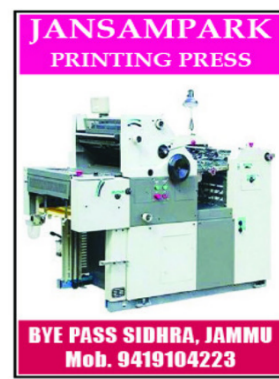




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India's G20 presidency strives to bridge divides, sow seeds of collaboration: PM Modi

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, SEP 7

Asserting that India's G20 presidency became a people-driven movement, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said its leadership of the bloc has striven to bridge divides, dismantle barriers and sow seeds of collaboration that nourish a world where unity prevails over discord and shared destiny eclipses isolation.

"As the G20 president, we had pledged to make the global table larger, ensuring that every voice is heard and every country contributes. I am positive that we have matched our pledge with actions and outcomes," Modi said in an article which appeared in several newspapers on Thursday.

He noted that the Voice of Global South Summit, which witnessed participation from 125 countries, was one of the foremost initiatives under India's presidency. He said, "Our presidency has not only seen the largest-ever par-



icipation from African countries but has also pushed for the inclusion of the African Union as a permanent member of the G20." In the write-up, the prime minister said an interconnected world means interlinked challenges and noted great concern among many countries that the progress on SDGs (sustainable development goals) is off-track.

The G20 2023 action plan on accelerating progress on SDGs will spearhead the future direction of the G20 towards implementing them, he said.

In India, living in harmony with nature has been a norm since

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Development is our commitment; it is our religion: Lt Governor

JNEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, SEPTEMBER 7

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today visited Sopore and inaugurated various development projects.

He laid e-foundation stones for upgradation of inner link roads of Sulatpora Goshbugh and Auglar costing Rs 6.29 cr, and Water Supply Scheme Parihaspora and Peripheral Parihaspora under Jal Jeevan Mission worth Rs 57 crores.

In his address, the Lt Governor said the projects



dedicated to the people and the new works initiated today will improve the overall quality of life, and remove the socio-economic

and regional imbalances in development.

"Development is our commitment; it is our religion. The administration

is determined to attend to developmental needs of people without any discrimination. We have successfully implemented a vast spectrum of economic activities and historic transformations are taking place in all areas," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor reiterated the UT Administration's resolve to fulfill the aspirations of the people of Jammu Kashmir.

"Sopore has a rich history of communal harmony and prosperity but also has had its own

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

'Hybrid' Terrorist of TRF arrested in Srinagar



JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, SEPT 7

Jammu and Kashmir Police arrested a "hybrid" terrorist of "The Resistance Front" in Srinagar, police said on Thursday.

The "hybrid" terrorist of TRF, believed to be a

shadow group of Lashkar-e-Taiba was identified by police as Mohammad Yawar Rangrez, a resident of Firdousabad Batamalo Srinagar.

According to police "hybrid" terrorists are those who carry

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Delegation of Kashmiri minority leaders calls on LG

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, SEPT 7

A delegation of Kashmiri minority leaders called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhavan today.

The delegation was led by Manoj Kumar Tandan, President Sanatan Dharam Sabha Kupwara.



He was accompanied by Mahinder Pal Singh from District Gurdwara Com-

mittee Kupwara. Javid Ahmad Tenga, President, Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry also met the Lt Governor and apprised him of the upcoming events of Business Interactive Seminar and awareness campaign on Drug Menace to be organised by KCCI.

Pakistani Flag attached with balloons found in Udhampur

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, SEPT 7

A Pakistani flag attached with scores of balloons were found in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district, police said on Thursday.

It was found hanging from a tree in Sunetar village of Ramnagar tehsil earlier in the day,

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Udhampur railway station named after 'martyr captain Tushar Mahajan': Dr Jitendra

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, SEP 7

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh on Thursday said that Udhampur Railway Station will be named as "Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan Railway Station".

Dr Singh, taking to micro-blogging site X said, "#Janmashtmi Gesture for #Udhampur: Thanks PM @NarendraModiji. In response to our request, the Government of India has approved the naming of Udhampur Railway Station as



"Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan Railway Station."

A communication to this effect has been sent to the UT Govern-

ment of #JammuAndKashmir to formally issue the required Gazette notification, he informed.

The Tushar Mahajan Trust however, expressed gratitude stating, "we are highly thankful to PM Modi, Dr Jitendra Singh and local BJP leaders, in approving the Udhampur Railway station in the name of Capt Tushar. It was a long standing demand of Udhampur. Our sincere thanks to Dr Jitendra Singh." Captain Tushar Mahajan, a 9 PARA (Special

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

1.8 Billion US Dollar assets recovered from economic offenders, fugitives: Dr Jitendra

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, SEPT 7

Over 1.8 billion US Dollar worth assets have been recovered from economic offenders and fugitives

in the last about four years, after Prime Minister Narendra Modi brought in the Economic Offenders Act, while the Prevention of Money Laundering

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Annual pilgrimage of 'Chhari-Mubarak' of Amarnath Yatra concludes at Pahalgam

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, SEPT 7

Annual pilgrimage of Chhari-Mubarak Swami Amarnath Ji culminated on 2nd of September at Pahalgam with its last rituals 'Pujan' & 'Visarjan', which were performed at the bank of river Lidder after Panchak' that ended at 10:38 this morning. Puja started at 11am and lasted for about 90 minutes. Sizeable number of Sadhus and tourists who had come from various parts of the country joined the Pujan. Later, 'Karri-Pak-



ouri' Bhandara was organized and 'Dakshina' was offered to them. Chhari-Mubarak left Pahalgam at 4:00PM and reached its abode Dashnami Akhara

at 6:20pm.

Chhari-Mubarak was taken to Holy Shrine of Swami Amarnathji on 31st of August on the

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India will beat China in next 2-3 Yrs along LAC in infrastructure: BRO Chief Lt Gen Chaudhry

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, SEPT 7

India will beat China in the next two to three years as the Narendra Modi-led NDA government is proactively working towards developing infrastructure along the 3,488 Km stretch of the Line of Actual Control, Border Roads Organisation chief Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry said today.

He said 295 projects have been completed worth Rs 11,000 crore in last 2-3 years. Comparing the ruling dispensation



with the previous governments regarding infrastructure development along borders, the BRO chief said that China started their push for infrastructure development all along LAC much before India and a decade ago our thinking

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

J&K Bank share zooms at the stock exchange; touches 8 year high of Rs 103.5

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, SEPT 7

J&K Bank share price continued its bullish run to soar over Rs 100 during the intra day trade today that saw more than four crore shares of the Bank changing hands.

The share price touched 8 year high of Rs 103.50 today on sensex amid improving operating and financial parameters especially better asset quality, announcement of dividend to shareholders and growing investor confidence. Pertinently,



the Bank has achieved many historic feats under the dynamic leadership of Baldev Prakash during the last one and a half years. The historic profit of 1197Cr, Business milestone of 2 lac crores, creation of LCUs, regular nationwide

interaction with customers, upgradation of the operating system from finacle 7 to finacle 10, loan within 10 seconds to customers through STP and state-of-the-art mobile app mPay Delight plus are some of the achievements to mention.

Mr Prakash has kept sustained focus on asset quality, business growth and expansion, technological upgradation and best customer services and the results have been very encouraging as reflected in annual numbers of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Jugal discussed Jammu Railways' projects with Standing Committee of Railways



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: A meeting held on study visit on standing committee on Railways in Jammu under the Chairmanship of Radhe Mohan Singh Member of Parliament Lok Sabha & Chairman standing committee of Railways in which many developments projects of Jammu and Kashmir & Ferozpur Division of Northern Railways were discussed. Jugal Kishore Sharma Member of Parliament Lok Sabha Jammu discussed many development project related to Railways in Jammu province. He laid stress on the

Construction of Rail over Bridge at Gurha Salathia which is the burning demand of the people. He informed committee that it is very important as the area is very thickly populated and people have to wait in long ques to cross the rail line passing through village Gurha Slathia Morh. He urged committee to repair the approach road from Dhar Road to Manwal Railway station as this road is in very worse condition and needs repair soon. He also discussed the high raising platform of Manwal Railway Station which is already discussed with officials of concerned division.

He said that there is also dire need to construct Rail Over Bridge at Kalibari in Samba District and Bajalta Nagrota Constituency. He informed the committee that many trains before Covid period observes a short halt at Samba Railway station but now they are not used to stop there kindly restore them. He said that only one train on regular basis is running from Jammu to Haridwar. He requested that on the pattern of Vande Bharat a new train should be started between Jammu to Haridwar & return to Jammu. He also demanded the stoppage/short halt of Uttar Sampark Kranti & Hemkunt Express at Manwal Railway Station. Radha Mohan Singh Member of Parliament & Chairman Standing Committee listened the demands Member of Parliament and assured him that they would be re-addressed soon. Member of Parliaments Rajya Sabha & Lok Sabha Members Committee, General Managers Railways with officials, PCME Railways, DRM Ferozpur, ADRM Jammu, ADRM Ferozpur and others were also present in the meeting.

Voices against Sanatan Dharma ploy to weaken Hindu society: Kavinder



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: Kavinder Gupta, a senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, passionately spoke out against the concerted efforts by certain groups to undermine the essence of Sanatan Dharma. He emphasized that these elements were employing propaganda as their weapon of choice to tarnish the rich tapestry of this ancient spiritual philosophy.

As the Shobha Yatra, a grand procession celebrating the revered Hindu festival of Shri Krishna Janmashthami, unfolded in all its grandeur, Kavinder Gupta took the

opportunity to address the media. He expressed his deep concern about the divisive voices that have emerged across the nation, intent on eroding the core values of Sanatan Dharma. He underscored that these actions were part of a larger, well-orchestrated campaign designed to weaken the fabric of Hindu society.

However, Kavinder Gupta remained resolute in his belief that the anti-Hindu forces would not succeed in their mission. He cited the profound spiritual and social foundation upon which Sanatan Dharma stands, asserting that it is impervious to any attempts at sub-

version. He urged the people not to waver in their faith and commitment to the age-old traditions and values of Sanatan Dharma.

In response to a query from the media regarding the Congress party's stance on the proposed title "Bharat" (India), Kavinder Gupta drew attention to a noteworthy parallel. He pointed out the uncanny resemblance between the Congress party's position and that of China, a comparison that left many pondering the implications. The alignment of these perspectives on a matter of national significance raised pertinent questions and offered the citizens of the country a crucial decision to make about the future direction they wish to embrace.

In the backdrop of this discourse, it is vital to recognize the international context. China's advice to India to prioritize economic reform over a name dispute ahead of the G20 Summit found a striking resonance with the position articulated by the Congress party. This convergence underscores the importance of clarity in national discourse and the need for thoughtful consideration as the nation navigates the path ahead.

Medical and Veterinary Camp Organized

JI NEWS SERVICE

DODA, SEPT 07: As a part of ongoing outreach and helping populace, Indian Army conducted a Medical and Veterinary Camp at Kansar. The camp was inaugurated by Indian Army, who assured the inhabitants of unconditional and everlasting support.

A medical team comprising of one Medical Officer, two Nursing Assistants and one Battle Field Nursing Assistant from Indian Army and two veterinary doctors provided the much needed medical cover to the ladies, children and elderly people and domestic animals during the camp.



A large number of patients turned up for the medical check-up from the nearby villages. This medical camp was organised by making nec-

essary arrangements including various types of medicines, medical equipment and facilities for examination of patients. Wide publicity was given to ensure that maximum people avail

this opportunity to attend the camp.

