issue of pending salary is not resolved till date. Many EMPHW now on Life Long treatment and at the mercy of Almighty for sustenance. The salary of FMPHW and other staff Working under 2211 head is disbursed from the state coffers all over the country and budgetary grant sanction later on by the Central Government, and same grant is to the UT Govt, but this rule is not implemented in JKUT. We appeal to the His Excellency

Lt Governor Sh. Manoj Sinha and chief Secretary Dr. Arun Mehta solve the issue of permanent employees at the earliest Those who participated in the press conference are. Smt. Neelam K. Kumari, Anita Bhagat, Parulati Singh, Mohd Nadeem, Ch Aslam, Bharat Bushan Bhagat, Madan Sharma, Waryam Masih, Dinash Sharma, Nakul Sharma, Govind Sharma, Arti Devi, Pormila Devi and Sandeep pandita Sanjay choudhary Subash chander Ajay Sharma.

## J&K youth inspired from PM's vision of Aatmnirbhar Bharat: Sat



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: Sai Vaishno Dhaba was inaugurated by Former Minister and Ex MLA Sat Sharma (CA) at Sarwal area of Jammu. Accompanied by a large number of people including Corporator Ward 18 Dinesh Gupta, Mandal Presidents BJP Ravesh Mengi & Raman Sharma, Owner Krish

Sodhi and others, Sharma said that the young owner is inspired from the PM Narendra Modi's vision of Aatmnirbhar Bharat. Speaking on the occasion, Sat Sharma said that the Dhaba inspired restaurant boasts an innovative menu, vibrant and quirky decor, and an experience to relish. He said the owner is offering unique and unforgettable experiences to the

foodies and the delicious fusion dishes & heart warming service will make it the most sought after eating destination in the city. He stated that Jammu and Kashmir is known for its iconic food dishes and foodies love to explore new food dishes and Sai Dhaba will go a long way in satiating their taste buds for long. He wished the owner best for his endeavour. Sat

also stated that PM has inspired the youth of J&K to become Job Creators instead of Job seekers and the owner has also provided jobs to 5 people which will benefit the same number of families, he added.

Dinesh Gupta congratulated the owner for opening up the new venture and said that it is located at an ideal location and apt place to spend quality time with family and friends while dining on sumptuous dishes.

Krish Sodhi thanked the dignitaries for inaugurating his venture and said that we are ready to treat people with lip smacking food and flavours and that too at reasonable prices.

## BLSKS presents 358th musical play "Nasha Nai Karna"

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: To celebrate the "Buddha Purnima", Bhartiya LokSangeet Kala Sansthan, in coordination with Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Government of India, Social Welfare Deptt, J&K Govt. and Sangam Tru Art Production, mounts three days special campaign & presented 358th Friday Series Musical Play "Nasha Nai Karna" at Neelam Public High School Janipur Jammu on today under the overall Direction of Dr. M.L. Dogra. A pledge was also taken by more than 200 students and teachers which was recited by Sh.M.C. Kotwal Secretary of BLSKS and certificate honored by the Ministry of Social Justice was felicitated to the Principal of the Host School. The programme was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Dhanesh Sadhotra, Principal Neelam Public High School, Janipur Jammu. Among the Guest of Honors present were Sanjay Gupta, Meenu Rana, Neha Choudhary, Senior Teachers of the host school. The day commemorated as well with sole aim of rejuvenating the traditional Primitive Folk Art, Culture of J&K Region. The Specialty items prepared on the theme "Jan Gan Man", "Swachh Bharat Ho", "Nasha Nai Kario Mundekureio", "Nai Pee Shrabhan", "Are Amjua Pare Bawa", "Savdhan Savdhan ae Bhaartvasi Savdhan", " Mere Ghar Parbhu aye Hai", Nukkad, Skits, Songs and Dances were presented to aware the masses. The Chief Guest said Buddha Purnima has a great importance in Hindu religion. On this particular day, people visit holy

places to take a holy bathe in Ganga river. Devotees worship Lord Vishnu and observe Satyanarayan fast on this auspicious day with full devotion, offer prayers to Lord Vishnu and recite Satyanarayan Katha and Chief Guest also said we have come together to strengthen our determination against drug abuse in any form and to send a message to the world that India will leave no stone unturned to fight against this evil. The efforts of the organizers in making such awareness programmes colorful and effective. During the three days campaign BLSKS will presents 3 prog in Bishnah Block of Jammu District to aware the masses. The artists of BLSKS presented theme based songs which were written by Dr. M.L. Dogra the music was composed by Mr. Raju Bajgal, Music Instructor, BLSKS. The program was also recorded & uploaded online on Social Media for benefit of the peoples.

Welcome speech was given by Dr. M.L. Dogra, Chairman, Bhartiya LokSangeet Kala Sansthan said the current statistics on the rise in suicides and mental health issues has led the government to take the much required action for drug demand reduction. Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan, the flagship campaign of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is an initiative in this stride. The Abhiyan has been valiantly fighting against the baleful repercussions of substance abuse at the ground level with the support of local administration, master volunteers, online competitions and several events. It has been evident that mental health disorders need to be

addressed to build a healthy society that contributes to the national growth and development. Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan is an efficacious attempt to fight against substance abuse and raise awareness for healthy lifestyles. Also said I am happy to know the initiative taken up by the BLSKS. I hope and pray that this programs will be fruitful and Bharat will be a No.1 drug free country.

This is a day of great religious and spiritual significance for the followers and practitioners of Buddha and His teachings as on this day they go to the Viharas/Temples/Monasteries and take part in the prayers and meditation and listen to discourses. They observe sila (moral vows) and practice meditation (samadhi), make offerings (dana) to the Bhikkhu Sangha. People decorate the Viharas and their homes which gives a festive look on the occasion. Buddhists distribute food, medicines, fruits, milk, biscuits, breads and nourishments to the patients in the hospitals, orphanages, old age homes and juvenile homes. They make special effort to bring smile and happiness to the unfortunate, the old and the infirm and the sick and the needy. Monks recite/chant the sutta/sutras uttered by the Buddha himself 2600 years ago to invoke peace and happiness, love and compassion, unity and brotherhood, well being and prosperity for the individual, society, country and government. Buddhists are reminded of their role and responsibility to live in harmony with people of other faiths and to respect the beliefs of other people as the Buddha had Himself taught.

## Notorious criminal booked under public safety act: Police

J I NEWS SERVICE

REASI, MAY 05: Working on multi-pronged strategy of Reasi Police to deal with the notorious criminals, today District Police Reasi booked a notorious criminal of Reasi under Public Safety Act (PSA) and lodged him in District Jail Amphalla Jammu. Somraj @ Shamu s/o Shankar Dass R/O Kanjali, Dera Baba District Reasi Age 30 years was found involved in many criminal cases: FIR No. 18/2018 U/S 354 IPC (P/S Reasi), FIR No. 19/2018 U/S 382/342/323 IPC (P/S Reasi), FIR No. 92/2019 U/S 8/21/29 NDPS Act (P/S Ramsso, Distt Ramban), FIR No. 302/22 U/S 341/323/504/506 IPC (P/S Reasi)



and, FIR No. 41/23 U/S 307/341/506 IPC (P/S Reasi). However in view of his continuous involvement in variety of criminal cases and to safeguard the general

public it was necessary to book him under stringent law.

On the directions of Sh Amit Gupta-JKPS Senior Superintendent of Police Reasi his dossier for Public Safety Act was framed and sent for necessary detention order to District Magistrate who formally issued the order of their detention under the PSA. Today by the order of Smt Babila Rakwal District Magistrate Reasi, he was arrested and lodged in District Jail Amphalla Jammu under Public Safety Act.

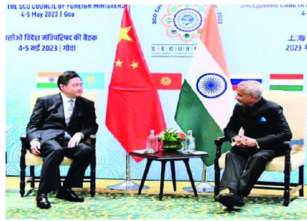
SSP Reasi while sharing the details conveyed that Reasi Police is committed towards the safety of the public and to eradicate notorious criminal from the society.

# India-China relations not normal: EAM rebuffs Chinese statement of 'stable' border

AGENCIES NEW DELHI/PANAJI, MAY 5

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Friday said that he had a very frank discussion on the border issue with Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang and had made it clear to him that India-China relations are "not normal" and cannot be so if peace and tranquility in the border areas is disturbed.

Answering questions at a press conference in Panaji after the holding of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Foreign Ministers' Meeting, EAM Jaishankar was asked to respond to the Chinese readout of the bilateral meeting held on Thursday according to which "Qin Gang pointed out that the China-India border situation is generally stable". EAM said: "My under-



standing of what the Chinese said, I think they used the word stable, if I'm not mistaken. I don't think that's the issue, I think there is an abnormal position in the border areas along the boundary, and we had a very frank discussion about it.

"It's not the first discussion; I had spoken to Foreign Minister Qin Gang on the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting as well (in March). "We have to take the disengagement process forward, and I have made it clear, frankly publicly as well, and what I say within the room is not different from what I say outside, which is that India-China relations are not normal and cannot be normal if peace and tranquility in the border areas is dis-

turbed. "I have been very, very clear about it, very consistent about it. I have not changed my position at this meeting either."

Asked about the Chinese FM meeting with relatives of Dr. Kotnis, representatives from the India-China Friendship Associations as well as Chinese and Indian students in Goa on Thursday, the EAM said:

"I've answered the question... Relations today are not normal and to suggest somehow that they are, and that everything else can continue, and when the central problems are not being addressed—this won't wash; there are issues we need to discuss, and it may be an endeavour and expectation to try and project the picture (of normalcy), but I certainly will not go along with it."

On Thursday, EAM Jaishankar had held a

"detailed discussion" with Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang on the bilateral relationship, with the focus on resolving the outstanding issues and ensuring peace and tranquility in the border areas.

In a tweet after the around hour-long talks with FM Qin, EAM said in a tweet that the two sides also discussed the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, the G20 and BRICS.

The Chinese readout of the meeting said that

"China is ready to work with India to carry out bilateral consultations and exchanges, step up dialogue and cooperation within multilateral frameworks, and deepen coordination and collaboration on international and regional issues, so as to bring China-India relations back on the track of sound and stable development."

# PM to attend Bastille Day Parade in Paris as Guest of Honour

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, MAY 5

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be travelling to France to attend the Bastille Day Parade in Paris as Guest of Honour on July 14.

To mark the 25th anniversary of the India-France Strategic Partnership, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has accepted President Emmanuel Macron's invitation to attend this year's Bastille Day Parade as Guest of Honour on 14 July 2023 in Paris, a state-



ment said. To mark this important milestone, an Indian armed forces contingent will participate in the Parade alongside their French counterparts.

Prime Minister Modi's visit is expected to herald the next phase in the India-France Strategic Partnership by setting new and ambitious goals for our strategic, cultural, scien-

tific, academic, economic cooperation, including in a wide range of industries. India and France have a shared vision on peace and security, especially in Europe and the Indo-Pacific and uphold the objectives and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which are also the basis of our cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.

This historic visit will also deliver common initiatives in order to respond to the key challenges of our time, including climate change, biodiversity loss and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and will be an opportunity for India and France to reaffirm their commitment to multilateralism, including in the context of India's G20 Presidency, the statement said.

# VP Dhankhar in London interacts with King Charles III, Commonwealth leaders

AGENCIES NEW DELHI/LONDON, MAY 5

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, who is in London, on Friday interacted with UK's King Charles III and other Commonwealth leaders at a reception hosted by the British monarchy at Marlborough House.

MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi in a tweet said that the Vice President exchanged views with Commonwealth leaders on making the institution of the Commonwealth stronger and more focused.

"VP Jagdeep Dhankhar @VPIndia joined leaders of the Commonwealth countries at a special event hosted by H.M. King Charles III at the Marlborough House, London.

"Exchanged views with Commonwealth leaders on making the institution of the Commonwealth stronger and more focused.

"VP reaffirmed commit-



ment to further strengthen the India-Great Britain Comprehensive Strategic Partnership."

"VP Jagdeep Dhankhar @VPIndia met with H.M. King Charles III and conveyed greetings on the occasion of his Coronation ceremony of King Charles III on behalf of the Government of India.

"India and UK have historic relationship and share values of democracy, rule of law and many complementarities and convergences. The relationship was elevated to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2021 with the adoption of Roadmap 2030 for Future Relations, a statement said.

# India logs 3,611 new Covid cases

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, MAY 5

India has recorded 3,611 new Covid-19 cases in the last 24 hours, as per the Health Ministry on Friday.

With this, the active caseload stood at 33,232 which is 0.07 per cent of the total cases, as per the Health Ministry.

The death toll has risen to 531,642 with 27 new deaths reported in the last 24 hours in various parts of the country.

As many as 6,587 patients recovered from the disease in the last 24 hours. The total number of people who have recuperated from the disease is 44.3 crore (44,39,98,415). The COVID-19 recovery rate stood at 98.74 per cent, whereas the fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent.

Meanwhile, the daily positivity rate was recorded at 2.08 per cent while the weekly positivity rate was pegged at 2.88 per cent.



The Ministry said 1,930 vaccine doses of COVID had been administered during the last 24 hours under the nationwide vaccination drive.

Around 20.66 cr Total Vaccine doses (95.21 cr Second Dose and 22.87 cr Precaution Dose) have been administered so far under Nationwide Vaccination Drive said the Ministry.

Meanwhile, 92.74 cr Total Tests conducted so far; 1,73,263 tests conducted in the last 24 hours showed the Ministry data.

# Cyclonic storm likely to intensify in Bay of Bengal by May 6: IMD

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, MAY 5

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) on Friday warned that cyclonic circulation is likely to develop over the Southeast Bay of Bengal by Saturday.

"Under its influence, a low-pressure area is expected to form over the same region on May 7, which may develop into a depression by May 8", the weather agency said.

"The system is expected to intensify into a cyclonic storm, moving nearly northwards towards the central Bay of Bengal". The IMD said the details of its path and intensity would be provided after the formation of the low-pressure area.

In view of the "cyclogenesis" over the Bay of Bengal, light to moderate rainfall is expected at most places with isolated heavy rainfall very likely over Andaman and Nicobar Islands on May 7.



Heavy to very heavy rainfall is expected during May 8-10, and the sea condition is likely to be rough on May 7 and very rough over the Southeast Bay of Bengal" it said.

The wind speed would gradually increase, becoming 50-60 kmph gusting to 70 kmph over the Southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining areas of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Andaman Sea on May 8 and 9.

In view of the warning, the IMD advised the fishermen, small ships, boats, and trawlers not to venture into the South-east Bay of Bengal and adjoining areas from May 7 onwards and into the adjoining Central Bay of Bengal from May 9 onwards.

The IMD has also urged people to remain alert and take all necessary precautions to ensure their safety during this time.

In another event, a cyclonic Circulation lay over off coastal Tamil Nadu, and would bring heavy rainfall at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry & Karaikal, Coastal

Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema on May 5 and over South interior Karnataka & Kerala on May 8 and 9.