During the camp a total of 132 patients were treated which included 51 x ladies, 72 x gents and 09 x children. A total of 43 domestic animals were also treated during the veterinary camp.

The populace was grateful to The Indian Army for their concentrated efforts and assistance in providing medical aid at their door step.

Indian Army also gave information about Health, Nutrition and Child Care to the parents in order to spread medical awareness amongst the general populace.

Opposition stooping to new low by raising controversy on calling country Bharat: Dr Parneesh

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: Dr Parneesh Mahajan, Convener, Department of Training, BJP, J&K, today criticized opposition parties for raking up unnecessary controversy over using the word Bharat to name the country.

In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP functionary questioned the objections made by the opposition parties to use Bharat as the title of



the country instead of India. He said that the constitutional validity of word Bharat is in no way lesser than word India as both have equal significance in the law book of the country and people raising objections over

substituting word Bharat instead of India are at fault because no one can demean Bharat title just to satiate petty political interests. Dr Parneesh said that opposition parties are stooping to a new low through creating such controversy which is unfounded. "Using Bharat as the country's title is more indigenous as many great epics have the mention of this word thus identifying the nation with this title would bring in a

sense of pride and oneness which somehow is the need of the time", he added.

The senior BJP leader asserted that there is no need to politicize the issue as use of Bharat instead of India will do no harm to the country rather it would help in enthusing more confidence and resolve among the countrymen to steer the country in a better way to achieve the goals before time and with full force.

Third Battalion of Madras Regiment commemorates Maharajke Day - A Tribute to Heroic Sacrifice



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: On September 7th, the Third Battalion of the Madras Regiment came together to commemorate a significant day in their history—Maharajke Day. This date holds deep meaning for the battalion as it marks the anniversary of a courageous operation that began on this very day in 1965. To honor the memory of the Bravehearts who made the supreme sacrifice during this operation, the battalion organized a solemn Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Samba War Memorial. This event is not just a remembrance; it's a tribute to the unwavering valor and commitment of the soldiers of the Madras Regiment.

The Third Battalion of the Madras Regiment, affectionately known as 'Thagdas,' was entrusted with a formidable task during the 1965 Indo-Pak War. Operating under the 69 Mountain Brigade/ 6 Mountain

Division, their mission was to capture Maharajke Village. This village was strategically located just 2.5 kilometers from the International Border and approximately 13 miles away from Pakistan's Sialkot. In the larger context of the Brigade's operation, the Thagdas were nominated as the left forward battalion in Phase - I. In Phase - II, they would be joined by 9 KUMAON and 4 MADRAS as the other two battalions participating in the attack.

What truly sets this operation apart is the relentless determination displayed by the Thagdas. They maintained the momentum of the assault with unwavering courage and successfully captured the formidable defenses of Maharajke by 0130 hrs on September 8, 1965. Even when faced with a counterattack by the enemy, supported by tanks, the Thagdas stood their ground and successfully repulsed the assault. Their indomitable spirit and resilience were evident as they

continued their advance, capturing many other enemy localities until September 24, 1965.

The valor of the Thagdas during this operation cannot be overstated. They accounted for 10 Mujahids as Prisoners of War, captured 16 Rifles, 04 Small Machine Guns, and a substantial cache of ammunition and vehicles. However, this valor came at a great cost. Seven Thagdas, including one officer, Maj Pijush Chowdhury, made the supreme sacrifice, while 38 others were wounded in the line of duty.

In recognition of their gallant actions and the sacrifice of their comrades, the Battalion was honored with THEATRE HONOUR 'PUNJAB.' This honor is a testament to the indomitable spirit of the Thagdas and their unwavering commitment to the nation's defense.

Today, a War Memorial stands tall at Samba, serving as a proud reminder of the sacrifices made by our brave soldiers during the 1965 Indo-Pak War. To express gratitude to these soldiers for their selfless services, a Cycle expedition is being undertaken by the citizens of Jammu and personnel of the unit, with the support of Samba Army Garrison. This collaborative effort, led by 3 MADRAS Regiment, NCC-HO, and Jammu Hills Sports Club, aims to recount the saga of valor and sacrifices. The stories of these Bravehearts will inspire the youth, reminding them that our nation remains the land of the free as long as it remains the land of the brave.

Bio Drama 'The Uncrowned Poet' being staged on 9th Sept at Abhinav Theatre



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: A bio drama entitled 'The Uncrowned Poet' based on the life of Sahitya Academy Awardee leg-

endary Dogri writer Kunwar Viyogi is being staged on Saturday, 9th of September, 2023 at 6 pm at Abhinav Theatre Jammu. The play has been written by Aarushi Thakur Rana and is directed by Gauri Thakur. This is going to be an opportune moment for all to witness a dramatic performance based on the life of a local hero who elevated the level of Dogri literature to the ultimate heights. The play has

been produced by Kunwar Viyogi Memorial Trust and entry to the show is free of charges.

The play 'The Uncrowned Poet' is a dramatic portrayal of the events which transcribed in the life of the famous Dogri poet Randhir Singh Jamwal, creatively known as Kunwar Viyogi. The performance highlights the personal trials and tribulations of an aspiring poet, a passionate lover, a benevolent brother and a loving son. Kunwar Viyogi is the embodiment of perseverance, highlighted by the enormity and inevitability of his journey from an ambitious poet who forsakes his creativi-

ty to serve his country as an Airforce Officer. The challenges of a military career failed to abstain from the creative process of Kunwar Viyogi, as did the untimely demise of his parents and wife. Rather than succumbing to what was a chain of tragic events, heartbreak and the additional responsibility of providing parental care for his younger siblings only catalysed Kunwar Viyogi's work and elements of his hardships are clearly evident in his poetic literature. Kunwar Viyogi's story transcends normality and exemplifies the passion of an artist, the desire of a lover and the patriotism of a service

man. Much is to be learnt from Kunwar Viyogi's journey and the man himself, a man of high morals, resilience and self-worth. He was not only a great human being but an institution, who lived life to the fullest despite all upheavals.

The Uncrowned Poet is a dedication to the creative genius of Kunwar Viyogi and a glimpse into the life of an unsung hero of the rich and beautiful history of Jammu and Kashmir. The artists who are going to perform in the play include Neeraj Kant as Kunwar Viyogi (Old), Raghunandan Singh Charak as Kunwar Viyogi (Young), Sanket Bhagat as Kunwar Viyogi (Child), Meenakshi Bhagat as Prem Jamwal, Chirag Anand as Poorakkh Singh Jamwal, Palshin Dutta as Pushpa Devi, Diksha Pandita as Poonam Singh Jamwal, Priyal Gupta as Young Poonam Singh Jamwal, Sheryaar Salaria as Senior Officer, Radhika Sharma as Saheli and Mehak Singh as Sister. Other includes Sumit Bandaral, Abhimanyu Choudhary, Nikhil Sharma, Harsh Dogra, Vishal Bhat and Chaitanya Shekhar.

Indian Army initiates motor driving training

JI NEWS SERVICE

DODA, SEPT 07: As part of its ongoing commitment to outreach and community development, the Indian Army has taken a significant step towards empowering the local population and enhancing the employability of youth in Bhadarwah. The latest initiative involves the commencement of Motor Driving Training at Suigarh, a program set to run for a duration of one month, commencing on September 6, 2023.

A total of twenty-one enthusiastic and aspiring youth hailing from nearby locations have been selected for this comprehensive training program, which covers both theoretical and practical aspects of motor driving. The inspiration behind this endeavor emerged from the unem-

ployed youth living in the remote areas of Suigarh, who approached the Indian Army with a request for Motor Driving Training. They saw this as an opportunity to acquire valuable skills and eventually become self-employed. Recognizing the potential for meaningful impact, the Indian Army swiftly approved this project as part of its commitment to the welfare and upliftment of unemployed youth.

The opening ceremony of this initiative was marked by a sense of gratitude and optimism among the youth undergoing motor driving training. They expressed their appreciation for the Indian Army's consistent efforts to organize constructive activities for the local populace. In their words, "The Indian Army has always been at the forefront of organizing activities that

benefit the community, and we are thankful for this noble initiative. Imparting Motor Driving Training to unemployed youth provides them with a golden opportunity for their livelihood."

The efforts of the Indian Army in facilitating this training program are bound to have a lasting and positive impact on the unemployed youth of the region. By equipping them with valuable skills, this initiative not only enhances their employability but also enables them to contribute as breadwinners for their families. It symbolizes the Indian Army's commitment to not only ensuring the security of the nation but also uplifting the lives of its citizens through meaningful and sustainable community development initiatives.

Mulla, Kundal, Sanjeev lead Padyatra to mark the first anniversary of 'Bharat Jodo Yatra'



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: Former Ministers Mulla Ram, Yashpal Kundal and Congress District Samba President Sanjeev Sharma today led Padyatra in Samba District to mark first anniversary of the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra'. Hundreds of Congress workers participated in Padyatra raising slogans in success of Bharat Jodo Yatra. Speaking on the occasion, Mulla Ram said that Bharat Jodo Yatra lifted the political despondency in the country and created hope that the Narendra Modi government can be confronted effectively, started last year from Kanyakumari on September 7. Mulla Ram showering praises on Rahul Gandhi for its historic success said, "today is the first anniversary of the historic Bharat Jodo Yatra. The man, the leader who inspired thousands of people to participate in

this historic moment, Rahul Gandhi, has continued the Yatra even after the Yatra has physically come to an end after 4,000 km in 1,045 days." "You have all the data, but this is not a journey that can be measured in miles and kilometres. This is a journey which can be measured in various dreams, aspirations, tears, smiles, and hopes of millions of Indians who communicated with our leaders in different languages through different expressions... That's how India came together. That's how Bharat came together", Mulla Ram said. He added that the yatra was a pilgrimage and pilgrimage never ends. "Pilgrimage is the beginning of every journey. We promise you that the ideals, inspiration and objectives of 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' will continue in perpetuity", he said. Shedding light on the ongoing Bharat-India row,

the Congress leader said, "There are forces and there have always been forces that have tried to stop India from uniting. They feel threatened to see a united India... They are trying to divide between Bharat and India... Whether you call it 'Sona' or gold, the price will not change... Who are these forces and why are they hell-bent on dividing India and Bharat?", he added. Yashpal Kundal speaking on the occasion appreciated the enthusiasm among Congress workers and the general public for the anniversary rallies. Despite Janmashtami celebrations taking place on September 7, there was considerable anticipation for the Bharat Jodo Yatra anniversary events. The goal is to spread a message of love in a climate of hate. The Bharat Jodo Yatra, initiated by Rahul Gandhi on September 7, 2022, covered 4,081 kilometers across 12 states,

two Union territories, 75 districts, and 76 Lok Sabha constituencies.

It featured numerous meetings, group interactions, press conferences, and addressed pressing national issues. He stated that the Bharat Jodo Yatra has inspired all those who believe in democracy and the values of this country. "Bharat Jodo Yatra had an electrifying effect all over India and on our cadre," Kundal said. Sanjeev Sharma in his address described the Bharat Jodo Yatra as a historic event that altered the course of Indian history. According to him, 722 districts in India reminded of the message of "Nafrat ke bazaar mein mohabbat ki dukaan" (opening a shop to spread love in a market of hatred). The BJP was not just a routine padyatra. It was set against a political context dominated by sharp divisions, growing hate and rising inequalities. BJP successfully raised three big issues - economic inequality, social polarisation, and authoritarian politics. These issues were raised every day during Rahul Gandhi's interactions while walking, in his press conferences, in meetings with special collectives of people, in speeches, and in rallies. This was a simple but powerful message to counter the muscular rhetoric of hate and exclusion, added Sharma.