The IMD said, no heat wave conditions are likely over any part of India during the next five days. "Maximum temperatures are very likely to increase and become near normal over Northwest India by May 7 and over remaining parts of the country by May 9," it said.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

### J&K political leaders...

that has blighted numerous lives over the decades in J&K & deserves unreserved condemnation. I send my sincere condolences to the families of those we lost today."

Termining the loss of lives of soldiers as 'terrible', former chief minister and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti on her Twitter handle wrote, "Terrible news coming in. My deepest condolences to the families of those who died in the line of duty." She also expressed condolences.

President of the Apni Party and senior political leader Altaf Bukhari said the sacrifice of the soldiers for the safety of the nation will never be forgotten.

Bukhari tweeted, "Deeply saddened by the tragic news from Rajouri. My thoughts are with the families of the brave soldiers who lost their lives in the ongoing encounter. Their sacrifice for the safety of our nation will never be forgotten."

"We strongly condemn the act of terror in Rajouri. These are senseless acts of violence perpetuated by lunatics. And they will inshallah rot in hell," the chairman of Peoples Conference Sajid Lone tweeted—(KNO)

### Congress nurtured and...

terror. Can such a party protect Karnataka and its civilians in any way. Under the climate of terror, the industries here, the IT industry, farmers, and rich culture and heritage here will be destroyed," he added.

Claiming that the Congress has lost courage to speak against terror, Modi alleged that for the sake of vote bank politics, the party has nurtured and given shelter to terror.

"With changing times, the nature of terror is also changing. Whether smuggling or drug trade or communal frenzy, all are somehow connected to terror," he said.

Highlighting that in the last few years, another dangerous form of terror has emerged, Modi said, the sound of bomb and guns can at least be heard, but there won't be any sound to terror conspiracy of "hallowing the society".

Even courts have expressed worry on this nature of terror, he said. The film made on such a terror conspiracy, "The Kerala Story" is under discussion. "It is said the film is based on the terrorists' deceitful policies and conspiracies in just one state," Modi said.

"Such a beautiful state of the country, where people are hardworking and talented. This Kerala Story film brings out terror conspiracies happening in that state," he said.

"It is unfortunate that Congress can be seen standing with this terror trend that is seeking to ruin the country. Congress is even indulging in backdoor political bargaining with people having terror inclinations. People of Karnataka should be cautious about Congress," the PM added. (Agencies)

### We have to take...

Jaishankar said on Friday. His comments at a press conference came a day after his talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang.

"I think the issue is that there is an abnormal position in border areas," he said, adding "we had a frank discussion about it."

"We have to take the disengagement process forward," he further said.

Jaishankar and Qin held bilateral talks on Thursday on the sidelines of a meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

The meeting between the two foreign ministers was their second in the last two months. The Chinese foreign minister visited India in March to attend a meeting of the G20 foreign ministers.

During the talks, Jaishankar conveyed to his Chinese counterpart that the state of India-China relations is "abnormal" because of the lingering border row in eastern Ladakh.

Last week, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh told his Chinese counterpart Li Shangfu at a meeting that China's violation of existing border agreements "eroded" the entire basis of ties between the two countries and that all issues relating to the frontier must be resolved in accordance with the existing pacts.

The meeting on April 27 took place in New Delhi on the sidelines of a conclave of the SCO defence ministers. Days ahead of the meeting between the two defence ministers, the Indian and Chinese armies held 18th round of talks on ending the border row.

In the Corps Commander talks on April 23, the two sides agreed to stay in close touch and work out a mutually acceptable solution to the remaining issues in eastern Ladakh at the earliest.

However, there was no indication of any clear forward movement in ending the three-year row.

Ties between India and China nosedived significantly following the fierce clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

The Indian and the Chinese troops are locked in a standoff in a few friction points along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh for the last three years though they disengaged in several places following a series of military and diplomatic talks.

India has been maintaining that the relationship between the two countries should be based on "three mutuals"— mutual respect, mutual sensitivity and mutual interests.

The eastern Ladakh border standoff erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong lake area.

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process in 2021 on the north and south banks of the Pangong lake and in the Gogra area. (Agencies)

### AIIMS Jammu to...

Awantipora shall add another 200 MBBS seats. The meeting further deliberated upon the status of two AIIMS level Hospitals being established at Vijaypur (Samba) and Awantipora (Pulwama). It was said that the AIIMS, Vijaypur is all set to be dedicated to public by October this year and AIIMS, Awantipora by 2025 after 34 more acres of land were provided to the institute for its updated design.

It is pertinent to mention here that the medical infrastructure and education has been given a major push during the past couple of years. Besides these 07 Medical Colleges and 2 AIIMS level Institutions, 07 new Nursing Colleges shall also be set up across the UT. Further, the District and Sub-District Hospitals are given being given adequate manpower in addition to other infrastructure required for providing quality health care to public.

### J&K Bank records...

is the highest ever annual profit," a bank spokesperson said. "The bank's gross and net NPA as percentages to gross and net advances improved considerably to

6.04 per cent and 1.62 per cent respectively, compared to 8.67 per cent and 2.49 per cent recorded last year." The growth of advances outpaced the increase in deposits.

While advances grew by 17 per cent to 82,285 crore, deposits increased by around 6 per cent to Rs 1,22,038 crore. "It is a great feeling to deliver better-than-promised annual results. Looking back to March 2022 with these set of numbers, I see an unmistakable shift in performance, as well as the functioning of the bank," Managing Director and CEO Baldev Prakash said. He said after revamping the business strategy to reduce concentration risk, the loan book in return on investment has grown by more than 20 per cent during 2022-23.

"While making our balance sheet stronger on a daily basis, we have now entered into a progressive phase wherein business growth coupled with process excellence is all set to yield better returns to all stakeholders of the bank," Prakash added. (Agencies)

### COVID-19 no longer...

deaths we know about," he said. "As we speak, thousands of people around the world are fighting for their lives in intensive care units. And millions more continue to live with the debilitating effects of post-Covid19 condition," the Director General of WHO added.

The WHO had declared Covid-19 as a global emergency in January 2020.

"1221 days ago, WHO learned of a cluster of cases of pneumonia of unknown cause in Wuhan, China. On the 30th January 2020, on the advice of an Emergency Committee convened under the International Health Regulations, I declared a public health emergency of international concern over the global outbreak of Covid-19—the highest level of alarm under international law," Tedros said.

"At that time, outside China there were fewer than 100 reported [Covid19] cases, and no reported deaths. In the 3 years since then, Covid-19 has turned our world upside down. Almost 7 million deaths have been reported to WHO, but we know the toll is several times higher—at least 20 million," he noted.

"What this news means is that it is time for countries to transition from emergency mode to managing Covid-19 alongside other infectious diseases," he added. (Agencies)

## Bali Bhagat slams Farooq, Mehbooba for raising hue & cry over holding G20 in Kashmir

JI NEWS SERVICE

Jammu, May 05  
Bali Bhagat, senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and former Minister has slammed the former Chief Ministers of erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir Dr Farooq Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti for their unwanted and objectionable statements against the holding of G20 Summit in Kashmir. He said that it is an irony that despite the whole nation is lauding the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for holding this historical international event in Jammu and Kashmir, these two CMs are unnecessarily raising hue and cry over a non issue.



In a statement issued to media here today, Bali Bhagat said that Dr Farooq Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti by airing such obnoxious statements against G20 Summit being held in Kashmir makes it amply clear that both the former CMs are agents of Pakistan as they are parroting the tone of Pakistan day in and day out. He said that earlier it was Pakistan which raised hue and cry over

holding of the G20 summit in Kashmir and now these NC and PDP heads have started towing the Pakistani line. Asserting that both Dr Farooq and Mehbooba are spewing venom against the sovereignty of the nation, he demanded strict action against both of them under the law of the land.

The senior BJP leader accused Dr Farooq Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti of leaving no stone unturned in provoking the people of Jammu and Kashmir by issuing all sorts of irrelevant statements to disturb the aforesaid International level event and raise fingers against the Union Govt led by Narendra Modi. He said that these two erstwhile

Chief Ministers never wanted to give peace a chance in J&K as they promoted their own personal interests by befooling the people of J&K.

While lauding Prime Minister Modi led Govt for holding G20 summit in J&K, Bali Bhagat came down heavily on the Congress Party said that its leader and then Prime Minister Pt Jawahar Lal Nehru committed the greatest blunder by taking a non issue to the United Nations for which the nation had to pay heavily. He said that the incumbent Govt led by Narendra Modi has been trying to undo the wrongs of the Congress regimes for about seven decades.

## Delaying elections violates democratic values of country: RS Chib



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: The Democratic Progressive Azad Party's General Secretary RS Chib expressed his disappointment over the delay in Assembly elections and said that depriving people of their elected representatives tantamounts to violating the democratic values. He said that violating democratic values doesn't augur well to a country like India which has rich history of democracy.

However, Chib directed his party members to intensify the membership drive and by the time elections in Jammu and Kashmir are held, DPAP shall emerge as one of the largest political party in the UT.

"Our district presidents must visit extensively to their respective areas and intensify the drive of membership," he said while chairing an office bearers meet in Jammu. Meanwhile, Chib sought

the intervention of the government and adequate compensation to the farmers who lost their wheat crop in extensive rains.

"The farmers who are affected have lost the crucial crop of the year. The worst affected are the farmers living in border areas who have no other source of income. They need fully to be compensated," Chib said. Jugal Kishore Sharma Provincial President directed all District Presidents to Chalk out the

tour programme of their Districts in consultation with the Zonal presidents in order to create awareness regarding the mission of our Party He also stressed upon them to make Party offices in their Districts functional in order to address the issues raised by people from time to time.

Among others who attended the meeting were Ch Ghara Ram, P.S.Mahar, Zaid Malik (Zonal Presidents), Ashok Sharma, VP Province, Ashok Bhagat, Balbir Singh, Gourav Chopra, Brijeshwar Singh Indoo, Thankur Dharam Chand, Sushil Sharma, Surinder Bhagat (Distt Presidents) Anita Thakur Gen Secretary, Sobat Ali Gen Secretary, Prabha Salaitia Mahila Chief, Rajinder Sharma, Lovely Gupta, Vishal Chopra, Ashutosh Rana, Pinky Manhas and others.

## BJP fulfilled poll promise of strengthening democracy at grassroots level: Kavinder



JI NEWS SERVICE

REASI, MAY 05: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has fulfilled poll promise of strengthening democracy at grassroots level and re-conduct of DDC and BDC polls on time for the first time in the history of J&K is the proof of party's sincerity towards J&K.

This was stated by Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister while addressing a meeting of party workers at Reasi. The meeting was convened by Panchayati Raj Cell of BJP in which Surjeet Chowdhary, Convenor Panchayati Raj Cell J&K,

Gurdeep Saini and Rambeher Dutt Co-Convenors of Panchayat Raj Cell were present.

The senior BJP functionary said that in the last over 70 years, the power was in hand of limited people but under BJP regime, the power has been distributed to the lowest level as more than 30,000 elected public representatives have been empowered to directly deliver services to common man thus removing the gap between centre, state and the masses.

Kavinder said that the Government led by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has strengthened the grassroots democracy in the UT

and has given more powers to Panchayati Raj Institutions. "Under the leadership of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, the culture of work has changed and the dynamics of development has improved.

The present government at the Centre has empowered the people in the real sense and the three tier system of PRIs has been established across Jammu and Kashmir

The PRI representatives have been empowered to such an extent that they can now take decisions independently without any interference of the Centre and State, which is proving

to be a real game changer thus speeding up the development without any chance of siphoning of funds as local governance is monitored by the people at local level", he maintained.

The former deputy Chief Minister said that what BJP government has given to J&K and what is in the offing is something which no other political party in the country can even imagine as the same has been experienced by the people in the last over 70 years when dispensations of different hues and shades ruled the erstwhile state of J&K.

Kavinder also asked the party workers to celebrate nine years of Modi Government at the Centre in a big way from May 15 to June 15 under the name 'Nav Saal - Bemisal'. He informed that the Party has 16 organizational districts in Jammu region and from May 15 to June 15, a mega conference will be held in every organizational district.

Rumail Singh, Ashok Kumar BDC, Sham Lal BDC, Chandar Mohan BDC and Panches and Sarpanches of the entire district were present in the meeting.

## All J&K Pasmanda Tabka Development Welfare Society celebrated 2585th Buddha Jayanti



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: All J&K Pasmanda Tabka Development Welfare Society, working for the betterment of weaker section of the society, on Friday celebrated 2585th

Buddha Jayanti celebration here. Provincial President VK Dogra, National President Youth Wing Batwal Biradari Koushal Taghotra, Chairman Jagrati Mahila Yog Kender Veena Bakshi, Sanjeev Gupta, Bimla Devi

Sarika Dogra besides a large number of members were present during the event. Speaking on the occasion, Dogra said that Buddha Purima is celebrated as the birth anniversary of Gautama Buddha, a spiritual teacher on whose

teachings Buddhism was founded.

He added that Gautam Buddha left his kingdom to seek spiritual enlightenment, and in the process founded Buddhism in India in the 6th-5th centuries.

Lord Buddha was an extraordinary human, a seeker who attained enlightenment through meditation and intelligence, and then set out to preach his learnings to the people, he said.

A philosopher, religious leader, spiritual guide, and enlightened being, Lord Buddha is known for preaching Dharma (duty), non-violence, peace, and kindness, he added. At the age of 30, he gave up his worldly belongings and suffered hardships searching for the truth, Dogra said.

## PSAJK offers its platform, RPs to turn educational institutes into Centers of Learning



JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 05: The University of Kashmir held a first-ever get-together of its supernumerated teachers, where several innovative ideas were discussed to address the growing challenges in the education sector, from primary to higher education.

The function was presided over by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Kashmir, Prof Neelofar Khan, and attended by former deans of academics, deans of college development, heads of departments, and profes-

sors of the university. The event took place in the lawns of Shaikh Hamza guest house, where lunch was served to the participants. Prof Neelofar Khan and Prof Muhammad Zaman Azurda were felicitated for their achievements in the field of education. The event was attended by the academic advisor of the Private Schools Association of Jammu and Kashmir (PSAJK), Prof Hamid Naseem Rafiabadi, who suggested that higher teaching institutions should support the private educational institutions from the primary school level and

act as patrons to all stakeholders in the educational field. He further proposed that the PSAJK could provide a platform for retired teachers to work as resource persons to help private institutions transform into centers of higher learning. He recommended that higher education institutions should operate as academic think tanks to facilitate the development of an outstanding educational and knowledge-based society. "We need to hold refresher and orientation courses for all educational institutions from primary onwards in science,

arts, engineering, social science, literature and management and commerce streams. There should be progression from lower to higher education through these efforts," said Rafiabadi.

Prof Neelofar Khan assured all possible assistance from her side and encouraged teachers to come forward with proposals that could benefit society and the community at large. The host of the event, Prof Muhammad Akbar Khuroo, welcomed the participants, and Prof Muhammad Amin Peerzada delivered the inaugural speech.

Other dignitaries present at the event included former registrar of IUST Awantipora Prof Riyaz Rufai, Dean Research IUST Prof A H Moon, and the present Registrar of the University of Kashmir, Dr Nisar Ahmad Mir. Prof A R Yusuf, Prof Mohd Amin Sofi, Prof Khurshid Ali, Prof Muhammad Zaman Azurda, Prof Mohd Ashraf Wani, Prof Mushtaq Ahmad Kaw, Prof Majrur Rashid, Prof Mohammad Akbar Khuroo, and many others were present at the occasion.

## Dharun Kesar inaugurates u.Hitasha Makeover Studio



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: Dharun Kesar (DK), actor of Dogri fame movie Aun Aan Shinda today inaugurated u.Hitasha Makeover Studio trained by Meenakshi Dutt at Lane No 15,

Talab Tillo Jammu. On the occasion, Viren Satti, owner of Sallon World was the special guest.

Speaking on the occasion, Dharun Kesar complimented the owner Hitasha on opening of the new saloon in the city area. He asserted that gov-

ernment has initiated several schemes aiming to foster entrepreneurship in the country.

He asserted that Jammu and Kashmir is becoming self-sufficient Union Territory in all respects. He wished for the success of the new venture and asked the proprietor to provide good service to the customers. He said that quality service has always attracts potential customers and will make good business. He said that quality is very important in the business and the owner of the showroom should surely utilize quality products for the customers.

DK asked youth to explore the entrepreneurial avenues as both the J&K and Central Government have launched number of schemes for the welfare of people as well as youth of the nation. He exhorted upon youth to avail the benefits of the central sponsored scheme to become job creators instead of job seekers.

## NC zonal secretary lashes out at LG admin for befooling youth Dr Vikas urges youth to get united and support NC for bright future

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: National Conference Zonal Secretary and Coordinator Jammu District Urban, Dr. Vikas Sharma held a meeting with youth coming from different parts of Jammu and discussed various issues related to them.

He expressed deep anguish over the increasing rate of unemployment in J&K especially during the present regime and castigated the UT administration for playing with the future of youth. Dr. Sharma urged the youth to get united for their cause and extend whole hearted support to National

Conference (NC) in the forthcoming local body elections. He said, "Present regime has imposed several burdens on the shoulders of J&K people in the form of Smart Electric Meter, Property Tax etc. The Government is pursuing anti-people policies and time has come for all of us to teach BJP a lesson in forthcoming Municipal Polls." He said that if NC was voted to power in civic body elections, they will frame pro-youth and pro-people policies.

"Don't think Municipal Polls are of least importance, the civic body also holds important powers as Mayor and Dy Mayor can also do a lot of better things for people. At least through the

medium of these elections, people can teach a lesson to arrogant leaders of BJP," he added.

NC have a proven track record of giving services to people of J&K as credit of all the developmental works and welfare schemes goes to the party so it's high time to strengthen hands of Dr Farooq Abdullah, Jenab Omar Abdullah and other top NC leaders to safeguard our future, Dr Sharma asked the youth. He appealed to them to shun differences, leave those who are creating differences among different sections of society and come together to support NC for a bright and prosperous future.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Logic will take you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere - Albert Einstein

JINDRAH IMAGES

Regulate social media platforms

Fake news on social media platforms and web portals have become a matter of serious concern. It has become the potential source of disturbing communal harmony and putting national security at risk. On Thursday, the Supreme Court also expressed its anguish over the prevailing situation of dissemination of fake news on social media and observed that news broadcasts loaded a communal tone on TV channels and social media might bring a bad name to the country. The Apex Court's observation also authenticated that there has been no control over fake news and slandering via web portals and YouTube channels. It is very easy to find how fake news is freely being circulated and anyone can start a channel on YouTube. The government authorities need to be blamed for the current mess as they did not bother to regulate the functioning of web portals and YouTube channels. Every Tom, Dick and Harry has started a YouTube channel wherein they disseminate news via web portals without following journalistic ethics. Moreover, there is no check on their functioning as well. Without going deep into the consequences of news broadcasts bearing a communal tone, their irresponsible act many a times becomes a potential threat of disturbing communal harmony and peace in the country. During the last few years, authorities at the helm of affairs never attempt to regulate these private channels on YouTube and other social media platforms. It is not clear whether the government did it intentionally to sideline mainstream media organisations or it was the failure of authorities to keep a check on functioning of such private channels. Ultimately, the country is getting a bad name. The Supreme Court's concern was that Twitter, Facebook or YouTube—they never respond to them and there's no accountability. About the institutions they have written badly and they don't respond... and say this is their right. They only worry about powerful men and not judges, institutions or common man. The irony of subject matter is that the government itself has admitted that these web portals not only broadcast communal but also planted news. Though the new IT rules make social media intermediaries a bit accountable, yet there is a lot that needs to be done to keep a tab on their functioning. Given the present situation, the government should immediately take all measures to regulate online content, including social media and web portals under the newly enacted IT rules. It is also said that the new social media rules provide a means of addressing grievances of content that can be harmful to the nation's security as well as the modesty or safety of a person. The need of the hour is to strictly enforce the new IT rules and all social media platforms should be directed to keep a check on the veracity of new news content they are broadcasting on their private channels.

CONFLICTING INTERESTS KEEP SUDAN ON THE BOIL

THE RUSSIAN WAGNER GROUP IS REPORTEDLY BACKING THE RAPID SUPPORT FORCES (RSF). HOWEVER, AFTER THE MAYHEM AND A TENTATIVE CEASEFIRE, THE REGIONAL ACTORS SEEM TO HAVE TAKEN A PAUSE. EGYPT, ALONG WITH ITS ARAB FRIENDS, IS TAKING A MORE DISTANT VIEW AND LETTING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE PROCEED.

GURJIT SINGH

THE recurring crisis in Sudan over the past two decades is saddening. Sudan was the largest country in Africa, among the first to be decolonised, and a close friend of India. There is a Sudan block at the National Defence Academy in Khadakwasla. In 1955, at the Bandung Asian-African conference, India was at the forefront of inviting emerging African countries such as Sudan and Ghana to the meet. India has contributed to the consolidation of their independent identity. Sudan attracted Indian investment in oil, sugar, etc.

Even after South Sudan seceded in 2011, the Darfur crisis, which began in 2003, continued. Competing Afro-Arab forces, stoked by various regional players, fought the government in Khartoum. Sudan was governed by military dictator Omar Bashir from 1989 to 2019. He had links with Al-Qaeda and, ultimately, was put on the wanted list by the International Criminal Court, restricting his movements.

Khartoum escaped the first Arab Spring, but in 2019, Bashir was toppled in a counter-coup, backed by the Forces of Freedom and Change (FFC). The promise of a transitional government guided by the army was often kept in abeyance. Sudan saw a whiff of freedom under Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok, who was backed by the army. He attracted new investments, got sanctions lifted and led Sudan towards normalcy. The pace at which he worked perhaps upset the balance in Khartoum; in 2021, he was removed in another coup. At that time, he was the Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the political bloc of the region.

This led to two strange situations. Firstly, due to the coup, Sudan was suspended by the African Union (AU). Secondly, the IGAD was rendered headless because of the crisis in Sudan.

The current problems in Sudan are due to the rise in influence of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), which cohabited with the army to rule. Gen. Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo aka Hemedti of the RSF was the Deputy President and Gen Abdel Fattah al-Burhan was the



President. The army is traditionally the Khartoum elite, which is used to governing Sudan for decades after coups.

For practical reasons, they had accommodated the RSF, which is mainly backed by the old Darfur militia. The RSF is a successor to Darfur groups, including the cruel Janjaweed, the most feared survivors among all the competing groups in Darfur.

Hemedti created the paramilitary RSF from the remnants of the Janjaweed, but expanded it rapidly. Inadequately employed youths are easily radicalised and militarised in several African countries. The RSF successfully achieved this as Sudan has a median age of 19 years. The RSF numbers are about a third of the Sudan army, but they held off the army, attacked it in Darfur, Khartoum and other places and captured central Khartoum civilian areas. This prevented the army from undertaking serious operations or using the Air Force, lest it be accused of attacking civilian areas. The RSF is less concerned with that, and has larger control over Khartoum.

This is a typical contention between the centre and the periphery. The RSF is essentially from the periphery of Darfur, which adjoins Chad, Central African Republic and Libya. Since the militant RSF had plenty of men and material, they were often used by competing powers to play a role in Yemen and Libya. This has strengthened them,

allowing them to play a bigger role in Sudan.

The military said they wanted to move to a democratic transition faster and abide by the transition expected for 2023. The RSF is less keen on this change. Further, the RSF opposes a quick integration into the army; the army, in turn, resists that. This contradiction remains unresolved.

Who is going to bell the cat now? Institutionally, the UN has become weak. Its long-standing special representative is disliked by both sides and is unable to play any role. The AU is dealing with a suspended country. How to have leverage over a suspended member is a new challenge for the Peace and Security Council of the AU. The Arab League seems equally helpless, having no influence in the matter.

Under the principle of subsidiarity, the AU seeks an IGAD initiative to create conditions for negotiations. The IGAD has a three-member presidential delegation, comprising the Presidents of Djibouti, South Sudan and Kenya. Initially, they could not get there due to the inability of planes to land in Khartoum.

Now, the South Sudan President has sought army and RSF negotiators, who could engage IGAD to possibly find a solution. On the ground, reports suggest that this is going to be a long-drawn-out affair because the army does not want to share power with the RSF any further.

The RSF tasted power in Khartoum, and does not see why it should remain peripheral. Its fighting capacities seem to be better.

Rivalries among regional powers are impacting this conflict. Egypt traditionally backed the army out of solidarity with its own kind of government. It requires Sudanese support against Ethiopia over the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Nile. The UAE, which works with Egypt in Libya, for instance, has been on the side of the RSF along with Eritrea, which has a border with Sudan. The RSF has control of mines of gold and other resources, which attract both state and non-state actors.

The Russian Wagner Group is reportedly backing the RSF. It operates from the Central African Republic and is close to the RSF in Darfur.

However, after the mayhem that has happened, and a tentative ceasefire, the regional actors seem to have taken a pause.

The UAE and Saudi Arabia are now not openly backing the RSF because the problem has become different in the Sudanese context. Egypt, along with its Arab friends, is taking a more distant view and letting the IGAD initiative proceed. Ethiopia is watching with trepidation because uncertainty in Sudan is troublesome for it.

Ethiopia and Tigray are already having negotiations in Kenya to settle their civil war, and they least want another civil war to overtake their concerns.

WHY JOBS DO NOT MATTER IN POLITICS

Those who have left agriculture to look for non-farm jobs return to the village and help out on the farm, even when they are not required. People accept their fate that they will not get a full day's work. They depend on the government to keep their heads above water, and organise politically to get just that much. That is why access to government handouts, and not jobs, has become the fundamental driver of the politics of the governed.

AUNINDYO CHAKRAVARTY

OUR carpenter, Manoj, is a master craftsman. Give him any design and he can replicate it perfectly. But his skills in furniture making are offset by his complete inability to estimate costs. Push him hard and he might be able to tell you how much raw material he would need, but ask him about his labour cost and he will give you a bemused smile, and quote a random number. Manoj simply has no sense of the time cost of his own labour. But when he has to hire someone to help him, he is perfectly capable of estimating wage costs — so many days of work needed, at so much, or dihaadi or daily wages. Manoj makes a clear distinction between the value of his own time and that of someone he hires, even though they would be doing exactly the same work. He never pays himself what he would pay to another carpenter he has hired to assist him. There are two key elements in this attitude to work — both of which are typical to economies where non-capitalist production relations exist simultaneously with capital-labour relations. The first is the act of 'self-exploitation', or the undervaluing of

one's own labour power, even when an external benchmark exists. The second is the distinction a 'petty producer' makes between his own labour power and that of someone he employs. British historian EP Thompson wrote about this in his celebrated essay 'Time, Work-Discipline and Industrial Capitalism,' detailing how ideas of the time value of work, notions of productivity and economic betterment only developed with the emergence of industrial capitalism in England. Before that, work was 'task-oriented' as opposed to the 'time-oriented' work that became the norm under capitalism.

But that was 18th-century England; this is 21st-century India. Task orientation and the absence of time discipline all but disappeared in England by the mid-19th century, giving rise to universal and abstract homogeneous labour, which could shift from one industry to the other in a standardised form. As workers began to perceive the value of their labour power in terms of the time spent working for their employer, they began to agitate for standardised wages, 'overtime' pay, paid leave and various other things that we now associate with 'normal'



work conditions.

For capitalism to flourish as a political system, it has to hold out the promise of vertical mobility. Workers must believe that if they are able to save and accumulate some money, they too have the chance to deploy that as capital. One way to do that is to increase the time spent working, or else improve one's skills, such that each time unit of one's labour power is treated as equivalent to multiple units of a less-skilled worker's labour power. Since the (market) value of a worker's

labour power is the time taken to produce the consumption goods needed to bring that worker back to the labour market the next day — in other words, 'reproduce' his labour-power — skilled labour enables workers to save and accumulate. It holds out the promise that they too can, one day, become capitalists themselves. Capitalism, therefore, breeds ambition and aspiration. It entices workers to labour harder and improve their productivity. At the time of Independence, India's ruling elite recognised the impor-

ance of inculcating capitalist time discipline among the 'masses'. The so-called 'Bombay Plan' drawn up by some of India's top industrialists underscored the link between higher labour productivity and better standards of living. 'Benefits of higher efficiency will be increasingly available to the... workers in the form of a corresponding increase in their incomes,' it said. This was an underlying assumption of the post-colonial project to build a modern industrial economy under the aegis of the state, with significant support from private capital. Abolishing the zamindari system, ending bonded labour to allow workers to leave the farm and work in the factory, training workers to improve productivity and learn machine discipline — these were all part of the process of building a modern, growing economy. By all accounts, both Nehruvian 'socialism' and free-market reforms have failed to achieve this. My carpenter is not alone in not having a sense of time discipline when it comes to self-labour. If anything, time orientation has steadily decreased because of three reasons: First, that even 75 years after Independence more than one-third of employment comes from farms,

where the movement of the sun and the agricultural seasons dictate the rhythms of work. The second reason is that less than 40 per cent of working-age Indians have any kind of paid employment. Finally, the nature of jobs available in our economy has stalled the emergence of capitalist time discipline and aspirations among the working people.

The manufacturing sector, where capitalist 'ethics' first developed, accounts for less than 10 per cent of all jobs, and a significant number of these are in the unorganised sector. About one in six workers is employed in construction, where work is mostly unskilled, manual labour. Even though construction workers are paid daily wages, contractors have full control over their labour time. Nearly one-fifth of all jobs are in the retail trade — an overwhelming majority of these would be small kiosks and shops run using family labour where time-based wages have no meaning. Five per cent of those who have work earn their living by providing 'non-professional' personal services — as plumbers, electricians, barbers, security guards and domestic help — where earnings are task-dependent.