NDS releases 'Golden Epoch: The Era Of Knowledge,' penned by Vikramjeet Singh



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: (NDS) on the occasion of Shree Krishnan Janam Ashtmi. The spiritual contented book comprise of nineteen chapters depicting various dimensions of spiritualism is a complete book related with our lives and life affairs. Padamshri Mohan Singh Sahitya Academy awardee in Dogri presided over the function where as Shaliender Singh SSP Crime and a versatile writer conferred with Sahitya Academy award was Chief Guest on the occasion. Prof (Dr) Rakesh Kumar Kaul Pricipal Govt Degree College Marh was Guest of Honour, Prof. Savita Jamwal and Raj Rishi Sharma renowned writer who has penned about two dozen books primarily on motivation were special guests. The Dias was shared by Vikramjit Singh writer of the released book Advocate Dogra Harish Kaila President Nami Dogri Sanstha and Prof. Anupama Sharma, Parton NDS Yash Pal Yash General Secretary NDS conducted the programme. At the outset the guests were present-

ed floral bouquets by Members of NDS. The book was then released by galaxy of learnt people on the dias and this was followed by conferring Vikramjit Singh with "Sahitya Shree" a honour instituted by NDS. Capt Lalit Sharma IFS, APCCF (Retd) Convener NDS read a detailed Paper in Dogri on the released book. The paper was appreciated by the audience present on the occasion. He said that Spiritualism enables us to use full faculties of our body to realise our inner self and teaches us to live in harmony with all creation with over flowing love from within. Vikramjit Singh while sharing his experiences with the book stated that he was introduced in spiritualism by his family Guru Brahmleen Dr Kewal Krishan ji Maharaj at very young age and under his patronage and guidance he did many abhiyasas and learned the fundamentals of spiritualism and further said that through the medium of his book he wants to spread the message of spiritualism and self realisation for a strong and vibrant society. Padamshri Mohan Singh said that

spiritual teachings are a continuous process to keep on the path of righteousness.

He cautioned to be alert from the so called spiritual saints who intend to collect money under the banner of divinity. He congratulated the parents of the writer for imbibing noble attributes in their child. He desired the translation of the book in Dogri language and Ashok Gupta former Chief Editor of Academy of Art, Culture and Languages volunteered to take up the task of Dogri translation assisted by the author. Shalinder Singh in his address carried out critical appreciation of the released book which he had read. He said spiritualism is not only path to attain God but it is important as way of life to strengthen the social fabric.

Dr. Rakesh Kumar Kaul in his address recalled his association with the virtuous author as his student and lauded his virtuous qualities right from his student age. He said spirituality should become strength of an individual, society and the country for joy, happiness and social enrichment.

Prof Savita Jamwal a close relative of the author was proud of spiritual pursuits of the author and said that every house hold should imbibe spiritualism in their children for endurance, moral courage and making them proud citizens imbued with indigenous values. Rishi Raj Sharma said that spiritualism leads us to happy and complete life as its focus is on good deeds and a student of spiritualism believes in the theory of cause and effect of our actions. Shambu Ram Pyasa Cashier NDS extended Vote Of Thanks in the end.

Indian Army conducted lecture on ill effects of tobacco

J I NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, SEPT 07: In a proactive move to combat the pervasive issue of tobacco use, the Indian Army organized an enlightening lecture in Marhot, Poonch. The primary goal of this event was to educate the local community about the severe and often life-threatening consequences of tobacco consumption on an individual's health. The informative lecture did not just stop at detailing the adverse health effects but went a step further. It emphasized that the financial resources spent on sustaining a tobacco addiction could be channeled



far more constructively. Attendees were encouraged to consider redirecting these resources towards initiatives such as investing in the education of children and enhancing their overall quality of life. Furthermore, practical guidance on how to quit tobacco addiction was

shared with the eager and receptive audience. These tips provided hope and a tangible path towards a healthier and tobacco-free life. The attendees greatly appreciated this initiative, recognizing its value in improving their well-being and the overall health of their community. By conducting this lec-

ture, the Indian Army not only illuminated the dark realities of tobacco consumption but also offered a beacon of hope for those seeking a healthier, addiction-free life. This event served as a reminder that collective efforts can lead to positive changes in individuals' lives and the community as a whole.

Shoba Yatra to mark Krishna Janmashtmi taken out in Bishnah

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: A Shoba Yatra to mark Krishna Janmashtmi was taken out by people of village Laswara in Bishnah and passed through adjoining villages and after passing several kilometers, the procession culminated at the Laswara. Shiv Sena J&K Youth President Ganesh Choudhary was also present on the occasion who flagged off Shoba yatra.

The devotees including men and women besides children were part of the procession who were chanting religious prayers throughout the procession journey.

The devotees, including people from all age groups, danced alongside the chariot and distributed sweets among people. Speaking on the occasion, Ganesh said Lord Krishna's words of wisdom are contemporary and people of all generations can relate to them. His greatest teachings is if you can conquer your mind, it becomes your best friend those who fail to do so, his/her mind becomes his/her



greatest enemy. The teachings of Lord Krishna are a philosophy that centres around the meaning and explanation of each aspect of a person's life through the discourse on work ethics, devotion, education, service, charity. The Gita teaches us the goal of life's journey and also of various stages of the journey. It also teaches one how to counter problems and challenges of life and how to be preventive with regard to various crises and emer-

gencies of life, added Ganesh. Ganesh further said that Lord Krishna's teachings are practical and Geeta saar and Karma theory is a reality.

Those who live in accordance with the divine laws without complaining, firmly established in faith, are released from karma. Each and every teaching of Lord Krishna holds true even today. We must work with honesty because if you focus on your work, the results will always be good, added Ganesh.

Sh. Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Management Trust organizes colourful Rath Yatra



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: Sh. Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Management Trust organized a grand celebrations of "Shree Krishan Janamashtami" starting with Sh. Ganesh and Nav Greh Pooja followed by a colourful Rath Yatra carrying the idols of Lord Krishna in a profusely decorated 'Rath' which started from Shree

Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Gandhi Nagar accompanied by large number of devotees including Sh. Kavinder Gupta former DyCm and various other social and political personalities of Jammu, members and special invitees of the Trust led by Sh. Gulchain Singh Charak Former Minister and President of the Trust passing through various temples including Shree Mahadev Mandir Gandhi

Nagar, Bawa Dhudha Dhari Mandir Gandhi Nagar, Shri Dugra Mandir Rampura and Gole Market Gandhi Nagar etc. Enroute various organizations had arranged water, cold drinks and other items as parshad for the yatri. Then the yatra was culminated at the main complex Shree Lakshmi Narayan Mandir. Thereafter from 2 pm to 5 pm Shree Bhagwat katha was conducted by

Swami Ajay Sharan Shastri ji of Varindavan. Thereafter various other programmes were organized, especially, dress competition in which hundreds of children wearing the dress of Radha - Krishna accompanied by their parents took part and were honoured by the management presenting them mementos.

Main attraction of the function was beautiful selfy point where large number of people along with their wards were seen taking selfies. Then at 12:00 pm Maha-Arati was organized. Sh S.C Rekhi Gen Secy of the Trust speaking on the occasion thanked Sh. K.B Magotra D.C (Retd) convenor and other members of the function committee with whose efforts such a wonderful event could be organized in the end parshad was distributed.

Renowned artists participating in MSCBM Trust's curretted 7-Day art workshop

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: A National Art Exhibition curretted by Master Sansar Chand Baru Memorial Trust (MSCBMT) and organized under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture of the Union Govt entered Day-2 today with renowned artists of national fame participating in it.

The week long workshop for all-round awareness of Art & Culture & Art Education in J&K and commenced on 6th September and shall conclude on 12th September is being held at JKTDG Guest House amid mesmerizing location of Cheshmashahi in the lap of Paradise on Earth, Kashmir. The theme for the ongoing workshop is 'Vanishing Art and Culture of J&K' with special focus on tribal art.



Today's proceedings were held to make children aware about 'Portrait Making' and the essential features to be taken care of while painting portraits. Anuradha Rishi, Chairperson of Master Sansar Chand Baru Memorial Trust informed that ten renowned artists including five from Kashmir and five from various states will be displaying their artistic skills during the workshop. These artists are Anas

Sultan, Kishore Kumar, Gopal Krushna Samantray, Vijay Kumar, Digbijayee Khatua, Javaid Iqbal, Mohd Yusuf Baccha, Masood Hussain, Prof Zahoor Zargar and M.A. Mehboob. She said that during the workshop various school children will be made aware and taught the skills of art with the aim to explore the hidden talent among the school going children at early stage. She asserted that

this will not only promote art but also tourism. It is pertinent to mention here that Master Sansar Chand Baru Memorial Charitable Trust is working for the promotion of Art & Culture with main focus on the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. Meanwhile, a cross section of the society in Kashmir has commended the efforts of the trust in promoting the art and heritage of J&K.

Senior NC leaders distribute several items at JRC Udheywala



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: To observe 41th death anniversary of Baba-e-Qaum, Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah, the Central Zone J&K National Conference (JKNC) organized a programme at JRC Home for Handicapped, Udheywala wherein several items were distributed for the use of home inmates.

Former Minister and Zonal President JKNC, Babu Ram Paul was chief guest on the occasion whereas Ankush Abrol, Provincial Joint Secretary, JKNC was the guest of honour. The programme was organized by Dr. Vikas Sharma, Co-ordinator Jammu District (Urban) and Zonal Secretary JKNC. The NC leaders handed over eatables, stationery items to the Home authorities for the use of Children. They also shared their time with the specially-abled children residing in the home.

Speaking on the occasion, Former Minister and President Central Zone JKNC Rampaul said that throughout his charismatic political career, Sher-e-Kashmir symbolized the aspirations of Jammu and Kashmir people as no single individual could have even dreamed of doing.

"The best tribute to Sher-e-Kashmir will be to strengthen amity among Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs. He said the slogan of 'Hindu, Muslim, Sikh Itihaad' preached and practiced by Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah is continuously reverberating the valleys, planes and mountains of the State.

He also said "National Conference is a party of the masses and always works as a frontal political party to help eradicate poverty and support needy persons."

Ankush Abrol lauded the initiative of Dr Vikas for organizing such programs which motivates everyone to come forward and extend helping hand in meeting the requirements of specially-abled people. He also said, "It is our moral duty to come together for noble cause and maintained that his party cadre will continue to tread the path of humanity and humility."

Also speaking, Dr Vikas Sharma said that these children are a gift of God and being a civilized society it is the duty of all of us to help them in all manners to make them self dependent. He said that their self dependency is the only option to live a dignified life.

B.D Dalotra, Zonal Secretary JKNC, delivered the welcome address while Satish Sharma Secretary JRC Home for Handicapped presented vote of thanks and extended gratitude for this great act of philanthropy towards the leaders of the National Conference.

Among those who were present on the occasion included, Satpal Shabotra, Sujit Kumar, Dr Rajesh Singh, Hemraj, Ashok Koul, Ram Singh, Sanjeev, Deepak Kumar, and others.

Shivani Charak and Indian Climbers head to Hong Kong for Asian Cup in Bouldering 2023

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: Shivani Charak of J&K along with seven sport climbers including four female climbers of India left today for Hong Kong to represent the country in the Asian Cup in Bouldering competition scheduled to be held in Hong Kong from 9th to 10th September, 2023.

The other climbers selected for participation in this specialized international event are Bharat Pereira & Lokesh Chandra from Karnataka, Aman Verma & Anisha Verma from Tata Steel Adventure Foundation, Jamshedpur, Saniya Farooque Shaikh from Maharashtra, C. Maibam Rawat from Manipur and Ritika Roy from Delhi. Bibhas



Adventure Foundation is accompanying the team as coach.

The team has been sponsored by Indian Mountaineering Foundation, New Delhi, the apex body for adventure sports in the country.

It may be mentioned here that participation of Shivani in the Asian Cup in Bouldering shall provide her a big exposure of competing on

International standard boulders and good performance in this competition shall further facilitate Shivani's selection for the forthcoming international sport climbing competitions.

Meanwhile, Zorawar Singh Jamwal, President; Ram Khajuria, Sr. Vice President; Shawetika Khajuria, General Secretary and Sushil Singh, Treasurer of

Mountaineering Association of J&K besides Patrons of Tawi Trekkers J&K Ashwani Sharma, former MLA and Rahul Sharma, Chairman Sprawling Buds ICSE School, Bantalab, Jammu have wished best of luck to Shivani and are hopeful that she would perform to her full potential in the continental competition and bring laurels to the country and J&K.

Nitish emphasizes PM Modi's vision for India's economic growth

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: Nitish Mahajan, Co-incharge Social Media Department, BJP, J&K, expressed his unwavering support for the 'One Nation, One Election' concept, underscoring the potential benefits it holds for India's democratic processes and governance. He also highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary goal to elevate India to the position of the third-largest economy globally by 2027.

In a statement issued here today, the BJP leader said that the 'One Nation, One Election' proposal aims to synchronize the schedules of Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies' elections. He emphasized that

this initiative could substantially reduce the frequency of elections, alleviate the burden on resources, and enable elected representatives to focus more on governance and development.

Speaking about Prime Minister Modi's ambitious economic vision, Nitish remarked, "PM Modi's aspiration to make India the third-largest economy in the world by 2027 is a testament to his unwavering commitment to economic growth and development.

Under his leadership, India has seen remarkable progress and reforms across various sectors, making significant strides towards this goal."

He further elaborated on some of the key initiatives and policy

reforms that have been instrumental in driving economic growth in India, such as 'Make in India,' 'Digital India,' 'Startup India,' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat.' These initiatives have not only spurred innovation and entrepreneurship but have also attracted foreign investment, contributing to India's economic advancement, he added.

Nitish commended the BJP government's dedication to inclusive development, saying, "The BJP government has been working relentlessly to improve the lives of every Indian citizen, ensuring that the benefits of growth reach the grass-roots level. We are committed to building a strong, self-reliant India where opportunities are abundant, and prosperity is widespread."

Janmashtami celebrated in Vaishno Devi Mandir, Bhagwati Nagar



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: The Janmashtami festival, commemorating the birth of Lord Krishna, was joyously celebrated at the Vaishno Devi Mandir in Pura Nagar, Bhagwati Nagar. Devotees from far and wide flocked to the temple to offer their heartfelt prayers to Lord Krishna, and the temple was adorned with exquisite decorations that added to the festive ambiance.

Mahant Lucky Baba, the dedicated priest of Vaishno Devi Mandir,

conveyed his warm greetings and best wishes to all the devotees gathered on this auspicious occasion of Janmashtami.

He highlighted the profound significance of Lord Krishna's life and teachings, emphasizing their message of well-being and virtue. According to him, Janmashtami holds great spiritual importance for the devout, serving as a powerful reminder of the triumph of righteousness (Dharma) over evil (Adharma).

Mahant Lucky Baba expressed his hope that this festival of devo-

tion and joy would usher in happiness, prosperity, and good fortune into the lives of all who celebrated it. He encouraged the congregation to embrace the teachings and values embodied by Lord Krishna, fostering a sense of goodness and righteousness in their own lives.

The festivities began with a large number of devotees visiting the temple to pay their respects to Bhagwan Krishna. They actively participated in devotional activities, reciting Bhajans (devotional songs) and engaging in Kirtans (spiritual chants) that added a spiritual aura to the Janmashtami celebration. Mahant Lucky Baba further enriched the experience by distributing Parsad (blessed food offering) to all the devotees who had gathered at the temple.

The Janmashtami celebration at Vaishno Devi Mandir not only served as an occasion for religious observance but also as a moment of communal harmony and devotion. It brought together individuals from diverse backgrounds, united in their reverence for Lord Krishna and their shared values of goodness and righteousness.

NC organizes Blood Donation Camp on Sheikh Abdullah's 42nd Death Anniversary

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: In honour of the 41st death anniversary of Sher-i-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, a blood donation camp was organized at Sher-i-Kashmir Bhawan in Jammu.

The blood donation camp, organized by Smt. Bimbla Luthra, a former Member of the Legislative Assembly (M.L.A) which was inaugurated by Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) in presence of senior party leaders Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Abdul Gani Malik former Minister, Vijay Lochan, Rakesh Singh Raka, Dilshad Malik, Pinky Khalsa, Rashpal Singh, and Dr. Sheikh Amina.



The blood donation camp aimed to pay tribute to the late Sher-i-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, a visionary leader and a prominent figure in the history of Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking on the occasion, Rattan Lal Gupta emphasized the importance of serving humanity and carrying forward Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah's legacy. He stated, "Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah was not only a political leader

but also a humanitarian who always prioritized the welfare of the people. Organizing this blood donation camp is a fitting tribute to his selfless spirit." He said that the selfless act of donating blood not only helps save lives but also symbolizes the spirit of unity and compassion that Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah embodied throughout his life.

Rattan Lal described Sheikh Abdullah as a guiding force and leading

light of the freedom struggle, who, besides making the movement inclusive, unveiled revolutionary socio-economic programmes for laying a sound edifice of Naya Jammu & Kashmir. He observed that best tribute which could be paid to Sheikh Abdullah would be for the people to work with a missionary zeal for strengthening J&K's deep rooted secular traditions and the bonds of communal harmony, brotherhood and amity, for ensuring peace, progress and prosperity in the State.

Bimbla Luthra, expressing her gratitude towards all the participants and the community for their support, said, "I am grateful to everyone who came forward to donate blood and remember Sher-i-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah."

Critical lack of Ambulance Repairment at Kishtwar DH puts lives at risk

J I NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, SEPT 07: Social activist Naseer Bagwan has raised a pressing concern regarding the dire state of ambulances parked inside the Kishtwar District Hospital. He points out that these vital vehicles are succumbing to rust and disrepair due to the negligence of the authorities.

The repercussions of this neglect are grave. Bagwan emphasizes that patients are enduring unnecessary suffering, especially in emergency situations, as the hospital's ambulances remain inoperable. In such dire times, the public often turns to NGOs for assistance, further underscoring the glaring deficiency in the hospital's ambulance maintenance efforts.

What compounds the issue is the apparent lack of initiative from the District Hospital Kishtwar authorities. According to Bagwan, the hospital management has failed to address this problem for years. He

believes that it's high time they took the matter up with higher authorities, particularly Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar. Bagwan suggests that this would not only bring the issue to the Deputy Commissioner's attention but also highlight the fact that people's lives are hanging in the balance due to the unavailability of functioning ambulances.

Bagwan acknowledges the young and proactive Deputy Commissioner in Kishtwar who has been diligently working towards the betterment of education, healthcare, and infrastructure. However, he expresses disappointment that the hospital management seems to be lethargic, failing to utilize the Deputy Commissioner's proactive approach to governance. Instead, patients and their families are left to grapple with the consequences of this inaction, bearing the brunt of the healthcare system's shortcomings.

In a call to action, Bagwan

appeals to the Medical Superintendent of District Hospital Kishtwar to escalate the matter to the Deputy Commissioner and the Chief Medical Officer in Kishtwar. He believes that their combined efforts can reach the Lieutenant Governor, who could allocate the necessary funds for the urgent repair of the ambulances. This, he emphasizes, is essential not only to prevent further suffering among the people but also to safeguard the government's financial resources.

The critical shortage of functional ambulances at Kishtwar District Hospital presents a grave threat to the well-being of the community. Bagwan's plea serves as a stark reminder of the responsibilities that healthcare authorities bear in ensuring timely access to medical services, particularly during emergencies.

The swift repair of these ambulances is not just a matter of convenience; it is a matter of life and death.

Paytm Foundation presents 30 computers to district administration of Kulgam

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 07: One97 Communications Limited that owns the brand Paytm, India's leading payments and financial services company and the pioneer of QR and mobile payments, along with Paytm Foundation has distributed 30 desktop computers to the district administration in Kulgam.

These computers will help NEET and IAS aspirants to prepare for the

competitive exams and will be used to establish 3 e-libraries in the Jammu and Kashmir's district.

Paytm Foundation has been supporting education and bridging the digital gap in the country, as well as ensuring empowerment of NEET and IAS aspirants.

This event was held in collaboration with the district administration of Kulgam, and was graced by Additional District Development Commissioner, Kulgam Showkat

Ahmad and representative of Paytm Foundation.

Paytm Foundation Spokesperson said, "The distribution of computers in Kulgam is a step towards fostering the education and empowerment of the NEET and IAS aspirants. We aim to create a conducive environment for learning and growth, facilitating knowledge sharing among aspirants and enhancing their overall academic performance."

DH Samba hosts awareness lecture on Clean Air Campaign



J I NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, SEPTEMBER 07: To mark the 'International

Day of Clean Air for blue skies', an awareness lecture was delivered by Medical Superintendent District

Hospital Samba to Medicos, paramedics, under training students and general public regard-

ing the National Program for Climate Change and Human Health (NPCCHH) with the theme "Together for Clean Air Campaign".

All attendants were encouraged to adopt different measures to save our planet and universe from the pollution and stop deforestation. A plantation drive was also conducted by the Medical Superintendent DH Samba in presence of staff of the District Hospital Samba.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"An eye for and eye will only make the whole world blind." - Mahatma Gandhi

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ON A ROAD TO NOWHERE

There have been loud and tall claims being made about the unprecedented infrastructural development in Udampur-Kathua-Doda Parliamentary Constituency. It has been stated that it is the best ever connected constituency in the country that has seen tremendous development in the last nine years but the ground reality seems to be different. Recently, there were some reports in the media that even 26 years might be a short period for the Public Works Department (PWD) of Jammu and Kashmir to complete just four-kilometer road in remote Bani tehsil of Kathua district. Bani is the part of Udampur-Kathua-Doda parliamentary constituency where the people are still craving for good road connectivity. A single journey on Lowang main road to Bhag in tehsil Bani is enough to gauge the hollowness of tall claims made by the successive regimes about good and effective governance as the road has now been virtually abandoned. Construction work on the road was started in 1997-98. The work of four-kilometer-long link road was to be executed under district plan with an estimated cost of Rs 449.75 lakh. Later, it was proposed that the project would be completed under Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY) but it remained in papers only. Currently, the road is in bad shape as little effort has been made over the years to complete this project. What is more distressing for the local populace is that the officials concerned gave 'lame excuses to save their skin'. Anger is brewing among the locals against the administration as they asked whether this is the model of good governance. A road length of just 4-km has not been completed in 26 years despite the fact that it is directly affecting the day-to-day life of people of 3-4 villages. Where is the accountability? Out of four-kilometer length authorities concerned undertook construction work on just one-kilometer that too without any protection or side wall over these years. The need is to fix the responsibility for this negligence. Officials concerned should be held accountable and punitive action must be initiated against them for their gross negligence. It also calls for a high-level inquiry into the matter and fix the responsibility. The worst affected are young children, ailing people and aged persons who are forced to talk or travel on potholed and dilapidated road. The officials concerned, however, claimed that construction work could not be completed because locals created hurdles in its execution-- a statement that has been outrightly rejected by the locals. They argue that there is a proposal of compensation to the affected people due to construction of any road under PMGSY but there had been no provision of compensation payment to the affected persons under District Plan which brought the project to a grinding halt. Whatever be the circumstances, the administration should order a probe into the matter to restore the dwindling faith of the local people in the administrative setup. It should also expedite the process of completing the road which has been left unattended for the last two decades.