## When you wear the uniform, even your gait changes!

**S**onakshi Sinha, who plays a cop for the first time in *Dahaad*, is thrilled with her strong role. She says just wearing a uniform impacted her personality and gait. The crime drama created by Reema Kagti and Zoya Akhtar, is helmed by Kagti and Ruchika Oberoi. Here is Sonakshi, in a brief conversation with the media.

How different is your cop avatar in *Dahaad* from Chulbul Pandey, played by Salman Khan, in your debut film *Dabaang*?

My role as Anjali Bhati is very different from Chulbul Pandey. She knows what she wants, and what she's doing, she's on the side of justice. I was lucky to get such a character. It's very rare that you get such powerful roles. You feel there's no way you can let go of such a part. It's time we represented real and strong women on the screen. Why should

boys have all the fun? There are so many stories like this to be told. It was really an honour to play this part.

How has the representation of women cops in Indian cinema changed over the years?

We haven't seen too many women cops in Indian cinema. I can't name any that stand out. But I hope Anjali Bhati becomes the character that people refer to when they talk about the portrayal of women cops in cinema.

How did you prepare for this character? Was doing action sequences easy? I was born to play this character. I had to look a certain way. Honestly, when you wear uniform, aap ki chal badal jati hai.

You walk straighter, you become tough. I learned how to drive a bike and have bought one for myself. I love driving it (my mom cautions me to drive carefully). I also had to learn the dialect. It is a wonderful role.



## SHAH RUKH'S 'PATAHAN' GEARING UP FOR BANGLADESH RELEASE



**S**uperstar Shah Rukh Khan's *'Pathaan'* is all set to be released in Bangladesh theatres on May 12, production banner Yash Raj Films announced on Friday. Fronted by Shah Rukh Khan, the Siddharth Anand directorial release in theatres on January 25 and has raised over Rs 1,000 crore worldwide at the box office.

Produced by YRF, *'Pathaan'* also stars John Abraham, Deepika Padukone, Dimple Kapadia and Ashutosh Rana.

According to Nelson D'Souza, Vice President, International Distribution at YRF, *'Pathaan'* will be the "first Hindi film" to release in Bangladesh since the country attained freedom in 1971.

"We have learnt over the years that Shah Rukh Khan has tremendous fan following in Bangladesh and we feel *'Pathaan'*, our latest offering from YRF's Spy Universe, is the perfect first film of SRK and Hindi cinema to release in the country and represent Indian culture and cinema in its full glory," he added.

Indian films were banned from playing in Bangladesh cinemas since its independence in a bid to protect the local movie industry.

The authorities had lifted the ban in 2010 as the country's film industry witnessed an unprecedented slide and the number of active movie halls shrank. But after a protest by the local industry, the ban was reimposed.

## On Buddha Purnima 2023, Kangana Ranaut says 'Indians never get enough credit for leading the world'

Buddha Purnima is celebrated on May 5 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Lord Buddha, also known as Mahatma Buddha. To mark the Buddhist festival, actor Kangana Ranaut took to Instagram Stories to ask her followers to meditate on Buddha Purnima.

Speaking about how he became Lord Buddha, Kangana also said "Indians never get enough credit for leading the world" as she gave the example of Lord Ram, Shiva and Krishna.

Along with an illustration of Buddha, Kangana wrote, "Before he became Buddha, he was just a boy called



Siddhartha. Indians never get enough credit for leading the world..." She further wrote, "Like Shiva, like Lord Rama, like Krishna, here's another Indian, who was bestowed upon with

the ultimate realisation... the world is still shining in his glow..."

Kangana also asked her followers to meditate on Buddha Purnima and said she was blessed to be born in India. She wrote, "Bowing down to this land that has raised so many Gods... meditate on this Buddha Purnima and feel blessed to be born in Bharat..."

Kangana often takes to social media to share her views on the film industry, religion and society in general. She also often documents her travels. She was recently in Dehradun and Haridwar, where she not only attended the Ganga

## Amber Heard leaves Hollywood behind, relocates to Spain with daughter Oonagh: Reports



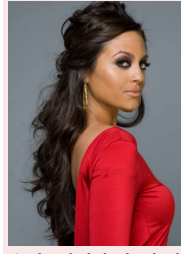
**A**fter a tumultuous few years in the public eye, actress Amber Heard has reportedly left Hollywood behind and moved to Madrid, Spain with her young daughter Oonagh Paige. According to a friend of the actress, Heard is bilingual in Spanish and is happy to be raising her daughter away from the noise of Hollywood.

Heard has been spending plenty of time in Spain since selling her Yucca Valley, California home in July 2022 for \$1.1 million. Last October, the "Aquaman" star was seen flaunting her bikini body on the beaches of Palma de Mallorca, and was later spotted playing with her daughter at a kids' park during a Spanish getaway.

The move comes nearly a year after Heard's highly publicized defamation trial with ex-husband Johnny Depp. The trial ended with the court ordering Heard to pay Depp \$10 million in compensatory damages plus \$350,000 in punitive damages for defaming him in a 2018 op-ed piece she wrote for *The Washington Post*. Heard later asked the judge to toss the verdict and requested a retrial.

While Heard's move to Spain may come as a surprise to fans, it seems the actress is content to live a quieter life away from the public eye. Whether or not she will return to Hollywood remains to be seen, but for now, it seems Heard is happy to call Spain home.

## Sammi 'Sweetheart' Giancola returns to 'Jersey Shore: Family Vacation' with explosive drama and surprising reunion



**I**t's official - Sammi "Sweetheart" Giancola has returned to *Jersey Shore: Family Vacation* for season 6, and things are heating up fast. In a sneak peek released during the season 5 finale, Sammi surprises her castmates with her arrival, leaving them shocked and confused.

But it's not all sunshine and rainbows for the jewelry designer, who quickly finds herself in heated exchanges with her former housemates. In the clip, Sammi can be seen getting frustrated and yelling at an unseen cast member, causing both Deema Cortese and Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi to burst into tears.

Despite the drama, Sammi remains unapologetic, closing out the clip with her signature tagline: "I'm still the sweetest bitch you'll ever meet."

Fans of the OG *Jersey Shore* series will remember Sammi as one of the original cast members, but she opted out of *Family Vacation* when it premiered in 2018, citing a desire to avoid "toxic situations." However, she had a change of heart and returned to the spinoff for season 6.

## Sudhir Mishra says Hindi films don't wish to infuriate: 'Most of them are upper cast, heroes have no surnames'

Sudhir Mishra has said that most Hindi films have main characters without a surname. He suggested that most mainstream Hindi films ignore the caste dynamics of our society, thereby escaping the risks of infuriating any particular section.

Sudhir spoke to Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri in a two-hour-long podcast and the filmmakers discussed the different aspects of the Hindi film industry. They also shared their views on what ails the industry and how it can be rectified.

Sudhir told Vivek, "Let me tell you, Hindustani films do not want to offend anyone. Where do any of the Hindi films infuriate anyone? Our films may infuriate a few. My films. We wish to shake them up a bit. But the mainstream Hindi films, where do they wish to upset anyone? Most of them are upper cast, and most of their heroes have no surnames. It is all just goody, goody stuff."

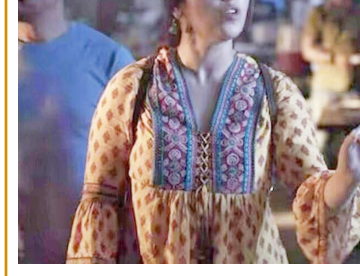
He added that a good or rooted film does not necessarily have to be set in a rural region, "even urban India is part of India". He also said that filmmakers such as Anubhav Sinha and Hansal Mehta are making films that talk about



real India and have genuine Indian characters.

Sudhir also said that film stars used to raise their voice over various social concerns, but they do not do so now. He said that the real problem is that people do not speak at all. Dilip Kumar, Raj Kapoor, Dev Anand, and Manoj Kumar were among the top stars who spoke on various issues. The filmmaker also said that the industry is not united enough. "Where is Bollywood? They are not united at all. Look at South India (they stand for each other)...Hindi film industry like bikhre hue hain (you may feel they support each other) but they do not. Things like when and how to release films, what should be the ticket prices, etc should be decided upon (together, for the entire industry).

## Afwaah review: Real a- d relatable political drama will push you to rethi- k what you trust o- li- e



**T**here is a dialogue in the film: 'Achi kahaniyaan woh hain jisme tark ho, jo aapko provoke karein to ask why'. That's precisely my view after watching Sudhir Mishra's thought-provoking and gripping political drama, *Afwaah*. Subtly yet strongly, the film turns out to be a social commentary on various things - from the current political scenario in the country, to love jihad debate to social media rumours coming into play and corrupting the youth. *Afwaah* is as real and relatable as you would expect a

Sudhir Mishra film to be. Set in Sawalpur, a small town in Rajasthan, the film starts with future deputy leader of the ruling party, Vicky Bana aka Vikram Singh (Sumeet Vyas), getting attacked at a political rally. To settle the score, one of his close aides, Chandan (Sharib Hashmi), ends up killing a local. A video of Vicky talking to Chandan and giving some orders goes viral on social media platform called Qwitter (sounds familiar, no?), which reaches Nivedita aka Nivi (Bhumi Pednekar), who is

own life. The two manage to escape in his car but not for too long before their picture goes viral on Qwitter and they are subjected to 'love jihad' hatred.

Mishra practices no restraint when it comes to showing the unapologetic prevalence of communalism and feudalism, especially in small towns, and how the power of social media can be exploited at the hands of rich and mighty to spread a rumour. *Afwaah* is hard-hitting and heartbreaking at the same time. It engages you with its dialogues and the narrative that doesn't digress much.

What I liked the most is that despite having several important messages that the film tries to convey through its characters and events unfolding one after the other, it never sounds preachy. With actors such as Pednekar, Siddiqui and Hashmi, *Afwaah* has a strong cast and a nuanced performance from each of them would blow your mind. Vyas is a true revelation. Right from his dialect, body language, mannerisms to the way he emotes anger, love, strength and vulnerability - it's a surprise package.



# Chocolate milk is a surprisingly good recovery drink — and there's science to prove it

*It's far from perfect, but it's a cheap and readily available alternative*

Chocolate milk contains carbohydrates, proteins, and fat, as well as water and electrolytes which makes it a surprisingly good candidate for a recovery drink. In a recent meta-analysis, a team of researchers investigated other studies that looked at how well chocolate milk fares in this regard, compared to a placebo or other products. The results, as some would say, will surprise you.

In recent years, the health industry has boomed. Just go to any market selling specialized products (or even to health aisles in many supermarkets), and you'll see myriad products, often high-indistinguishable from one another. While some are indeed more science-based and effective, it's hard to know how to find them in the unfamiliar crowd on the shelves.

Chocolate milk was reportedly created in Jamaica by Hans Sloane, an Irish physician, naturalist, and collector. It took a while for it to get popular, but nowadays, it's become one of the most popular drinks on the market. The main draw is the taste, as the mouthfeel of the milk masks the dietary fibers in the cocoa



solids, and the dark richness of chocolate works well with the fatty milk (although more recently, non-fat or skimmed chocolate milk have also become popular).

The health benefits of chocolate milk are still hotly debated, with sugar being a particularly contentious topic, especially when it comes to child nutrition. However, the drink may also be helpful in some situations — such as recovering from a workout.

A study led by Mojgan Amiri, currently at the Erasmus University Medical Center in the Netherlands and previously at the University of

Medical Sciences in Yazd, Iran, analyzed the effects of chocolate milk as a recovery drink. The team analyzed 12 previous studies on the topic.

"Chocolate milk (CM) contains carbohydrates, proteins, and fat, as well as water and electrolytes, which may be ideal for post-exercise recovery. We systematically reviewed the evidence regarding the efficacy of CM compared to either water or other "sport drinks" on post-exercise recovery markers," the researchers write in the study.

Several previous studies have suggested that ingesting chocolate milk improves recovery and per-

formance measures, especially a metric called the "time to exhaustion" or TTE—the time (at a given power or intensity) after which an exercise cannot be maintained. However, singular studies often focus on small sample sizes or a singular metric, whereas a meta-analysis (a study of studies) can offer a more large-scale picture. Although this is a fairly small meta-analysis, it's one of the most comprehensive efforts to date.

When it comes to chocolate milk as a recovery drink, the studies don't always agree. Some have found that fat-free chocolate milk increases the TTE, while others report more mixed results. It's exactly in this type of situation that meta-analyses can provide a clearer picture. In this case, the researchers concede that there is a need for larger studies, but they ultimately conclude:

"Chocolate milk provides either similar or superior results when compared to placebo or some other recovery drink. Overall, the evidence is limited and high-quality clinical trials with more well-controlled methodology and larger sample sizes are warranted."

# What's the difference between veganism vs vegetarianism?

VEGANISM VS VEGETARIANISM: WHICH IS BETTER? WE COMPARE THE BENEFITS AND RISKS OF THESE POPULAR PLANT-BASED DIETS

Most people can broadly describe the difference between veganism vs vegetarianism. The basic principles behind these diets are similar: both involve eating a plant-based diet, whether that be for environmental, ethical or religious purposes. But while vegetarians only exclude meat from their diets, veganism is more restrictive and involves wider reaching lifestyle changes.

However, if you're considering switching to a more plant-based way of living, you may feel unsure as to which one of these lifestyles would better suit your individual circumstances. On top of this, many myths and misconceptions surround the veganism vs vegetarianism debate, making it difficult to make an informed decision.

With more people taking an interest in eco-friendly ways of living, understanding the pros and cons of veganism and vegetarianism can come in handy. Here, you can find a comprehensive guide to vegan and vegetarian diets to help you navigate the plant-based world.

**WHAT IS A VEGETARIAN DIET?**  
According to the Vegetarian Society, a vegetarian diet excludes products and by-products of animal slaughter, such as meat, poultry, game, fish and shellfish, as well as



insects, gelatine, animal rennet, stock and animal fat. Instead, vegetarians tend to base their meals on fruits, vegetables, grains, pulses, nuts and seeds. When it comes to consumption of other animal-based foods (dairy, honey, and eggs in particular) it largely depends on the type of vegetarianism involved.

**WHAT IS A VEGAN DIET?**  
A vegan diet is sometimes considered to be a subtype of vegetarian diet. According to the Vegan Society, a vegan diet excludes all animal-based foods, including meat, poultry, game fish, shellfish, eggs and dairy products, as well as all animal derivatives, such as gelatin, carmine, honey, shellac, albumin, whey, casein and some forms of vitamins. The idea behind veganism is to avoid all forms of animal exploitation and cruelty.