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Is G-20 just a talk shop, or does it play a useful role?

BY MANISH TEWARI

Is the G-20 just another multilateral jamboree or does it play any constructive role whatsoever in addressing the major challenges the world confronts? Are the joint communiqués or declarations any better than the "motherhood and apple pie" statements that are the staple of such congregations? Will there be a Delhi Declaration and will it have any "deliverables" that make the world a better place to live in? The sheen is off in any case as two key protagonists whose presence is essential to restore the balance of peace in the global order -- Russia's President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping -- decided to absent themselves from the New Delhi gathering. While the former is responsible for the unnecessary war in Ukraine, the latter is liable for the theatre-level incursions across the Line of Actual Control into India that has resulted in a land grab of 2,000 sq km of Indian territory at multiple points on the LAC. To recap the trajectory of the Group of 20, it is imperative to take a walk down memory lane. It came into existence in the wake of the 1999 Asian financial crisis, which was due to the lack of synchronisation of economic policies among the world's major economies. Thus, the idea of an annual meeting to bring together finance ministers and central bank governors of the world's largest economies to discuss and coordinate responses to that financial crisis and other economic challenges was envisaged. The G-20 got scaled up to the heads of government level after the global finan-

cial meltdown of 2008. A crisis triggered by the irresponsible and reckless behaviour of the American and Western financial services sector whose junk grade derivatives were sold to gullible investors with Triple A ratings. It triggered a domino effect that hit banks, insurance companies, pension funds and manufacturing industries around the world. It plunged millions into poverty and tens of thousands of others lost their life savings, homes and livelihoods. The inaugural summit at the level of heads of government was held in Washington DC with the objective of addressing this global financial crisis. The member states recognised the urgency of the situation and agreed on measures to stabilise the financial system through counter-cyclical measures. However, what they failed to remedy was the incestuous relationship between the financial industry, regulators and economic policy czars around the world. Not a single person of any consequence responsible for triggering the crisis was criminally prosecuted, especially in the United States. Similarly, the second G-20 summit in 2009, held in London, again focused on promoting economic recovery, with initiatives such as increased infrastructure investment and support for small businesses. The 2010 Seoul summit addressed global economic imbalances and financial regulation but failed to stave off the Eurozone crisis of 2011 that again had ripple effects across the world. The starkest failure of the G-20 was its inability to fashion a collective and cohesive response to a once-in-a-century pandemic triggered by a lab-engineered virus that escaped from the Wuhan

Institute of Virology in China. This virus, later named Covid-19, brought humanity to a standstill. In the initial months, as the virus rampaged across the world, all the responses were subnational and at the local level. The G-20, whose members are also leading lights of the United Nations system, failed to hold the World Health Organisation (WHO) to account whose bizarre behaviour from January 2020 to March 2020, when it kept issuing "all is well" advisories that people did not need to panic, has gone unaccounted for even three years later. In fact, what people tend to forget is that in March 2020 China stymied all efforts to even hold a discussion on the pandemic in the United Nations Security Council as it held the rotating presidency of that body. Even after the Dominican Republic assumed the UNSC's presidency in April 2020 and later, the Security Council did not show any urgency in discussing China's role in the spread of the virus. However, even such a calamitous event did not trigger off a serious and sustained effort in the G-20 to reform the UN system, including all its instrumentalities. The cataclysmic events of September 11, 2001 (9/11), whose 22nd anniversary falls next week, commenced the process of swinging the equilibrium of the global order from Pax-Americana of the last decade of the twentieth century to an ostensible sense of multipolarity. Two decades later that multipolarity remains a chimera, but what has changed in the past two or three years is that a new cold war is upon us. As I had pointed out in this column last month, old alignments are being revived and

resuscitated across the world. The underpinning of this new cold war is embodied in the joint declaration between Russia and China of February 4, 2023 -- namely the joint statement of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China on "International Relations Entering a New Era and the Global Sustainable Development". What the world is therefore witnessing today is the reshaping the international order established after the collapse of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. For instance, the Russia-Ukraine war and its repercussions on the principles of jus ad bellum -- conditions under which states may resort to war or to the use of armed force in general; the rise in protectionist barriers to trade and the application of beggar-thy-neighbour policies which significantly diminish global cooperation, to a flag a few such markers. As a consequence, issues existential to the very survival of humanity on Planet Earth such as environmental issues of global warming and the consequent blight of droughts, storms, heat waves, rising sea levels, melting glaciers and warming oceans may get reflected in the homilies such summits produce but do not get the requisite mindspace of leaders who can make a difference because of their pre-occupation with the immediate, and not the necessary. The recent Brics summit held in South Africa saw the Western bloc attempting to undercut the narrative of the Global South. On the other hand, Moscow and Beijing were attempting to push their own agenda and counter the US-led international order. This is likely to manifest itself vigorously in New Delhi too.

'Indigenous' fertilisers must be explored

BY UTTAM GUPTA

The enactment of two laws viz. The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2023 and the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2023 in the just concluded monsoon session of the parliament bodes well for the Indian fertilizer sector. While the first law paves the way for the auction of critical mineral potash (besides lithium and graphite) blocks for exploration and processing in India, the second provides a fixed 50-year production lease for offshore minerals. Potash or 'K' is amongst the three major plant nutrients (the other two being Nitrogen or 'N' and Phosphate or 'P') needed for increasing production of foodgrains and other agricultural products. Its requirements are met 'entirely' from imports (these are sourced mostly from Belarus, Canada, Russia, Israel, and Jordan) as India doesn't have its resources. This is primarily because our policymakers in the past never bothered to prop up indigenous exploration efforts. Besides, the ecosystem under which the fertilizer industry in India operates hasn't been conducive to driving companies to come up with innovative ideas that help in surmounting the deficiency of resources or optimally utilizing them. This, in turn, has to do with the obsession of successive political regimes to make fertilizers available at a low price,

come what may. For close to five decades, they have promised to deliver all types of fertilizers at low maximum retail price (MRP) unrelated to the cost of production and distribution which is higher. Now, if a manufacturer or importer is told by the government to supply at a low MRP without at the same time promising that he would be compensated for the excess of cost over it, he won't. So, the latter commits to compensate the former for the excess by way of subsidy. This has led to a ballooning fertilizer subsidy bill which hit a whopping Rs 255,000 crore during 2022-23 against a few hundred crore in the late 1970s when the subsidy scheme was introduced. Apart from increasing production and consumption of fertilizers, a paramount reason was escalating cost -- most of it going to pay for heavy import bills (during 2021-22, the total value of fertilizer imports by India, inclusive of inputs used in domestic production, was US\$24.3 billion or close to a mammoth Rs 200,000 crore). During the initial stages, this approach could be justified as India needed to increase fertilizer use - in pursuit of its overarching goal of food security - on the one hand and supplying it mostly from domestic production on the other. Now, when fertilizer use has increased substantially (in fact, there is excess use of Urea, a dominant source of 'N' supply) and the domestic industry has also built up its produc-

tion capabilities, it can't be justified any more. Yet, the government continues giving wrong signals. Farmers know that they will continue to get fertilizers at a low price, so they don't bother to improve the efficiency of use. The manufacturers and importers know that excess of the cost of supplying fertilizers over the price paid by farmers would be reimbursed as a subsidy, so they don't mind incurring higher costs. And, global suppliers know that even if they charge high prices, they won't face demand resistance as the Union Government is there to pick up the tab. Above all, there is no incentive (in fact, no compulsion) to even look for the possibility of finding raw material resources within the territorial bounds of India. When the Centre is more than willing to pay 'any price' for their imports however high (all coming from taxpayers' kitty) thereby immunizing both the suppliers and the farmers from its consequences, why would anyone make efforts to look for them within India? Another flaw in the policy approach deserves mention. Before 1991 when a major economic crisis engulfed India, all fertilizer types (apart from urea, there are 22 grades of fertilizers being the source of 'P' and 'K', di-ammonium phosphate or DAP and muriate of potash or MOP are the most widely used) were met out similar treatment in as much as all suppliers got subsidy on 'firm specific' basis. In 1991, when we sought the help of the

IMF/World Bank, the latter insisted on the elimination of fertilizer subsidies within three years -- as one of the reform conditions. The then PV Narasimha Rao-led government settled for the removal of subsidy on 'P' and 'K' (call them non-urea fertilizers) even while retaining control and subsidy on urea. Those decisions were made effective from August 25, 1992. But, within a little over one month i.e. from October 1, 1992, subsidy was restored on the former. Under its new incarnation, all suppliers of non-urea fertilizers were given a 'uniform' subsidy even as subsidy on Urea continued to be 'firm-specific'. Today, all fertilizer types receive subsidies. But, thanks to the control tab on urea it remains the darling of all political bosses whereas non-urea fertilizers are at the receiving end most of the time; courtesy of the de-control tab they got post-1992. Unlike the former, where increasing subsidies help keep MRP immune to cost hikes, the government generally does not adjust subsidies on the latter. This leads to an increase in prices of non-urea stuff as costs escalate. Together with a step-motherly treatment non-urea fertilizers receive in other areas (for instance, they get reimbursement of freight cost only for movement from the factory/port to the rail-head, on urea, the entire freight cost for movement up to the retail point is given), this has led to an imbalance in fertiliser use.

Despite Xi's absence, the G20 meet is poised to be a success

BY KS TOMAR

In diplomacy, doors for dialogue are never shut but China and India were entailed in a petty issue of scoring over each other which is evident from the recent controversy started by Dragon that Xi and Modi met on the sideline of the BRIC summit in Johannesburg at the request of India which gave birth to the pessimism of improvement in strained ties between two countries. The reports in foreign media as well as Indian press focused on the crux of the brief interaction that took place between Xi and Modi thereby slightly brightening the chances of intensifying efforts to de-escalate tensions at the border which is mandatory to normalize the relations strained since the past more than three years. But it proved short-lived. In this backdrop and latent attempt by China to take away credit for the success of the G20 summit from India, now it is confirmed that Chinese president, Xi Jinping will not willfully attend the G20 meeting in Delhi on Sept 9 which is primarily aimed at undermining the success of summit besides hitting and snubbing United States and west though Russia's

president, Vladimir Putin has stood by India because he telephoned prime minister, Narendra Modi to explain his decision not to attend G20 meet in person. President of G20 nations, India will be hosting meetings of heads of member nations on Sept 9 and Sept 10, 2023, in New Delhi hence Xi's presence would have made a lot of difference but uncertainty prevails. Experts say that a brief conversation between the two leaders had created a good atmosphere which was sullied by China as scoring over each other will not yield positive results. India faces a challenge to ensure the success of the G20 summit which will be attended by Joe Biden, the US president also. India needs to avoid any attempt by China to undermine the importance of the G20 meeting hence a signal has been sent to the world about India's eagerness to have normal ties with Dragon. Experts believe that China's attempt to emerge as a dominating power in the region has been thwarted by India which is also an emerging world economic power. China has tried to entrap poor nations in Asia through Debt policy which is a byproduct of its expansion strategy. However, such a policy is being

resented by several nations as they are unable to repay huge loans. Nineteen rounds of talks held between India and China have not yielded tangible results as China has refused to restore pre-2020 status on LOC which reflects its lack of sincerity in resolving the border issue. The Chinese Ministry of External Affairs issued a statement that said "President Xi stressed that improving China-India relations serves the common interests of the two countries and peoples." But China's track record shows that it seldom follows such a policy which is evident from its attempt to grab Indian territory and refusal to pull back its forces which were illegally piling up their strength on our side of LOC. Secondly, China is very upset over the strategic partnership and close ties that have been developed between the United States and India thereby preventing Dragon from advancing towards its ambition of becoming the Superpower to replace the US. China keeps on encouraging Pakistan to create tension with India which suits its' evil designs. Owing to open support to Russia, China stands to lose in the international arena after the Ukraine war. India has maintained good

ties with Putin and taken a neutral stand on Ukraine aggression which helped India to get cheap oil amidst the sanctions imposed by the US and West. India's role in different groupings including the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD), a grouping of Japan, the US, India and Australia is widely seen by China as America's initiative to counter the growing influence in the world arena. Third, Amidst the pushback being faced by China and Russia owing to sanctions imposed by the United States, an aggressive posture was adopted by both nations to ensure the expansion of BRICS but India registered its strength as it had taken the lead in floating an idea of evolving the consensus over the admission of new six members in the block to develop new global developmental order of governance which should not be Unipolar. It was not to the liking of China as Russia took a stand that was not at the variance of India in BRIC. Biden was poised to raise the Ukraine issue and China has stood by Russia. China does not want to tolerate the dominance of Western powers and relations have further strained with India after the redrawing of the map.