Vegans tend to base their meals on fruits, vegetables, grains, pulses, nuts and seeds, and need to use certain dietary supplements to avoid potential deficiencies. Highly active vegans may also need to invest in the best vegan protein powder to top up their protein intake.

**VEGANISM VS VEGETARIANISM: SIMILARITIES**  
Veganism and vegetarianism have a lot in common. Both of these movements emphasize the need for protecting animals from harm, though the exact scope of these beliefs may differ. Both vegans and vegetarians avoid meat completely and focus on eating a plant-based diet that's rich in wholefoods, particularly grains, fruit, vegetables, beans, lentils, nuts, seeds and seaweeds. Also, both dietary patterns allow the consumption of plant-

based meat alternatives, dairy and egg alternatives, as well as dietary supplements, alcoholic drinks, coffee and tea.

**VEGANISM VS VEGETARIANISM: DIFFERENCES**  
To help you get an understanding of where these two diet plans differ, let's take a closer look at some of the key differences between veganism and vegetarianism.

Modern production chains are designed to efficiently produce, store and distribute large quantities of foods. To fulfill the consumer demands for fresh meat, eggs and dairy, many food producers turn to industrial farming practices which can cause a lot of distress and suffering for the animals. For a lot of vegetarians and vegans, this is a driving factor in their dietary preferences. However, while animal welfare is the primary reason why they avoid eating animal flesh, they can differ in terms of the degree to which they consider animal products acceptable.

Vegetarians generally agree to consuming animal products like eggs and milk, as long as they were produced in an ethical and sustainable way. A lot of vegans avoid eating animal-based products altogether, as well as opting for cruelty-free clothing, cosmetics, entertainment and household items.

# I Study Brain Health & Longevity: This Is My Favorite Snack For Cognition

When you're feeling hungry midday, it can be tempting to reach for something quick—which oftentimes means processed (and not the healthiest). However, let us remind you that not all grab-and-go snacks have to come from a box. In fact, your body will thank you if you reach for something simple and packed with protein.

Just ask cognitive health and longevity expert Max Lugavere: On a recent episode of the mindbodygreen podcast, he shared his go-to snack to nurture his brain and keep his energy levels balanced. His answer? A simple cup of Greek yogurt. Here, find a few ways to mix up this expert's favorite afternoon nosh. Why Greek yogurt makes a great midday snack. Because Greek yogurt doesn't take much time to prepare (just, you know, scoop some into a bowl and dig in), it makes a great snack for those on the go. Not to mention, Greek yogurt is packed with nutrients.

Of course, you can reach for a dairy-free alternative, like almond or cashew yogurt, if you follow a plant-based diet. Lugavere, however, says dairy yogurt has some worthy perks, if you can tolerate it.

"Full-fat dairy has a number of really cool nutrients in it; whether we're talking about vitamin K2, or butyrate, or CLA, I think there's a lot of good to be had in dairy, if you're not



one of the many people who are dairy sensitive," Lugavere explains. Research has even shown that dairy has the potential to enhance cognitive function as you age. As Lugavere adds, "If you're not dairy sensitive, I do think that it is a food worth welcoming back to the table." Beyond that, Greek yogurt is an affordable option, too. "Greek yogurt is one of the most economical ways of getting a high-quality protein source in the modern supermarket," Lugavere shares. One 4-ounce serving of Greek yogurt contains 12 grams of protein, so you get a lot of bang for your buck.

How to spice up a cup of Greek yogurt. If you find a cup of plain Greek yogurt a tad boring, here are a few ways to have fun with your snack—and keep it blood-sugar-friendly. Add toppings: There are tons of options to choose from when it comes to dressing your yogurt. Some of our favorites include nuts, berries, seeds, cinnamon, and a drizzle of honey. Pack in skin-supporting supplements: Yogurt serves as an easy vehicle for powdered supplements. Our go-to, of course, is the mibg beauty & collagen.\* Not only is this blend packed with even more protein (thanks to the grass-fed collagen), but it also contains vitamins C and E, hyaluronic acid, and turmeric for extra skin-health benefits.\* Bonus: It comes in a chocolate flavor (with zero added sugar) for those who prefer something more rich. If you're curious about what Lugavere eats in a day (beyond this delicious snack), check out the full daily menu here.

The takeaway. When it comes to selecting a midday snack, something easy and quick is generally the way to go. Greek yogurt (especially with collagen powder) is packed with protein to help satisfy your midday hunger.

# HOW MUCH EXERCISE DOES IT TAKE TO AVOID HEART PROBLEMS IN YOUR 70S?

A ny amount of exercise is better than none. But at least 20 minutes of daily physical activity could be the sweet spot for avoiding cardiovascular problems in your 70s, according to an observational study from Italy, published online Feb. 14, 2022, by the journal Heart. The study included almost 2,800 people ages 65 or older who were followed for more than 20 years.

People who got between 20 and 40 minutes per day of moderate-intensity activity (such as brisk walking) or vigorous-intensity activity (such as gardening, working out in a gym, biking, dancing, or swimming) had fewer heart attacks and cardiovascular problems and a lower risk of premature death, compared with people who weren't physically



active. And among men, at least 20 minutes of daily exercise was associated with a 52% lower risk of cardiovascular problems, compared with people who didn't exercise.

The greatest benefits were seen among men ages 70 to 75. Because the study is observational, it doesn't

prove conclusively that exercise prevents heart disease. However, many studies have shown that moderate- or vigorous-intensity exercise helps protect your heart and brain; helps prevent diabetes, cancer, and other chronic diseases; and reduces the risk for premature death.

# Mediterranean Keto Diet: What It Is, Benefits & Ingredients To Buy

What is the Mediterranean keto diet? Before getting into the specifics of the Mediterranean keto diet, it's helpful to dive into the basics of each of the individual plans.

**Mediterranean diet**  
A Mediterranean diet consists of foods that are commonly eaten by people who live near the Mediterranean Sea in countries like Italy, Spain, and Greece. The diet emphasizes whole grains, beans, nuts, legumes, fruits, veggies, and olive oil, leaving room for fish and seafood a couple of times a week. Eggs, cheese, and yogurt are recommended in moderation, and red meat and sweets are limited. While there isn't a specific

emphasis on macros—meaning you have to count how many grams of fat, protein, and/or carbohydrates you're eating—the eating style typically consists of 50% carbohydrates (including grains and veggies), about 15% proteins, and 35% fats (more on Mediterranean diet macros here).

**Keto diet**  
The keto diet is a high-fat, low-carb plan. Unlike the Mediterranean diet, the success of the keto diet relies heavily on macro counting. Typically, carbs are limited to about 5 to 10% of calories, while 75% of calories should come from fat. Protein makes up the rest of the plan, at 10 to 20% of calories. "The downside of the keto diet is that to get and stay in ketosis—the state where



your body burns fat rather than glucose as its predominant fuel source—you'll need to keep your carbohydrate intake between about 20 and 50 grams a day," says board-certified internist and mibg Collective member Vincent M. Pedro, MD. (For reference, a small apple has 20 grams of carbohydrates.)

Because carbohydrates are so restricted on a keto diet, this usually means eliminating most high-carb foods, but that doesn't mean your plate should be stacked with meat and cheese. "Ask somebody what keto is, and the foods that pop up would be bacon and butter and steak and lard. Most of us don't

appreciate that you can do keto without that," Ethan Weiss, M.D., preventive cardiologist and co-founder of Key Eats previously told mibg.

While you do eliminate many high-carb options like beans, fruits, legumes, starchy vegetables, grains, and low-fat dairy products,

you're free to consume a wide variety of low-carb foods like meat, poultry, seafood, eggs, cheese, avocados, nuts, oils, butter, and some full-fat dairy.

The Mediterranean keto diet combines aspects of both nutrition plans, offering a unique hybrid solution for those who aren't totally sold on either. It retains the Mediterranean diet's high-protein, healthy fat foods with nonstarchy veggies, but without the high-carb foods like legumes, fruits, beans, and whole grains.

What to expect. There's no shortage of studies backing the Mediterranean diet—it offers many potential health benefits, like improved blood sugar control, better

cardiovascular outcomes (like lower blood pressure and cholesterol), and can help maintain healthy inflammatory response. But adding the keto angle may take things up a notch.

In a 2021 study, researchers compared the outcome of following a keto diet versus a Mediterranean diet for 12 weeks in 33 people. While both plans resulted in a similar rate of adherence, the participants on the keto diet experienced better glucose control and a more significant decrease in triglycerides and LDL levels. They also lost more weight, on average.

In another 2021 study published in Nutrients, researchers set out to compare a Mediterranean diet with a low-carbohydrate

diet. They divided 36 participants into two groups—one group followed a traditional Mediterranean diet, while the other followed a low-carb (but not quite keto) nutrition plan with the same amount of calories.

While both groups experienced health benefits, like improved insulin sensitivity, the low-carbohydrate group lost about 60% more weight, on average. Years ago, researchers also looked at an unlimited-calorie Mediterranean keto diet, specifically, and found that it can promote weight loss, normalize blood pressure, and reduce total cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, and triglycerides in individuals with obesity. It can also raise HDL, or "good," cholesterol.



# Basha Sangam: SCERT's Tamil Quiz Promotes Language Diversity, Multilingualism

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 05: The Department of Education in Languages wing of the State Council of Educational Research and Languages (SCERT), Thursday, conducted an inter-district quiz competition on Tamil language wherein scores of students from all the 10 districts of the Kashmir Division took part.

The "Basha Sangam" initiative, launched by the Government of India, aims to foster linguistic diversity and multilingualism within the country. The program's primary goal is to establish a platform where different languages can converge and interact, as the name "Basha

Sangam" suggests, which translates to "confluence of languages."

In his inaugural speech, the academic head, Unit-1, Zahoor Ahmad Dar said that Basha Sangam is an essential initiative that would go a long way in promoting linguistic diversity. "It would eventually help in preserving endangered languages, and encourage multilingualism in the country," he said. "The program has a significant impact on society by promoting cultural understanding, enhancing cognitive abilities, and improving communication skills."

The Wing's head, Ms Shabnum, who is also the Basha Sangam's divisional nodal officer, said that



Basha Sangam celebrates the multilingual diversity of India by providing a platform for various languages to come together and interact. "The initiative helps to promote cultural understanding and social harmony by fostering an environment where people from diverse backgrounds can communicate and learn from each other," she said.

Academic officer Masood Ali said that Basha Sangam empowers teachers and students to appreciate the importance of languages beyond the official and regional languages of India. The quiz was conducted in multiple stages, where the participating students were subjected to a rigorous evaluation of their grasp of the Tamil language.

Further, the winners of the quiz were also presented with trophies, which were a symbol of their exceptional performance and proficiency in the Tamil language.

The presentation of trophies to the winners not only recognized their talent but also motivated other participants to strive for excellence in learning different languages.

To everyone's surprise, academic officer Sheikh Gulzar Ahmad read out his "vote of thanks" in Tamil.

## KU's South Campus gets e-Rikshaw from J&K Bank under CSR



JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 05: The Jammu & Kashmir Bank under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative has provided a battery operated e-Rikshaw to the South Campus, University of Kashmir.

Zonal Head, Anantnag Mr. Khurshheed Muzaffar handed over the keys of 4+1 seater e-Rikshaw to Director, South Campus, Prof Mukhtar Ahmad Khanday at a small function held at South Campus, Anantnag. The e-Rikshaw will cater to the needs of specially-abled students and female staff of the Campus.

The function was attended by faculty members, officers of the Campus, and a team of officials and officers from J&K Bank. Speaking on the occasion, Prof Mukhtar Khanday expressed his gratitude to J&K Bank for according to the request of dedicating a battery operated e-Rikshaw to South Campus.

He further said that South Campus will try to further build a strong relationship with J&K Bank and promote entrepreneurship and help the campus in various economic initiatives. He said that under the National Green Corps programme launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, the Campus is mulling collaborating with the J&K Bank to make South Campus a Green and Carbon-Free Campus. Dr Khanday requested the Bank authorities to support the campus studies by providing bus service in future under the CSR scheme.

Zonal Head, Mr. Khurshheed Muzaffar while speaking on the occasion said that J&K Bank is happy to provide financial services to University of Kashmir and its students to excel in the field of education. He said that J&K Bank will try to come up to the expectations of the employees and students of the varsity in terms of providing them educational loans and other facilities to carry out their academic and research activities. He agreed to the request of South Campus for an MoU to strengthen the relation with J&K Bank.

## Priya Sethi bats for filling all vacant posts in Govt departments

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05

Priya Sethi National Executive Member BJP and former minister on Friday urged the LG Manoj Sinha's administration to fill all the posts lying vacant in the government departments.

The senior BJP leader raised the issue after meeting a deputation of job aspirants, who highlighted their plight regarding vacant posts of Tabla Assistants in various Degree Colleges and also in Fine Arts College run by J&K Government.

After listening to the grievances of the young job aspirants, Priya Sethi made a fervent appeal to LG Manoj Sinha to intervene in the matter and take steps to fill all the vacant posts to safeguard the future of the young generation as many job aspirants are about to cross the upper age limit. She said if the government

does not act fast, the future of many of the talented youths will become redundant.

Earlier, the deputation apprised the former minister about several posts lying vacant in different colleges of Jammu. They particularly laid stress on the posts of Tabla Assistants in Fine Arts College.

Priya assured the visiting deputation members to take up their issue before the concerned quarters claiming that already J&K

Administration headed by LG Sinha has already identified 60,000 posts lying vacant in several departments of J&K government. She assured the youths of the UT of J&K to rest assured that sooner than later the government will open up vistas of opportunities for them as the process to advertise the jobs is underway and the long wait for getting jobs shall soon be over.

## DC Srinagar inspects progress of works in City parts, on Gupkar-IG Road Axis



JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 05: In order to review the progress of Spruce up works ahead of G-20 Summit in District, the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad in the evening hours undertook onsite visit and inspection of various beautification works being carried out in different City parts and enroute to the Srinagar International

Airport.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation and CEO, SSCL, Athar Amir Khan.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner took stock of beautification, upgradation and redevelopment works at Zero Bridge, Raj Bagh, Lal Mandi, LD Hospital Road, Gogjibagh, Rambagh, Bazulla, Baghat,

Parraypora, Hyderabad, Perbagh, Hazhama and Airport Junction.

On the occasion, the DC stressed the Officers of the concerned Departments and Executing agencies to mobilize all available machinery and manpower to accelerate the pace of ongoing works and ensure their completion with the set timelines keeping in view the nature of exigency of the works.

The DC also instructed

that roads, surrounding, boundary walls of building along IG Road should look fascinating through facade improvement.

He said making the City beautiful is a joint effort and all departments shall play their part in hosting the G20 Summit in Srinagar District.

The DC further asked the Officers to push for double shift of working in all the existing works including development of footpaths, medians, traffic road furnishing, landscape improvement, installation of hoardings, besides removing debris & construction material from roads recently upgraded, etc to increase the aesthetic value of the area.

During the visit, the DC was accompanied by Chief Planning officer, Srinagar, Joint Commissioner SMC, SDM, East, SDM, West, Executive Engineers of R&B, PDD, PHE, SSCL, Tehsilard South, Tehsilard Khayar and other Concerned Officers.

# Modi's outreach to every single person across the country has unnerved opp. :NDPI Chief

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 5:

National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT Chief Rajesh Gupta on Friday said the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has transformed the country's politico-develop-

ment ethos in the recent past and the PM is committed to inclusive growth of J&K in every sphere by taking every segment along. Modi's outreach to every single person across the country has unnerved and rattled the elements creating fear psychosis

with sinister designs of creating vote banks.

In this unholy pursuit they have been spreading negativity and dividing the people on the basis of religion and caste. "This might have benefitted them to some extent but now that the peo-

ple have started seeing through their dirty game plan, they are rallying behind the Modi for holistic development and equitable opportunities of progress to all,said Gupta.

NDPI leader said while interacting with party workers here,

Gupta said that Indian politics has entered into a new era of bonding with social barriers crashing and 'nation first' philosophy becoming the way of life and guiding force to ensure progression of all, irrespective of religion, region or caste.

## SP College remember academicians late Prof G. M. Bhat



JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 5: The Dean Students Welfare of Sri Pratap College, Srinagar organized a lecture in honour of late Prof G. M. Bhat who was a great innovator, academician and a role model to the student community and teaching fraternity.

The programme was attended by the Principal Sri Pratap College, Srinagar Prof. (Dr) Gh. Jeelan Qureshi, Guest of honour Dr Tasleema Jan W/o Late Prof G.M Bhat, Prof Rabia Ahmad Head Department of

English, Dr Muqabil Burhan Associate Professor IIM Jammu, Dr Shahid Jibaran Program officer IIM Jammu , Dr Azra Mufti (State Resource coordinator MGNF), Ms Farah Farooq (State Resource Co-ordinator Ladakh), Dean Student Welfare (Girls), Dr Khalida Hassan & Dr Shazia Mushtaq Dean Student Welfare (Boys), Dr Jan Shabir & Dr Mohammad Raies ul Haq.

The programme was further moderated by Dr Shazia Mushtaq and the Rapporteur of the programme was Dr Syed Javid Ahmad Andrabi.

The programme started with an address by the Principal of the college, Prof. (Dr) Gh. Jeelan Qureshi. The Principal highlighted the role of Entrepreneurship and Skill Development.

He briefed the students about the importance of business management in Science and Technology and how economic aspects can be important in day to day life. The Principal addressed the contribution of Late Prof G. M Bhat by highlighting the monumental contribution in Technology and Science. Guest of Honour, Dr. Tasleema

Jan W/o Late Prof. G.M Bhat addressed the audience about the contribution of Prof Bhat and thanked the administration of the college to organize lecture in honor of him.

The programme highlight was the audio/video lecture by Dr. Muqbil Burhan, an Associate Professor in the area of Business Policy, Strategy and Entrepreneurship and Chairperson of IIM Jammu's Srinagar Campus and also Chairperson of Center for Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Skill Development at IIMJ (Srinagar campus).

In his lecture, he highlighted the strategies, business policies and apprised the audience about how important it is to understand and inculcate the Entrepreneurship knowledge in their curriculum and also in day to day life.

Dr. Shahid Jibaran Program Manager at IIM Jammu & currently looking after Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship Program highlighted the various aspects related to Innovation & Skill Development. The focus of his presentation was to make students understand how to start, organize and run a business.

Dr Azra Mufti State Resource coordinator MGNF, Ms Farah Farooq State coordinator Ladakh had an interactive session with the students about Innovation & Skill Development. Over 200 students and college faculty members, Head of the Departments participated in the programme. The program was concluded by Vote of thanks presented by Dr Shazia Mushtaq Assistant Dean of the college.

## HADP Awareness prog on Post harvest held in Kaprin, Shopian



JI NEWS SERVICE

SHOPIAN, MAY, 05: Department of Horticulture Planning & Marketing Shopian today organized an awareness Camp on Post harvest schemes/management with special focus on Strengthening of Agriculture Marketing under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) in Block Kaprin at Panchayat Halqa Parlabpora Shopian.

Besides a large gathering of locals, representatives of line departments attended the Programme. Area Marketing Officer Shopian presented a detailed overview of the schemes being implemented in the District under HADP by this department. The audience were urged to come forward and reap the benefits of the scheme.

The Participants were also made aware about other schemes like PMFME and Support for Grading & Packaging Scheme of this department. Also a presentation about the working of e-NAM was brought before the Participants.

## DC Srinagar Mohd Asad flags off Swachhta Carvaan in District

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR MAY 05:- With a view to promote cleanliness and hygiene among the public, the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Friday morning flagged off a Swachhta Carvaan vehicle here from Gupkar Junction to spread the cleanliness and hygiene awareness in all the Panchayat Blocks of the district.

The Swachhta Carvaan in an initiative aimed at promoting cleanliness and hygiene, creating awareness among the people about the importance of keeping their surroundings clean and hygienic under Swachh Bharat Mission.

The Swachhta Carvaan initiative "Ek Kadam Safai Ki Aur" also aims to ensure that the open defecation free behaviours are sustained and that solid and liquid waste management facilities are accessible.

Assistant Commissioner Development, Srinagar, Syed Farooq Ahmad, Block Development Officer, Majid Iqbal and other concerned were present on the occasion.

# BJP District Jammu South unit pay obeisance at Narsingh Dham Ghagwal



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan along with the team of District Jammu South paid obeisance on the holy occasion of Lord Narsingh Jayanti at Ghagwal Temple in Kathua District and prayed for the peace and prosperity of the Union Territory.

While interacting with the devotees, Rekha Mahajan said that these occasions and festivals serve as a great opportunity for people to come together and celebrate the festivals and the spirit of Indian culture. District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan added that the celebration of such festivals brings people together and cements the bonds of brotherhood and communal harmony. She hoped that this auspicious occasion will usher Jammu and Kashmir in peace.

Rekha Mahajan said Narasimha Jayanti is commemorated as the day of Narasimha's birth anniversary, symbolizing the victory of good over evil and the triumph of faith over adversity. She said it is believed that worshipping Lord Narasimha on this day can grant protection, prosperity, and blessings to devotees. She said the festival is celebrated with great enthusiasm and devotion across India and is particularly significant in the southern parts of the country.

Territory.

Narasimha Jayanti is a Hindu festival that celebrates the birth anniversary of Narasimha who is considered by devotees as an incarnation of Vishnu. It is observed on the 14th day of the Hindu month of Vaisakh, which falls between April and May in the Gregorian calendar.

# Serious lapses in development under Smart City Project in Jammu: Pavneet Kour

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, Women Wing, Pavneet Kour today expressed serious concern over lapse in development in Smart City Project undertaken by the Jammu Municipal Corporation.

"Jammu City was promised development but all the steps taken on the name of Smart City Project were implemented on ground in an unplanned manner by the authorities," said Pavneet Kour. She said that "The installation of street lights and sign boards does not make Jammu a Smart City Union traffic menace, unclean and stinking drains are cleaned, proper garbage collection and its disposal is done in an envi-



ronmentally friendly manner." She further said that: "The pathways in the city are uprooted, and where the new tile work is started, it is done without taking into account the shopkeepers. The business has suffered because of unplanned development and several times, they have also adversely affected drinking water supply," she added. She was addressing a meeting which was organized by Shivani Koul. The meeting was attended by State General Secretary Youth Wing, Abhay Bakaya, Provincial President Youth Wing Jammu, Vipul Bali, District President Youth Wing, Shivam Choudhary, District President Women Wing, Ritu Pandita, Senior Vice President Youth Wing, Sandeep Vaid, District Abhinav Gupta, District Secretary Youth, Ankush Dogra and others.

which has caused great inconvenience to the people. "The unscheduled power cuts during the summer season especially in metered areas are highly condemnable and it shows how the PDD has collapsed to ensure round the clock electricity to the consumers. The electricity cuts have also adversely affected drinking water supply," she added. She was addressing a meeting which was organized by Shivani Koul. The meeting was attended by State General Secretary Youth Wing, Abhay Bakaya, Provincial President Youth Wing Jammu, Vipul Bali, District President Youth Wing, Shivam Choudhary, District President Women Wing, Ritu Pandita, Senior Vice President Youth Wing, Sandeep Vaid, District Abhinav Gupta, District Secretary Youth, Ankush Dogra and others.

# Sharma strongly condemns terrorist attack in Rajouri

JI NEWS SERVICE

Congress leader Jammu and JKDC General Secretary Urban Romesh Sharma today strongly condemned terrorist attack in Rajouri resulting in martyrdom of Five soldiers and including an officer during a gunfight with the terrorists in frontier district of Rajouri. Sharma in a statement said that the incident is serious and believes claims of the government and the security heads regarding the ground situation. My deepest condolences to the families and relatives of mar-



tyred, and wish a speedy recovery to

the injured," he said. The incident is highly condemnable. It shows that the enemies of peace are desperate to damage communal harmony and stability in the district," he said. The recent terror strikes in Rajouri and Poonch and also in Jammu, Udhampur, Reasi, Ramban and Kishtwar districts of the Jammu division indicate that attempts are being made to revive militancy in these areas. Terrorism is on rise in J&K. The government should come up with some tangible plan to safeguard people.

# All India Radio Is Only 'Akashvani' Now. Experts Weigh In With A Note Of Caution

NEW DELHI: National broadcaster Prasar Bharati's move to direct all the departments concerned to ensure that All India Radio is referred to only as "Akashvani" in accordance with the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 is a major move in its history. Apart from the official order, the policy division of the public broadcaster has also sent a message to all station heads on Wednesday saying as per the stationary provision of the act, the radio vertical of Prasar Bharati is officially known as Akashvani, and instructed heads to use the term Akashvani "wherever applicable in all announcements going on air." "Further the term, Akashvani may be used invariably in all official communication. Accordingly, the announcement in English should go like, this is akashvani in place of this is All India Radio and the pattern followed in other languages with immediate effect." Some experts that NDTV spoke with have suggested caution, and not doing away with 'AIR' entirely, as although the act refers to the use of Akashvani, All India Radio is cemented in the minds of listeners, and is

important for brand recall and recognition. Others, while suggesting that the move may not have any fallout, said it was however important to harmonise the branding, as it is known worldwide by All India Radio or AIR and its app, website, and most importantly the logo, have the initials 'AIR'. The order issued by Prasar Bharati said that Section 2(a) of the PB Act that came into force on November 15, 1997, says that "Akashvani" means all the offices, stations, and other establishments which are or were under the Director-General All India Radio of the Information & Broadcasting Ministry. The Prasar Bharati website says that broadcasting in India started about 13 years before the AIR came into existence. The history of the national broadcaster says that on June 8, 1936, the Indian State Broadcasting Service became All India Radio and the Central News Organisation came into existence in August 1937. "In the same year, AIR came under the Department of Communications and four years later came under the Department of Information and

Broadcasting. In 1956, the name Akashvani was adopted for the national broadcaster," the website said. Image guru Dilip Cherian said the insistence on the use of Akashvani instead of All India Radio is in line with the often-witnessed push for Bharatiya (Indian-ness) and wanting to avoid certain parts of the nomenclature. "The consumer is left cold here. If there is a new product, a rebranding allows it to address a new audience which had either abandoned it or was never addressed by it. So the only option Prasar Bharati has now is to enhance the content which justifies the new branding." "Plus, there is a lot of 'not invented here' going on, and brands cannot be led by that. The consumer is not interested in who is taking credit for inventing something," he said. Mr Cherian added that when one does a brand change 80 per cent of it is outward facing but 20 per cent of it is inward facing. "How do you feel when you go home and tell people the company that you work for has been rebranded, is important here."

# People trust Azad, we will sweep chenab valley; Saroori, Nizami

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 05: In a move to reach out to the people across the corners of Banihal, the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) on Friday kick started the massive membership drive in Banihal under the presence of party Vice Chairman C.M. Saroori, Chief Spokesperson Salman Nizami, District President Thakur Dharam Dhand, Secretary Arun Singh Raju, Zonal VP Fayaz Naik, Dr Asif Khanday, Munner Bhatt, Ilyas Banihali, Ferooq Wani Block President, Ch Mohd Ferooq, Asghar Rasool Bhat, Sheikh Shabir, Ayoub Naik & others. Mr Saroori stressed for the maximum reach by the party leaders during the membership drive and said that DPAP shall be the household name in the Union Territory. He said Party Chief Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad made tremendous efforts to build up the



infrastructure of otherwise overlooked mountainous town when he was the Chief Minister. He said while serving as Union minister, Mr Azad ensured good number of projects are sanctioned for Banihal like Degree College, Hospital, Distt for Ramban, Roads, Tehsil etc since it was lacking proper connectivity and attention from the succes-

sive regimes. Most of the projects were completed during Azad's tenure while all the successive regimes ignored the Banihal," he said while addressing a public meeting. Chief Spokesperson Salman Nizami said if the DPAP comes to power, we will ensure Banihal is developed as the model town of entire UT since it is at the center and shall remain as transition point from economic and social point of view. He said that the support & participation of the people in Azad's rally in Banihal was so commendable and he thanked them for it. He said, we don't have competition with any party, people of Banihal are with Mr. Azad and we will sweep the entire Chenab valley

# Pathania for declaring crop losses as a 'calamity'

JI NEWS SERVICE

RAMNAGAR, MAY 05: While interacting with delegations of farmers at Ramnagar who have suffered due to incessant and untimely rains at the peak of harvesting season causing whopping losses to their harvests, Mr R S Pathania, BJP Spokesperson called for immediately assessing the said crop losses and compensating the affected farmers as these losses have broken the back of farmers. The main crop (Wheat) is the economic lifeline of agriculturists throughout the entire Jammu region. Either wheat grains have re-sprouted or have turned black, causing disappointment to the farmers fraternity.

A crisis-like situation has been prevailing in areas of Udhampur in scores of villages where incessant rains have caused whopping losses to ripe crops. Given the situation in view of unprecedented rainfall in areas of Ramnagar, Majalata and other parts of Udhampur, Chenani, Ghordi and Panchari, and the absence of government touch over here, situation is grave. Mr. Pathania called upon the Lt. Governor to immediately direct the assessing agencies to assess the compensation losses and provide ade-



quate compensation with a view to ensuring that people do not fall into a debt trap. Mr. Pathania was further of the case that a holistic call needs to be taken regarding the repair of hand pumps in Ramnagar municipality due to impending summer season. These out of order hand pumps are acting as a jugular vein for the people who are facing daily issues due to lesser access to drinking water. He further called for provision of staff in the animal husbandry centers in the area. Due to recent transfers there are dozens of centers which have been left unattended. Mr. Pathania then called for ensuring that the people have quality access to animal healthcare in the area. He called for improving the

breed of livestock which acts as an alternative support for the marginal farmers. Mr. Pathania while taking up the case of Kirchi to Seoj Dhar road, Thial to Chountra Mata road and missing link of Finger to Manwal road. These roads connect exquisite tourist destinations and various temples which can be of a great significance in boosting up the local tourism and the road connectivity in the area. Those who were present included Benti Devi, Chairman M.C Ramnagar, Jattu Ram DDC Ramnagar-I, Kuldeep Sharma, Rameshwar Gupta, Jagmohan, Bikram Singh, Dr. Sunil Bhardwaj, Raj Gopal, Rameez Sheikh, Pritam Chand, Ram Lal and a galaxy of local leaders.