Joe Jonas ditches wedding ring in 1st appearance with daughters since announcing Sophie Turner divorce, gets trolled

Joe Jonas was out and about in Los Angeles on Wednesday with the two daughters he shares with Sophie Turner. Joe was seen without his wedding ring for the outing, which came just hours after his joint statement with Sophie about their split was released. Since the photos were shared by Page Six, Joe faced backlash on Twitter or X with many calling his latest pictures with daughters 'staged photo op', and others slamming him for filing for divorce from Sophie because of her 'partying' lifestyle. Also read: Step inside Sophie Turner, Joe Jonas' Miami home they quietly sold amid divorce reports

since filing for divorce from Sophie Turner on Tuesday after four years of marriage. The former partners are parents to four-year-old daughter Willa and a year-old daughter, whose initials were recently revealed to be 'DJ' as per Joe's divorce documents, reported multiple news outlets.

On Wednesday's family outing, Joe was joined by a woman, who appeared to be a nanny for his daughters. They were spotted at Sweet Butter Kitchen in the Los Angeles suburb of Sherman Oaks, reported Page Six.

The outing came hours after the claims that Joe caught Sophie on their ring security camera 'doing or saying something' which led to the divorce paperwork being submitted on



Tuesday. Joe's outing with daughters as well as recent reports about the alleged reason for his and Sophie's divorce did not sit well with a section of Twitter (X) users. Some called him 'shady'. "The first time we ever see these kids and it's for a staged photo op after he decides to divorce his wife. Interesting stuff," tweeted a person as

they reacted to the pictures shared by Page Six on Twitter. Another one said in response to the tweet, "It's very interesting to me that he posts a photo with his wedding ring on amidst the rumours, and then divorces her (Sophie) 12 hours later and NOW the wedding ring is off... hmmm very interesting."

Ameesha Patel claims she lost Sanjay Leela Bhansali, Shah Rukh Khan films due to her manager

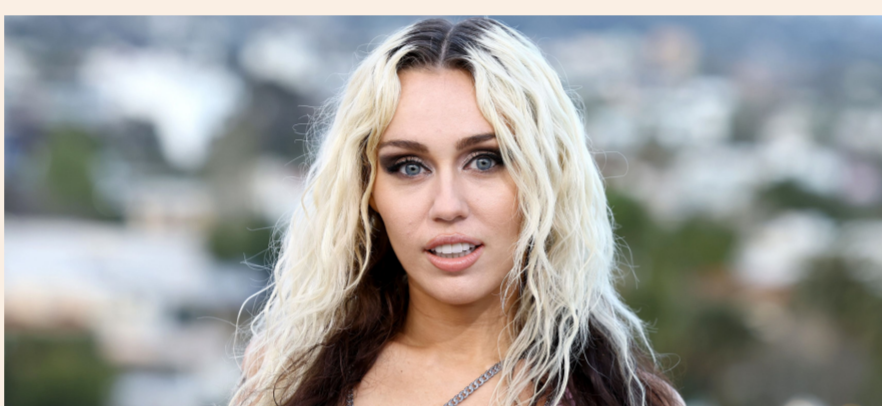


Ameesha Patel has now said that many A-list filmmakers, including Sanjay Leela Bhansali and Yash Chopra wanted to work with her but she lost out on those projects due to her manager. Ameesha was speaking with Siddharth Kannan in a new interview when she recalled how Sanjay once told her about being 'scared of her' due to her manager.

Praising Sanjay Leela Bhansali and his personality, Ameesha said, "There were talks for a very good project. But I don't want to mention its name, because the film has already been made. Unfortunately, my manager at that time and Mr Bhansali were not getting along. After I parted ways, amicably, with the manager, Bhansali sir told me that there were moments when we were supposed to work together but he did not want to deal with my manager. Even Yash Raj Films, Sajid Nadiadwala, and others told me later, 'we were too scared to approach you' because of the manager who used to be a barrier'. So, I missed out on numerous promising projects, directors, and producers due to mismanagement rather than proper management. But that's destiny."

Miley Cyrus opens up about the moment she knew her marriage to Liam Hemsworth was over

Miley Cyrus is opening up about her split from Liam Hemsworth. In the new clip from her Used To Be Young series on TikTok Wednesday, Miley candidly brought up the topic of her relationship with Liam and recalled the exact moment she knew that her marriage was over. It all began at the 2019 Glastonbury Festival in England.



What Miley said

Miley and Liam got hitched in December 2018. During her new clip from the Used to Be Young series on TikTok, Miley shared how she realized that her relationship with Liam Hemsworth was over while she was headlining at the 2019 Glastonbury Festival in England. She said,

"Glastonbury was in June, which was when the decision happened that me and Liam's commitment to being married just really came from, of course, a place of love first — because we'd been

together for 10 years — but also from a place of trauma... The day of the show was the day I had decided that it was no longer going to work in my life to be in that relationship." Trying to rebuild

quickly Miley also opened up about how during that time around they were "just trying to rebuild as quickly as [they] could" after the tragic Woolsey fire in Malibu, Calif in November 2018 which burned their home. The Flowers singer then shared how she didn't let these emotions affect her performance and continued with her gig for the sake of her fans. Earlier she had shared how she had decided to stop touring because it got very intense and exhausting. Miley's most recent single Used to be Young released a few weeks ago and went on to become an instant hit with the fans. In a statement, the singer had added, "This song is about honouring who we've been, loving who we are and celebrating who we will become."

Anushka Shetty reveals why she took a break after Baahubali: 'I know it's totally unheard of'

Anushka Shetty captured the attention of audiences with her performance as Devasena in SS Rajamouli's Baahubali. In a new interview with The Indian Express, the actor opened up about why she consciously did not do more pan-India films and chose to stick with Tamil and Telugu films only. The actor had the Telugu film Bhaagamathie in 2018 and the OTT bilingual release Nishabdham in 2020.

Anushka took some time off

In the interview with Indian Express, Anushka said, "Once I finished Baahubali, I had my commitment with Bhaagamathie, and then I wanted to take some time off. It was by choice. It was something I needed the most at that time. Back then, I felt like doing that so I would be more present for my future projects. I know it's totally unheard of. It's not what is expected of people. I don't have a concrete answer for it, but I really wanted some time off. I didn't listen to any script, but after that I have been listening. So surely if something exciting comes by, I will do it. Be it any language across the country."

On Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty

Anushka Shetty finally marked her return to the screen with the Telugu release Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty. Directed by Mahesh Babu, the film also stars Naveen Polishetty. Anushka plays the role of a chef in the romantic drama that has been garnering positive reviews. Star Chiranjeevi also showered praise on the film. He took to X (formerly known as Twitter) to share a couple of pictures with the cast and crew of the film. He wrote, "I saw 'Miss Shetty - Mr. Polishetty'.. Hilarious entertainer that impressed me from the beginning to the end. Naveen Polishetty, who provided double energy and entertainment to 'Jati Ratnalu', a brand new drama reflecting the mindset of today's youth. 'Devasena' and Anushka Shetty brought life to this film."

He further wrote, "Apart from being a full-length entertainer, the director Mahesh Babu has to be congratulated for mixing the emotions in a wonderful way. BTW I am the first viewer of this movie.. I enjoyed those hilarious moments so much. Once again I had a strong desire to enjoy the theater with all the audience. No doubt Miss Shetty - Mr. Polishetty will make 100% audience laugh. My congratulations and best wishes to all Cast & Crew team (sic)."

Vijay Deverakonda's Kushi donation backfires, now World Famous Lover producer demands compensation

Vijay Deverakonda is in the mood to celebrate the success of his latest film Kushi. The actor attended an event in Visakhapatnam on Monday where he announced that he would distribute ?1 lakh each to 100 families. Now, a well known producer of the industry, who backed his 2020 release World Famous Lover, is reacting to the actor's gesture and in turn, requesting compensation for their loss too.

Abhishek Nama from Abhishek Pictures took to X and wrote in response to Vijay's recent announcement, "Dear @TheDeverakonda We lost 8 crs in the distribution of #WorldFamousLover, but no one responded over it!! Now as you are donating 1CR to the families with your big heart, kindly requesting & Hoping for you to save us and our Exhibitors & Distributors families also (smiling face and red heart emoticons)" He added the hashtags humanity, love and empathy in the caption and shared a poster of the film along with it.

At the event, Vijay's words surprised many. "I am announcing the distribution of one crore rupees to 100 families in order to share my joy with you. Each of the 100 families will receive one lakh rupees. This money is from my personal account," he told fans from the stage in Telugu and was greeted with loud cheers from the crowd.

Earlier, too, the Arjun Reddy actor had sent 100 fans on all-expenses-paid trip to Manali. A few days ago, Vijay had visited the Yadadri Temple in Telangana with his family after the success of his movie Kushi.

Emily Ratajkowski says women who get divorced under 30 is 'chic', hints at Joe Jonas, Sophie Turner divorce

Emily Ratajkowski is hinting at the divorce between Joe Jonas and Sophie Turner. The 32-year-old model said that women getting divorced before 30 is 'chic' in a new TikTok. She shared this relationship wisdom with her female fans a day after Joe Jonas filed for divorce from Sophie Turner.

Emily's TikTok

Emily took to her TikTok and said, "So, it seems that a lot of young ladies are getting divorced before they turn 30. As someone who got married at 26 [who] has been separated for a little over a year [at] 32, I have to tell you, I don't think there's anything better. There is nothing better than being in your 30s, still being hot, maybe having a little bit of your own money, figuring out what you want to do with your life [and] everything, and having tried that married fantasy and realizing that it's maybe not all it's cracked up to be. And then you've got your whole life still ahead of you. So for all those people who are stressed or feeling stressed about that, about being divorced, it's good. Congratu-



lations."

Chic to be divorced

Emily captioned the reel, adding, "Personally I find it chic to be divorced by the age of 30." Emily divorced husband Sebastian Bear-McClard after 4 years of marriage. She has been linked to several celebrities Brad Pitt, Pete Davidson, Harry Styles, Eric Andre, since her divorce.