# Will Win Comfortable Majority": BS Bommai Dismisses Pre-Poll Surveys Favouring Congress

SHIGGOAN: Dismissing pre-poll surveys giving opposition Congress an edge in the May 10 Assembly elections in the state, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Friday added confidence his party BJP will retain power with a "comfortable majority" and without the JD(S) support.

In an interview with PTL, Mr Bommai said whether he will continue as Chief Minister in the event of the party coming to power will be decided by the BJP high command and its Parliamentary Board. He also said former chief minister Jagdish Shettar, who defected to Congress over denial of a BJP ticket to yet again contest from Hubli-Dharwad Central, will lose this time. Whereas, the 14 defectors who helped the BJP topple the Congress-JD(S) government in 2019 will win from their respective segments. BS Bommai also alleged that Congress has taken the election as a long pending demand and "I have addressed" them. Earlier, many people were denied the benefit because the reservation was not given as per the population. Those sections of peo-



ple have got hopes now with internal reservation, he said. "We have recommended the internal reservation; ultimately the Government of India has to take a call," he added. Ahead of the elections, the state government created two new categories of OBCs including the Lingayats and Volkalgals to provide the benefits of reservation. Dismissing the Congress' 40 per cent commission charge against his government, BS Bommai challenged, "Let the press or the Opposition or the contractors' association show one case (against our government). I will answer." He also blamed the Opposition for the BJP not raising development issues in the election campaign. "It is because of the Opposition. We have done a lot of development in the state. They are going to fail," he added.

Stating that the Congress has taken the election discourse to a very low level, Mr Bommai said BJP legislator Basagounda Patil Yalmal's "Visha Kanye" remarks, aimed at former Congress chief Sonia Gandhi, are "not normal." But it has been taken to a "very low level by the Congress." "I started with Congress. The Visha Sarpa (venomous snake) remark was made at none other than (Prime Minister) Narendra Modi by AICC President (Mallikarjun Kharge). That's how the reaction comes. You cannot say and get away," he said. Asked if he is emerging as a dominant Lingayat leader after BS Yediyurappa, BS Bommai said, there was a battery of leaders in the party now. "All are leaders, there is nothing called second rung." The Chief Minister is seeking re-election for the fourth consecutive time from the Shiggaon constituency in Haveri district as the Congress has fielded Yasir Ahmed Khan Pathan from the constituency, while Sashidhar Yeliger, who is a Panchamasali Lingayat, is the JD(S) pick.

# Amit Shah Cancels Karnataka Poll Campaign Amid Manipur Violence: Report

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah has cancelled all his election programmes for the upcoming assembly elections in Karnataka in the wake of clashes reported in parts of Manipur, sources said.

According to the sources, Mr Shah who is closely monitoring the situation in Manipur, is expected to continue to hold meetings with authorities in the state, about the prevailing scene and measures being taken to restore normalcy.

On Thursday, Mr Shah called off all his election meetings, and held multiple meetings via video conferencing and also spoke to chief ministers of the northeastern states on the law and order situation.

"The Union Home Minister Shah held discussion late at night with Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh and other top officials in view of the sit-



uation in state," sources added.

On Thursday, Mr Shah held two meetings via video-conferencing and spoke with the Chief Ministers of Manipur and neighbouring states, including Assam, Nagaland, and Mizoram in view of the situation in Manipur.

Moreover, to keep the

situation in control, the central paramilitary forces were rushed to Manipur.

According to sources, there was a speculation that Mr Shah could visit the violence-hit state, but the speculations were turned down by the party leaders, who said that as of now, he will be monitoring the situation from Delhi. Army and paramil-

itary forces have been deployed in Manipur and flag marches were also taken out to keep the situation under control.

Violence broke out on May 3, during a rally organized by the All Tribals Students Union (ATSU) Manipur to protest the demand for inclusion of Meitei/Meitei cat-

egory. This prompted the state government to issue prohibitory order and suspend internet services across the state for five days. Along with a ban on gatherings, a night curfew too has been imposed in several districts of the state.

The Army asked people to be careful about rumours and fake videos. "Fake videos on the security situation in Manipur including a video of an attack on Assam Rifles being circulated by inimical elements for vested interests. Indian Army requests all to rely on content through official & verified sources only," the Spear Corps, Indian Army said in a tweet.

A day after this, Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma called an urgent meeting to ensure the safety of students from the state after violence was reported in Manipur.

# Hindu Temple in Sydney Vandalised ahead of PM Modi's Australia visit

MELBOURNE: A prominent Hindu temple in Sydney was defaced by "anti-social elements" on Friday with anti-India graffiti at the walls, in the latest incident of vandalism against Hindu temples in Australia ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the country later this month.

The incident took place at the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Rosehill, Sydney. However, the time is not yet known. Temple authorities also found a Khalistani flag hanging on the gate, and reported the matter to New South Wales (NSW) police, the Australia Today newspaper reported.

"We are deeply saddened by the anti-India graffiti on the walls of the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Rosehill, Sydney by anti-social elements," the temple said in a statement. "We are further disheartened that BAPS temples in Australia have been targeted. For the last 23 years, the BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir has been a cornerstone of the local community and a prominent Hindu Temple which, like all BAPS temples worldwide, is an abode of peace and har-

mony, equality, selfless service and universal Hindu values," it said. Member of Parliament for Parramatta Andrew Charlton reached the BAPS Temple as soon as he was informed of the Hindu Hate incident, the Australia Today newspaper reported.

Charlton along with Temple authorities helped to repaint the wall. "This morning, the BAPS temple in my electorate of Parramatta was vandalised by religious extremists. I am deeply shocked and saddened by this act of mindless vandalism. Everyone in Australia has the right to practice their faith in peace," he was quoted as saying by the newspaper. "At this time, the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha prays for peace and unity and has appealed to all devotees and well-wishers in the community to maintain peace. We are thankful to the local police command, the Department of Home Affairs, State and Federal Members of Parliament, the Indian High Commission and the Consul General of Sydney for their continued support," the temple said.

BAPS temples across Australia are symbols of a thriving multicultural

society that nurture Australian values of respect, mateship and tolerance. We request everyone to join in worldwide prayers that God blesses and guides us all to continue to do good and think good of all," it said.

"Officers from Cumberland Police Area Command have commenced an investigation following reports of malicious damage to a religious site in Rosehill," NSW Police spokesperson said in a statement.

"Police are conducting inquiries into the circumstances surrounding the incident." Earlier this year three Hindu Temples in Melbourne and two Hindu Temples in Brisbane were vandalised by Khalistan supporters. PM Modi is scheduled to visit Sydney for the QUAD summit on May 24. In March, During Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's visit to India, PM Modi raised the issue of frequent attacks on Hindu temples with him and conveyed his concerns. On this, Albanese assured PM Modi that Australia will not tolerate attacks on religious places and that any responsible for such activities will face the "full force of the law".

# Four Far-Right Proud Boys Convicted of Sedition in US Capitol Riot Case

NEW YORK: Four members of the far-right Proud Boys were convicted of seditious conspiracy on Thursday for their roles in the January 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol by supporters of former president Donald Trump. Enrique Tarrío, 39, the former "national chairman" of the neofascist organization, was among those found guilty by a jury after a more than three month trial in the nation's capital. Three of Tarrío's lieutenants -- Joseph Biggs, 39, Ethan Nordean, 32, and Zachary Rehl, 37 -- were also convicted of seditious conspiracy, which carries a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, while a fourth Proud Boy, Donald Pezola, was found not guilty. "After January 6, I promised that the Justice Department would do everything in its power to hold accountable those responsible for the heinous attack that sought to disrupt a cornerstone of our democracy -- the peaceful transfer of power to a newly elected government," Attorney General Merrick Garland told reporters.

"Today's verdict makes clear that the Justice Department will do everything in its power to defend the American people and American democracy," Garland said. Tarrío was not in Washington on January 6 but was accused of directing the storming of the Capitol in an attempt to stop the certification by Congress of Democrat Joe Biden's election victory over Trump. All five Proud Boy defendants were also convicted of several lesser charges, including obstruction of the proceedings of Congress, impeding law enforcement and destruction of government property. The 45-year-old Pezola was also found guilty of robbery of a US property. In widely viewed video footage from January 6, Pezola can be seen using a stolen police riot shield to break a window at the Capitol.

The success of federal prosecutors in

obtaining convictions for sedition among the January 6 rioters could raise the stakes for Trump and his aides in the probe by a special counsel into whether they plotted or fomented the Capitol attack. More than 1,000 people have been arrested in connection with the storming of Congress by Trump supporters -- and more than 600 convicted -- but only about a dozen have faced the rarely used charge of sedition. - Special counsel probe - Two leaders of another far-right group, the Oath Keepers, were convicted of seditious conspiracy last year, including founder, Stewart Rhodes, and several other members pleaded guilty without going to trial.

According to Tarrío's indictment, he met with Rhodes on January 5 in an underground parking garage in Washington and was in contact with members of the Proud Boys who breached the Capitol. In January, four other members of the Oath Keepers were found guilty of seditious conspiracy, fortifying the government's argument that the January 6 attack was not simply a spontaneous action, but involved significant planning and coordination. The assault on Congress left at least five people dead and 140 police officers injured and followed a fiery speech by Trump to thousands of his supporters near the White House. Trump was impeached for a historic second time by the House of Representatives after the Capitol riot -- he was charged with inciting an insurrection -- but was acquitted by the Senate. A House committee that investigated the Capitol riot recommended that the Justice Department pursue criminal charges against Trump. Garland named a special counsel to oversee the probe into the January 6 assault and the former president's efforts to overturn the 2020 election result.

# Wrong, Says Uddhav Thackeray Party Leader On Ally Sharad Pawar's Criticism

MUMBAI: Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Thursday termed the criticism of Uddhav Thackeray in Nationalist Congress Party supreme Sharad Pawar's autobiography "wrong information" and downplayed it by claiming books are read for two days and then put into libraries.

He also said Mr Thackeray would soon respond to what has been written about him in the book. In his revised autobiography 'Lok Majhe Sangati', which focuses on events post-2015 and was released on Tuesday, Mr Pawar wrote it was difficult to fathom why Thackeray as chief minister chose to visit Mantralaya, the state secretariat in south Mumbai, only twice during the coronavirus pandemic. "This is wrong information. He (Thackeray) was regularly going to office. His visits (to Mantralaya) reduced during coronavirus pandemic because there was a central government directive to work from home," Mr Raut said, adding that the prime minister, Union ministers and other chief ministers too were not going to office during the pandemic. In his book,

Mr Pawar also blamed Mr Thackeray for failing to quell the discontent within his own party and for resigning as Maharashtra chief minister without putting up a fight. A rebellion by Eknath Shinde in June last year brought down the Maha Vikas Aghadi government under Thackeray. Mr Shinde went on to become the CM with the support of the Bharatiya Janata Party. Mr Pawar wrote that a CM needs "political acumen" and must remain well-informed about political goings-on, and "we all felt that these things were lacking". Speaking on the issue, Mr Raut said, "I have not read the book. I will read it. People read a book for two days and then it goes into the library. Let it go. Shiv Sena (UBT) chief (Uddhav Thackeray) is giving an interview on this very soon. He will respond to what is written about him."

At his book launch event on May 2, Mr Pawar left the leaders and workers of the Nationalist Congress Party shellshocked when he announced that he would be stepping down as the NCP chief.

# "You Better Enjoy Being In Jail": SC To Former Amrapali Head

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has rejected the bail plea of former CMD of Amrapali Group of Companies Anil Kumar Sharma, saying he cheated thousands of home buyers and did not deserve any sympathy.

A bench comprising Justices Ajay Rastogi and Bela M Trivedi refused to issue notice to the prosecuting agency on the bail plea of Sharma, who has been in jail for over four years in the case. "You have cheated thousands of home buyers. You siphoned off their hard-earned money and their life savings. You do not deserve any sympathy," the bench said on Thursday.

The former CMD of the real estate group and other directors of the firm were arrested on the direction of the top court after the forensic audit report revealed that a large amount of home buyers' money was siphoned off



by the management.

It said the offence "very deep" and even the court was facing difficulties in tackling the problem.

"You're in a case of simple cheating. See the plight of thousands of home buyers. You cannot have our sympathy. You better enjoy being in jail... This court is very aware of what you did. You created the mess and we are not able to find a way out of it. A large number of home buyers are suffering," the bench said. Earlier, the top court had granted Anil Sharma interim bail for a few weeks on medical grounds in the case.

Anil Sharma and others have been in jail after their arrest in 2018 for various offences, including that of cheating, criminal breach of trust and money laundering and have spent nearly four years in prison. They have been accused of siphoning home buyers money.

The top court, in its July 23, 2019 verdict, had cracked down on errant builders for breaching the trust reposed by home buyers and ordered the cancellation of registration of the Amrapali Group under real estate law RERA and ousted it from prime properties in the national capital region (NCR) by nixing the land leases.

The top court had directed a probe by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) into alleged money laundering by realtors, providing relief to over 42,000 home buyers of the Amrapali Group with the verdict.

# King Charles And Queen Camilla: Crowning Moment In Long Love Story

LONDON: After decades of devotion and 18 years of marriage, King Charles III will finally see his goal realised when his "darling wife" Queen Camilla is crowned at his side on Saturday. She was the non-negotiable part of his life, despite their long relationship challenging Britain's institutions and triggering strong public resistance.

But at London's Westminster Abbey, Camilla will be anointed and crowned as queen, in the presence of world leaders.

Never truly in the element in the public eye, is the woman who lived for so long in the shadows worried about the global spotlight of the coronation? "Anyone would be anxious on an occasion of this sort of importance," her son Tom Parker Bowles told The News Agents podcast.

"I'd be terrified if I had to sort of walk out wearing ancient robes," the food writer said. "She's 75, it's hard to do it. But she never complained." Parker Bowles said the couple were



"doing amazingly". His 74-year-old stepfather was a "good, kind, intelligent man who cared deeply about his roles," he said.

However, the road to the coronation has not been easy.

Vilified in the 1990s, Camilla was the most hated woman in Britain, blamed by Princess Diana for the break-up of her own marriage to Charles. Diana nicknamed Camilla the "Rottweiler". Charles and Diana's younger son

Prince Harry, now estranged from the monarchy, branded her a "villain" who played the long game to get the crown.

But Charles never wavered in his devotion to her.

The couple first met in the 1970s. Close to aristocratic circles, Camilla Shand was relaxed in his company, amusing and reassuring the then-insecure prince.

However, while Charles went off to serve in the Royal Navy, Camilla fell for the playboy army officer Andrew Parker Bowles, tying the

knot in 1973, leaving Charles feeling empty and devastated. Their marriage crumbled amid Parker Bowles' extra-marital affairs. In 1981, Charles wed Diana Spencer, the daughter of an earl, in what was branded a fairytale marriage. He was 32; she had just turned 20. Camilla was among the wedding guests.

Hopelessly mismatched, Charles and Diana soon drifted apart. Prince William was born in 1982 and Harry in 1984.

As the marriage disintegrated, Charles fell back on Camilla and they rekindled their relationship.

Home and dry Britain's tabloid press went to town, in 1993 publishing transcripts of intimate phone conversations secretly recorded four years earlier. The conversation veered between being reincarnated as a tampion and discussing motorway directions. After that humiliation, some wondered whether Charles would ever become king.

Camilla divorced in 1995; Charles in 1996. Diana's death in a 1997 Paris

car crash saw Charles's popularity plummet. Camilla retreated further into the shadows. It took years of carefully orchestrated public relations work to pave the way towards even public acceptance of Camilla -- let alone the possibility of marriage. Queen Elizabeth II was long hostile towards their relationship, but ended up accepting she was the right one for Charles.

A compromise was found allowing the couple to marry in April 2005: a civil ceremony followed by a religious blessing.

At the wedding reception at Windsor Castle, Queen Elizabeth -- in a speech peppered with horse racing references -- said: "My son is home and dry with the woman he loves."

Soulmates Charles and Camilla are "soulmates", said royal expert Richard Fitzwilliams.

"Similar age, a similar sense of humour, similar friends... everything that he and Diana did not have in common," he told AFP.

He said Camilla had a "strong sense of duty" and "regards her role as to support Charles". Having come through a barrage of attacks and never spoken out, "she's tough", Fitzwilliams noted. Tom Parker Bowles added: "My mother has strong views on many things but she keeps them quiet."

At the time of their marriage, it was announced that Camilla would eventually take the lesser title of princess consort rather than queen. But seven months before she died, Queen Elizabeth said it was her "sincere wish that... Camilla will be known as Queen Consort" -- putting that issue to bed.

The coronation invitations mention "Queen Camilla" for the first time. Despite her dedication, hundreds of public engagements a year and numerous charitable patronages, Camilla's approval rating remains mixed, at 48 percent positive, according to pollsters YouGov last month.

Only 14 percent of Britons want a "Queen Camilla", according to another poll.

# Mission Youth organizes interactive session, career guidance for PARVAAZ scheme candidates

**Dr. Shahid emphasizes understanding of multifaceted job requirements before entering into public service**

SRINAGAR, MAY 5: Jammu and Kashmir Mission Youth, organized a one day interactive session and career guidance programme for candidates undergoing coaching under PARVAAZ scheme in Srinagar.

Secretary, Tribal Affairs and Chief Executive Officer, Mission Youth, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, was the chief guest on the occasion.

Director, CCPC, University of Kashmir, Professor Ishaq Ahmad Geer and officers from Mission Youth, Sajid Ahmad (CAO), Dr. Mohammad Maqbool Deputy Director (P&M), OSDs Tabish Saleem and Dr. Murtaza Rashid and domain experts were present on the occasion.

The event was aimed to provide exposure to the candidates selected under the PARVAAZ scheme through direct interaction and a question answer cum feedback session. The event was attended by around 400 candidates who are presently undergoing coaching at various institutes empanelled with Mission Youth along with faculty members from the coaching institutes.



On the occasion, Professor Ishaq Ahmad Geer, Head CCPC University of Kashmir, spoke on the important topic of career guidance. He stressed upon the importance of managing stress in hyper-competitive examinations like IAS and JKAS for performing well in these examinations.

The most significant event of the program was the direct one to one session of candidates with Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary.

During the interactive session, Dr. Shahid Iqbal focused on candidate's expectations and aspira-

tions which were taken in the form of questions from the candidates. The candidates were also asked about how they relate themselves with the role, responsibilities and expectations from the public servants.

Dr. Shahid emphasized the importance of understanding the multifaceted requirements of the job before entering into public service. He encouraged the students to remain open-minded, mindful of their strengths and weaknesses and avoid herd mentality while preparing for these

competitive exams. Furthermore, Dr. Shahid emphasized on the significance of having a backup career plan right from the day first. He encouraged the candidates not to feel disheartened if not clearing such competitive exams rather take the experience as a learning opportunity to become better individuals and citizens.

He also highlighted the crucial role of time management in achieving success in these civil service exams. He also emphasized the value of taking a person-

ality test to gain better insight into one's strengths and weaknesses, which can help in confirming career choices and goals.

He shared his insight on the importance of writing concise and precise answers, staying within the designated word limit to effectively communicate ideas while managing time efficiently. CEO Mission Youth further advised the candidates to choose the right study materials as it can significantly impact their understanding and retention of information. He also emphasized that besides investing quality time in studies, one should also devote some leisure time in the extra curricular activities of their interest to destress and relax their mind and body. Throughout the interaction, the students actively participated and provided feedback on the ongoing PARVAAZ scheme. They also expressed gratitude to J&K government for implementing such a scheme that helps to fulfill aspirations of thousands of youth in the region.

They also requested to conduct such programs in future also to harness their potential and motivate them to achieve their goals and satiate aspirations.

# DC Anantnag interacts with media fraternity

JJ NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG MAY 05: DC Anantnag S.F. Hamid conducted an interactive session with the media fraternity, which was attended by DIO Anantnag and all the representatives from electronic, print, and social media in South Kashmir.

During the session, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the pivotal role of the media as the fourth pillar of democracy. He highlighted how the media shapes and mobilizes opinions and ideas, acting as a bridge between the administration and the public.

The DC appreciated the role of journalists in various social security schemes, including COVID-19, disaster management, electoral enrollment drives, Nasha Mukth Bharat, and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. He called the media fraternity the eyes and ears of the administration.

He appealed to the media fraternity to discourage social evils that can spoil the social fabric and ethos of civilized human society, such as drug addiction, cultivation of poppy and cannabis, and other such issues.

During the session, the media fraternity introduced themselves and put forward their demand for the construction of a press club for Anantnag, and better coordination between the officers and media.

# Eye Camp organised in Boys Pahari Hostel Jammu

JJ NEWS SERVICE



JAMMU, MAY 05: An eye camp was today organised by Government Boys Pahari Hostel, Jammu here under the guidance of Sapna Kotwal, Secretary, J&K Advisory Board for Development of Pahari Speaking People.

The event was organised in collaboration with Rotary Eye and ENT Hospital, Udhampur, wherein eye testing was done for the hostel inmates. Secretary J&K Advisory Board for Development of Pahari Speaking People was the Chief Guest. Boys Pahari Hostel Warden Jammu, Ankush Tripathi; Ab. Hamid, Warden Govt. Medical Rajouri, Ab. Majid Khan Zindadi, Senior Pahari Leader, staff of Government Boys Pahari Hostel Jammu, along with all the inmates of the hostel attended the event.

The Team from Rotary Eye & ENT, Hospital Udhampur tested almost 70 inmates and all were issued prescription slips.

# Social forestry organizes Plantation drive at Magam Budgam

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM, MAY 05: In view of the forthcoming C20 meeting in Srinagar, a plantation Drive was organised here at Magam Budgam today by the Social Forestry Department under the supervision of DFO Division Srinagar Tanveer Paray. The drive was attended by Mustafiq Ahmed, Range Forest Officer Range Budgam, Municipal Councillor of Magam, Mustafa Mir along with other Municipal Council members, J&K Trade Union Council President, Abdul Majeed Paray and other shopkeepers of the locality.

# Laparoscopic enucleation of hydatid cyst of liver performed at district hospital shopian

JJ NEWS SERVICE



SHOPIAN, MAY, 05: In a first, laparoscopic liver surgery of a 45 year old hyper-tensive female patient with radiologically diagnosed huge hydatid cyst of right lobe of liver was operated successfully at District Hospital shopian.

The surgery laparoscopic enucleation of hydatid cyst of Liver was performed under the meticulous expertise of laparoscopic surgeon Dr Seth Mujtaba and the anaesthesia team comprising of Dr Ajaz wani and Dr Aatif nabi shah.

The paramedical staff assisting comprised of Mr Fayaz, Mr Ajaz, Miss Sameena, Mir Umar, Mr Nasir and Mr Gulzar. It is pertinent to mention that laparoscopic hydatid cyst surgery is a procedure that is usually performed at tertiary care centers in view of the surgical expertise needed and high anaesthetic risk in view of potential anaphylaxis.

The team thanked Dr Rubina Maqbool, MS DH Shopian, for providing proper logistical support for the procedure. Dr Shaif, consultant surgeon, also played very crucial role.

## SPECIAL SUMMARY REVISION 2023

# DEO Ramban reviews progress of Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls- 2023

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, MAY 05: District Election Officer, Ramban Musarrat Islam today reviewed the progress achieved under ongoing Special Summary Revision-2023 of Electoral Rolls in the District here at a meeting of EROs, AEROs and Supervisors convened through virtual mode.

The meeting was attended by EROs, AEROs, Supervisors and officials from the Election Department.

At the outset, the DEO took a

detailed review of the progress achieved in the District under ongoing, SSR-2023 and sought details about the number of fresh applications received, as well as the number of claims and objections.

He emphasised upon the concerned Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) to conduct revisions according to guidelines of ECI as per notified schedule and expedite the process for achieving targets.

He also asked them to ensure timely disposal of claims and objections.

The DEO also enjoined upon the concerned EROs and AEROs to complete the revision of the special summary with 100 percent enrolment of eligible voters, including the addition of new voters and deletion of duplicate voters, besides to ensure no elector is left unregistered keeping in view the limited time period to conduct the exercise.

He also directed the concerned to bridge the gender gap.

# DDC Anantnag visited GMC Dialgam Anantnag

JJ NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, MAY 05: DDC Anantnag, SF Hamid, today visited Govt. Medical College Dialgam, where he was welcomed by Principal, Faculty members and students of the Medical College.

He was briefed by the Manager, JKPC regarding outlay and completion of works of the college. Thereafter, District Development Commissioner along with Principal Medical College, Prof. (Dr.) Tariq Syed Qureshi and Faculty members visited all nine (09) individual Departments. The infrastructure, equipments and developmental work of departments was appreciated by the District Development Commissioner and expressed hope that these well-developed departments will go in a long



way to impart practical knowledge to upcoming Doctors and Paramedics. DDC congratulating GMC Anantnag for starting post graduate DNB Courses and hoped that more number of seats could be allotted to GMC Anantnag during the current year.

Moreover he visited the central library and appreciated its working for 24x7 which is highly beneficial to stu-

dents.

He directed Manager JKPC that the deadline of 15th May, 2023 as fixed by Shree Rajiv Rai Batnagar, Advisor to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor should be followed in letter and spirit and advised them to work in double shifts so that the project including landscaping will be completed by 15th of May 2023.

# DC Anantnag Convenes meeting of District Development Council

JJ NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG MAY 05: Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, S.F. Hamid held an introductory meeting with the District Development Council at Dak Banglow Khanabal. The meeting was attended by all the DDC members and BDC Chairpersons.

During the meeting, the District Development Commissioner emphasized the important role that council members play in implementing developmental programs and welfare schemes for the betterment of the general public.

He stressed the need for planning and monitoring of developmental projects and welfare schemes to achieve assigned targets in a timely and efficient manner.

The council members raised several public-oriented demands, including the macadamization of roads, the upgrading of health facilities in rural and remote areas, the rationalization of staff in educational institutes, and issues related to roads, water supply, and health facilities. The DC assured council members that all genuine demands would be examined and incorporated into projected plans. He also stressed the importance of sectoral officers remaining available to the call of PRI's and taking them on board in planning, execution, and monitoring of developmental works under District UT and centrally sponsored schemes.

The chairman, vice-chairman, and other members appreciated the initiative taken by the DC for having an introductory meeting and expressed their willingness to work together for the development and welfare of the district.

# ACP Kupwara reviews different sanitation, development schemes

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA, May 5: Following the directions of District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kupwara, Dr. Dofode Sagar Dattatray, a review meeting was held at ACD complex Kupwara under the Chair of ACP Kupwara, Parvaiz Raheem.

The meeting was convened to review achievements under ODF plus status of the district, completion & functionality of segregation sheds, status of door to door collection of waste, SSG 2023, Completion of Community Sanitary complexes, completion and Uploading GPDP on portal and Conduct IEC activities to aware the general public regarding Solid & liquid waste management.

Meeting was attended by all BDCs of the district, AEs, JEIs and Dealing Assistants of different schemes.

ACP took a detailed review of different sanitation and development schemes being executed by RDD under different sectors in all Blocks of Kupwara District.

# DDC Chairperson Ganderbal inaugurates Cricket Tournament at Warphowa

JJ NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, MAY 05: DDC Chairperson, Ganderbal Nuzhat Ishaq today inaugurated a knockout Cricket Tournament at Iqbal Cricket Ground Warphowa Alustang. Tournament has been organized by the youngsters of Warphowa in which 16 teams will participate. The inaugural match was played between Batpora and Warphowa 11.

The people and the management body highly thanked the DDC Chairperson Ganderbal for participating in this inaugural match and also demanded for upgradation of Play ground Warphowa.

Interacting with the participating players the DDC Chairperson complemented the local youth for organizing the tournament and urged them to involve more youth in sports activities which is the most effective tool to save our younger generation from social evils.

# District Administration's IVRS -Hello Kishtwar gains much Popularity among Masses

**45 CALLS RECEIVED IN 4TH SESSION; 5TH SESSION ON MAY 9 DC INVITES PEOPLE TO PROJECT THEIR GRIEVANCES, QUERIES**

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KISHITWAR, MAY 05: The District and Police Administration of Kishtwar, led by Deputy Commissioner, Dr Devansh Yadav and SSP Kishitwar Khalil Ahmed Poswal today conducted IVRS, Hello Kishitwar to address the grievances and queries of people residing in far-flung areas of the district.

The fourth session of the IVRS was conducted and received an overwhelming response from the people. A total of 45 calls were received by Senior & District Officers of District & Police Administration Kishitwar within a span of one hour from 11 am to 12 noon on the IVRS phone number 8470-800-900.

Besides the District Officers, the



Deputy Commissioner and SSP Kishitwar also attended the calls and patiently listened to the grievances of the people.

The officers assured the callers of prompt redress in a transparent and hassle-free manner.

The IVRS is a significant step towards providing quick and effi-

cient redress of public grievances of people of far-flung areas who cannot afford to attend district offices frequently.

The district administration is committed to make this initiative a success and urges the people to make the most use of this system to ease out their life.