After reports of Joe and Sophie's separation grabbed headlines, Joe took to Instagram to share an official statement. It read, "Statement from the two of

us: After four wonderful years of marriage we have mutually decided to amicably end our marriage. There are many speculative narratives as to why but, truly this is a united decision and we sincerely hope that everyone can respect our wishes for privacy for us and our children."

Joe and Sophie tied the knot in 2019 after nearly three years of dating. The couple welcomed their daughter Willa in 2020, and had another daughter in 2022. The name of their second child hasn't been made public.

Step inside Kusha Kapila's new Mumbai home filled with incredible style, aesthetic decor and old-world charm

Kusha Kapila recently moved to Mumbai from Delhi. In June, the actor and social media personality had announced her split from Zorawar Singh Ahluwalia. Kusha, who has been busy promoting her upcoming films Sukhee and Thank You For Coming, has now opened the doors of her swanky new Mumbai apartment: it is stylish and inviting. She also opened up about how she wanted her home to feel aesthetic, but also be functional.

In a new video shared by Beautiful Homes on YouTube, Kusha Kapila opened up about choosing the right layout, furniture, and colour palette for the house. She said about the design process, "It took a month or 40 days for this entire place to come together, which was very, very quick."

On decorating the house of her dreams

Speaking about the feel of her Mumbai apartment, Kusha said, "Building a new home in a new city can be extremely daunting, especially if you don't know where to

find things in that new city. And there is a certain aesthetic you want in your home, and you want everything to be aligned and cohesive, so you can have a space that immediately screams you! But a home cannot be aesthetic only, it has to be functional also."

Minimalist aesthetic

Defined by a mood of timelessness, the living area features an understated colour palette of soft browns and neutrals. The furniture and furnishings have been carefully chosen to complement

the home's white and brown colour theme. The open layout living room harmoniously balances classical touches with modern sensibilities.

Modern-meets-Indian living room

The furniture - wooden bookshelf and arms chairs - gives the living room an Indian aesthetic and adds to the aura of Wabi-Sabi in the space. The wooden furniture is combined with a snug L-shaped sofa. The layout creates a comfortable space for Kusha and her guests to chill in. Dining area with cosy vibe

Next to the living space in another cosy and inviting area, the dining space, which is also adorned with wooden and wicker furniture. There is a round table with lush white upholstered chair.

The mini bar with mood lighting as well as sleek and chic wicker cabinet has an old-world charm. It won't be wrong to say that the clutter-free bar is the focal point of the dining room. Bright white walls with wooden panelling serve as the perfect backdrop for some interesting light fixtures.



Resistant starch is good for people with fatty liver disease: Study



A four-month randomised controlled experiment in persons with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) has found that consuming resistant starch on a daily basis can change gut flora composition and lower liver triglycerides and liver enzymes linked to liver injury and inflammation. The findings of the research were published in the journal *Cell Metabolism*.

NAFLD, which is caused by an accumulation of fat in the liver, affects around 30% of the

global population. It can cause serious liver damage and worsen other disorders like type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. There is currently no approved drug to treat NAFLD. To treat the disorders, doctors frequently recommend dietary adjustments and exercise.

The study was conducted by Shanghai Sixth People's Hospital, China in partnership with Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology - Hans-Knöll-Institute (HKI) in Germany.

"We think it would be very meaningful if we can find an effective approach, maybe through identifying new therapeutic targets, to manage NAFLD," said Huating Li, the paper's co-corresponding author at Shanghai Sixth People's Hospital. Previous research results suggest that NAFLD is associated with perturbed gut microbiota. So, Li and her team wanted to investigate if resistant starch—a type of fibre known to encourage the growth of beneficial gut

bacteria—could help treat NAFLD.

For the study, the team statistically adjusted for weight loss.

"Our study shows resistant

THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY SHOW THAT ADDING RESISTANT STARCH TO A NORMAL, BALANCED DIET IS AN EASY, EFFECTIVE WAY TO TREAT THE CONDITION

recruited 200 NAFLD patients and provided them with a balanced dietary plan designed by a nutritionist. Among them, 100 patients also received a resistant starch powder derived from maize while the other 100 received calorie-matched non-resistant corn starch as a control. They were instructed to drink 20 grams of the starch mixed with 300 ml water (1 ¼ cups) before meals twice a day for 4 months.

After the 4-month experiment, participants who received the resistant starch treatment had nearly 40% lower liver triglyceride levels compared to patients in the control group. In addition, patients who had the resistant starch treatment also saw reductions in liver enzymes and inflammatory factors associated with NAFLD. Importantly, these benefits were still apparent even when

starch's impact in improving patients' liver conditions is independent of body weight changes," said Yueqiong Ni, the paper's co-first author at Shanghai Sixth People's Hospital and Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology - Hans-Knöll-Institute (HKI) in Germany.

By analyzing patients' fecal samples, the team found the resistant starch group had a different microbiota composition and functionality compared with the control. In particular, the treatment-group patients had a lower level of *Bacteroides stercoris*, a key bacterial species that can affect fat metabolism in the liver through its metabolites. The reduction in *B. stercoris* is strongly linked to the decrease in liver triglyceride content, liver enzymes, and metabolites observed.

Craving a quick snack? Here's a recipe for chopped sandwich



Viral social media food hacks demonstrate how easy, fuss-free and fun cooking can be. They are usually spin-offs of a recipe, or a twist on a dish in a way that you wouldn't have imagined. One such TikTok recipe is the chopped sandwich. Don't be misled by the name: you don't chop the whole sandwich, just the filling. It's a mishmash of greens, cheese and cold cuts with mayo, red wine, vinegar and olive oil. It's a social media take and a chopped version of Italian hoagies which are large subway sandwiches loaded with veggies, cheese and meat.

For the ingredients, think Italian cold cuts, spices and cheeses: pepperoncini (hot chilli peppers), capicola (pork cold cut), Mortadella (ground-meat cured pork large sausage), the semi-hard provolone cheese, extra virgin olive oil and soft subway bread seasoned with Italian spices. In a chopping board, place lettuce, tomatoes, pepperoncini, cheese and cold cuts and chop away till all of it appear somewhat shredded. Then place them in a bowl, add mayo, red wine vinegar, pepper and season with salt. Mix well. Stuff the subway bread with this appetising filling and you will have lunch on the go, New-York style.

You can replace the cold cuts with shredded chicken and egg, and even fried bits of meat. You can play around with the cheeses too and use powdered parmesan. Better yet, grab hold of two different types of cheeses and you will have a party in hand. Pepperoncini could be hard to come by, and you might have to substitute with jalapeño or a bit of sriracha. Even the subway can be swapped with croissant, if you want a fancy version. The absolute essentials are mayonnaise, red wine vinegar and the extra virgin olive oil. Here's a recipe for the chopped sandwich which neatly breaks down each step.

How extreme dietary habits affect life expectancy

A new study suggests that extreme dietary habits involving carbohydrates and fats might not be good for health

From no-carb to low-carb, diets today increasingly focus on the intake of carbohydrates and fats. A new study suggests that extreme dietary habits involving these two crucial elements of food affect how long people live. A new study, by researchers from Nagoya University, found that a low carbohydrate intake in men and a high carbohydrate intake in women are linked to a

higher risk of all-cause and cancer-related mortality. All-cause mortality risk refers to the risk of death as a result of any cause such as disease or accident. Moreover, women with higher fat intake may have a lower risk of all-cause mortality. The researchers suggest that people should focus on eating a balanced diet rather than doing extreme diets that significantly restrict their carbohydrate or fat

consumption. The journal was published in *The Journal of Nutrition*. For the study, the researchers analysed data from more than 81,000 Japanese people recorded over a period of nine years to examine how carbohydrate and fat intakes affected the risk of mortality. The researchers also found that men who consumed less than 40% of their total energy from carbohydrates experienced sig-

nificantly higher risks of all-cause and cancer-related mortality, according to Nagoya University's press statement. At the time of five years or longer follow-up, women with a high carbohydrate intake of more than 65% had a higher risk of all-cause mortality.

Moreover, men getting more than 35% of their total energy from fats had a higher risk of cancer-related mortality. In

women, total and saturated fat intake indicated an inverse association with the risk of all-cause and cancer-related mortality, according to the statement.

"[C]omponents other than fat in the food sources of fat may be responsible for the observed inverse association between fat intake and mortality in women," Dr Takashi Tamura, who led the research said.

How positive body image is linked to life satisfaction

A positive body image is associated with better psychological well-being and life satisfaction, a new study finds

Body image, how people perceive their bodies, significantly affects people's mental well-being. Turns out, a positive body image is also associated with better psychological well-being and life satisfaction, a new study finds.

The study by researchers, from Anglia Ruskin University (ARU) in England, is one of the largest studies to be conducted on the topic of body image, with 56,968 participants in 65 nations. Published in the journal *Body Image*, the research focused on 'body appreciation', which the researchers defined as "accepting, holding favourable opinions toward,

and respecting the body, while also rejecting media-promoted appearance ideals as the only form of human beauty", according to ARU's press statement.

While previous studies have found that high levels of body appreciation can spark positive traits such as improved self-esteem and healthy eating habits and keep issues such as depression and anxiety at bay, few have examined its impact across nations, the statement explains. For the study, the researchers used the Body Appreciation Scale-2 (BAS-2), consisting of 10 items, including 'I respect my body' and 'I appreciate the different and



unique characteristics of my body'.

Advertisement

The findings showed that across nations, a higher level of body appreciation was significantly associated with higher

psychological well-being, examined using a measure of life satisfaction. Notably, the researchers also found that body appreciation was higher in participants who were single and those living in rural areas.

"[P]eople who live in urban areas may feel stronger pressure to conform to body ideals promoted by Western society, and it is also notable that people from countries considered culturally different to the United States appeared to have broadly greater body appreciation," Viren Swami, the lead author said in the statement. People in rural areas may benefit by living amidst nature, which previous studies have shown, he added. There were significant differences in scores of the 65 nations. Only India and Australia scored lower for body appreciation than the UK. Malta scored highest, followed by Taiwan and Bangladesh.

The benefits your cup of coffee holds

Beyond its role as everyone's cup of joy every morning, coffee is a repository of potential health benefits waiting to be uncovered. Read on to know about the benefits your cup of coffee holds in it:

Wake your brain power up

If your morning mantra is about battling grogginess and embracing alertness, coffee is your trusty ally. The caffeine in coffee is a superstar in boosting your brain's wakefulness. Think of it as your brain's snooze button – but with a caffeinated twist! Studies have shown that caffeine can improve cognitive functions like memory, focus and reaction time. A moderate intake of coffee, about 1-2 cups per day, can give your brain the boost it needs without sending it into overdrive. So, the next time you must tackle a mental challenge, let a cup of coffee be your fuel for thinking.

Mood booster extraordinaire



Ever had a cup of coffee that felt like a warm hug? That's not just the coziness of the hot beverage talking; it's the essence of coffee working on your mood. The caffeine in coffee triggers the release of neurotransmitters like dopamine and serotonin, which are often associated with feelings of happiness and pleasure. So, whether you're gearing up for a busy workday or just need a dose of cheer, your mug of coffee can

double as your mood-lifting companion. Plus, the aroma itself can whisk you away to your happy place – even if just for a moment.

A shield against certain ills

Coffee isn't just about taste. It's a stealthy protector against various health issues. Studies suggest that regular coffee consumption is associated with a reduced risk of type 2 diabetes, Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease. The

antioxidants in coffee can play a role in protecting brain cells, potentially lowering the risk of neurodegenerative diseases. And with India being home to over 77 million diabetes cases, a daily cup of coffee could be part of the defense against this

erated coffee consumption can be a step in the right direction. So, toast your heart's health with a cup of your favorite brew.

Aids in weight management

If you've ever wondered if coffee could lend a hand in your

FROM BEING A MOOD BOOSTER TO LOWERING HEART RISK, COFFEE IN MODERATION CAN BE GOOD FOR YOU

widespread issue.

Hearty cheers to cardiovascular health

Your heart loves coffee as much as you do – seriously. Moderate coffee consumption has been linked to a lower risk of heart disease.

Antioxidants in coffee, such as chlorogenic acid, can help reduce inflammation and oxidative stress, which affect heart health. In India, where heart diseases are a leading cause of mortality, adopting heart-friendly habits like mod-

weight management journey, the answer is a flavourful 'Yes'. Caffeine can boost your metabolic rate, aiding in the burning of calories. Additionally, coffee can act as an appetite suppressant, making those mid-morning cravings more manageable. As per the Indian National Family Health Survey, over 135 million Indians are obese. While coffee isn't a magic solution, it can complement a balanced lifestyle and a mindful diet, supporting your efforts to maintain a healthy weight.

Oil pulling: The wellness ritual that's always trending

This ancient Ayurvedic practice pops up back in the news every few months courtesy celebrities who swear by it. Experts advice caution instead of following the trend blindly



In addition to walking, running, hitting the gym and eating healthy, there is one practice that entrepreneur couple Savitri and Sivakumar from Trichy, Tamil Nadu, follow every morning that they say has improved their health drastically. They take a spoonful of sesame oil and swish it around their mouth for a couple of minutes. "This has immensely cleared my nasal passage and throat and even if I catch a cold now, the intensity of it is much lesser," observes Sivakumar while Savitri says, "It has helped me overcome bad breath that I used to experience as soon as I got up in the mornings."

What is this practice?

Better known as 'oil pulling', this ancient Ayurvedic practice has existed for centuries and is constantly in news these days – thanks to various celebrities vouching for it time and again and people becoming more health-conscious post covid. Usually practiced the first thing in the morning on an empty stomach (some experts suggest before brushing teeth while some say after), oil pulling involves taking a spoon (around 10 ml) of any unrefined, cold-pressed oil (preferably sesame or coconut) and swishing it in the mouth for 7-8 minutes to start with. This can later be increased even to 20 minutes, suggest some experts.

As the oil mixes with the saliva in the mouth, it is believed to pull out all the toxins from the body, which may have been created thanks to several factors like the food we eat, our lifestyles, the environment we live in etc. After a couple of minutes, the oil in the mouth doubles in quantity, becomes thin in consistency and turns milky white – a sign of that the toxins are out. This detoxification process is supposed to strengthen one's oral and general health.

"Our mouth is the mirror of our entire body. The germs in it can cause problems in the rest of the body. Hence, maintaining good oral health is extremely essential for a good overall health and oil pulling is one of the best ways to ensure that," says VR Muthu, CEO of Idhayam Oil, a company that produces sesame oil and promotes the practice of oil pulling. "It's one of those ancient practices like oil bath, mud bath and brushing teeth with neem sticks that allows one to be in harmony with nature," adds the entrepreneur, who also says that he has seen many people cure themselves of serious ailments with this simple practice.

From an age-old practice to a Western trend

"The earliest mention of oil pulling is in Charaka Samhita, written around 100 BCE where it is mentioned as Gandusha," informs Ayurvedic expert Dr. Pranit Ambulkar, R&D Health & Wellness, Netsurf Communications Pvt. Ltd, a direct selling company that sells several natural products.

DDC Pulwama pays visit to District Hospital; takes stock of healthcare services



JI NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, SEPTEMBER 07: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom today paid a visit to the District Hospital (DH) and inspected various sections of the health institution besides taking stock of the quality healthcare services and medical facilities being provided to the patients there.

During his inspection, DDC visited different sections and wards including emergency, operation theatre, OPD, Post Operation

wards. He enquired about the availability of medicines, diagnostic and other facilities available in the hospital.

While interacting with the patients, DDC enquired about their well being and facilities provided to them.

The patients/ attendants gave feedback and were largely satisfied with the services.

Patients lauded the efforts of UT administration for conducting Surgery camps in collaboration with Rotary International.

More the 400 cases of elective

surgeries are listed to be done during special camp at DH Pulwama.

The DDC took an overall review of the working of District Hospital emphasising on quality healthcare, emergency services, critical care and trauma management and intensive care units, district mental health care unit, referrals, sanitation, blood bank, non communicable diseases, power auditing, implementation of Ayushman Bharat and other Govt sponsored schemes.

Speaking on the occasion, DDC urged hospital administrator to improve patient registration through additional counters and queue management and also use of technology (QR code registration) to reduce waiting time.

The DDC also directed MS DH to submit monthly hospital supply audit report. In addition streamlining of parking space for optimum utilisation.

He also took note of post-operative care and directed MS to ensure presence of dedicated Doctors/ paramedics for post-op care, especially during night hours.

The DDC was accompanied by Chief Medical officer, Medical Superintendent and other concerned officials of the Health Department.

LCMA organises Redressal Camp at Dockyard

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 07: A redressal camp was today organised by Lakes Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA) at Dockyard in observance of Bhastachar Mukta J&K Week.

The camp was organised to redress the grievances of the people face to face and lot of grievances were resolved on the spot. People were assured of resolving their pending grievances as well.

The officers who were present to redress the grievances were Manzoor, Ex. Engineer Lake Div 2; Shakil Fazli Ex. Engineer Mechanical; Mueed Ex. Engineer Lake Div 1; Gazala Abdullah,



Project Officer, all AEEs, JEs and other officials. The camp was organised to raise awareness among masses about the zero tolerance to corruption and total transparency in the work culture.

Fourth International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies observed by J&K Pollution Control Committee

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 07: International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies is observed on September 7 every year.

J&K Pollution Control Committee observed the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies 2023 with this year's theme "Together for Clean Air".

To mark this event, J&K PCC organized debate and painting competitions amongst the students of different schools of Jammu.

The children along with their teachers were felicitated by JKPC for their participation in the event. JK PCC also felicitated M. K Wadera, Director Basohli



School of Art and his team towards environmental conservation in particular. The programme was attended by officers/offi-

cial of JK PCC. The paintings made by Children were displayed in the event and were appreciated by all the participants.

The participants also attended the national level function that was held in Bhopal to mark International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies through Video Conferencing.

Similar event was organized by J&K Pollution Control Committee at Industrial Estate Khummoh in collaboration with Industrial Association Khummoh, in which officers/officials of J&K Pollution Control Committee, Environmentalists and Industrial unit holders participated.

Doodhpathri gets connected to telecom network; long pending demand of locals met

DC Budgam inaugurates Telecom towers of JIO at Doodhpathri



JI NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM, SEPTEMBER 07: In a major development, the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Budgam, Akshay Labroo today inaugurated the first-ever cellular network connectivity at famous Tourist destination, Doodhpathri. The telecom towers have been installed by JIO at Doodhpathri.

SSP Budgam, Al- Tahir Gillani; Director NIFT, Javed Ahmad; Jio company UT Head, Shehzan Hamid; ADDC, Dr Akramullah Tak; CEO DDA, Nargis

Fatima Tak; SDM, Khanshab Tariq Ahmad were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that the cellular connectivity which was a long pending demand at such a beautiful tourist destination is indeed a much required achievement for the district administration and all other stakeholders.

The DC said that the network facility will not only help in promoting this destination as one of the best tourists spots in J&K but will also enhance the liveli-

Kashmir but all across the country and all efforts are afoot to develop tourist related facilities.

The DC said that the network facility will prove as a major development in changing the overall tourism scenario of this tourist spot.

He further said that the District Administration Budgam has also invited NIFT Srinagar to provide designing support for development of Tourist shelters, selfie points, beautification of traditional Doks at the spot.

Efforts are on to ensure development of Additional toilet blocks, cafeteria and parking facility at Doodhpathri.

He said that as many as 8 lac tourist visited Doodhpathri during last season, however, this year, the number of tourist footfall has been recorded as 14 lac so far.

SSP Budgam, Al- Tahir Gillani who also spoke on the occasion, said that the destination sans network facility was a cause of concern for all, however, the issue stands addressed now and will prove a game changer for its tourism potential.

Shri Krishna Janmashtami celebrated with religious fervor, gaiety in Kishtwar



JI NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, SEPTEMBER 07: The district Kishtwar today witnessed an overwhelming convergence of thousands of devotees who came together to celebrate the joyous occasion of Shri Krishna Janmashtami with immense devotion and enthusiasm.

Shri Krishna Janmashtami, which marks the auspicious birth anniversary of Lord Krishna, was celebrated across the district of Kishtwar with deep religious fervor. Temples throughout the district were adorned with devotees who thronged in from the early hours of the morning to participate in the sacred festivities.

At GoriShankar Mandir Sarkoot, the day commenced with the per-

formance of rituals associated with Shri Krishna Janmashtami, including an early morning Hawan followed by the solemn Purna Ahuti ceremony.

One of the highlights of the celebration was the religious processions conducted at every nook and corner of the district following a long-standing tradition.

In Kishtwar, the main Shobha Yatra began at Gori Shankar Mandir and proceeded through Parade Ground, Dakbunglow Road, Shaheedi Road, Om Mehta Chowk, Bus Stand, and concluded at Ram Mandir. Thousands of devotees, accompanied by representatives of Sanatan Dharma Sabha and Ekal Abhiyan, chanted bhajans and kirtans as they moved along the procession. The

Shobha Yatra was filled with the vibrant colors of children dressed as Lord Krishna and Radha, and it was led by Jhankies joining from the town and its adjoining villages.

The procession witnessed the active participation of Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav and SSP Kishtwar, Khalil Ahmed Poswal. They not only joined the procession but also oversaw security, traffic management, and other logistical arrangements.

The event was also graced by the presence of ADDC Kishtwar Sham Lal, ADC Kishtwar Inderjeet Singh Parihar, ACR Varunjeet Singh Charak, Dy DEO Naresh Kumar, Tehsildar Kishtwar Muneeb Umar, State Taxes Officer Maneet Sharma, along with other civil, police, and army officers who extended their congratulations to the people of Kishtwar on the joyous occasion of Janmashtami.

The district administration left no stone unturned in ensuring the smooth conduct of the celebration by providing foolproof security, efficient traffic management, medical facilities, and adequate water and sanitation facilities.

Prominent socio-religious figures including Mahant Shri Ram Sharan Das Ji, District President of Sanatan Dharma Sabha Kishtwar, Surinder Kumar Sen, and former Minister Sunil Sharma joined thousands of devotees in celebrating the auspicious day at Gori Shankar Mandir Kishtwar.

Shoba Yatra taken out at Ramban, Batote amid religious fervour



JI NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, SEPTEMBER 07: Shri Krishan Janamashtami- the festival celebrating the birth of Lord Shri Krishna was celebrated across Ramban with religious fervour and gaiety.

Impressive 'Shoba Yatra' was also

taken out from Raghu Nath ji Temple Ramban and after passing through different parts of the congregation culminated at GREF Temple at Maitra.

Similar Shoba Yatras were also taken out at Batote and other parts of the district. Before the Shobha Yatra, Pooja was performed by a number of

devotees in the temples across the district.

The impressive Jhankies displaying various aspects of divinity of Lord Shri Krishan accompanied by a large number of devotees added to the festivity. The devotees were chanting religious hymns and singing Bhajans. The traders had erected welcome gates to greet the Shoba Yatra across its route.

The Shoba yatra was given a warm welcome by the people from all walks of life to keep the traditional and age old brotherhood alive for which Ramban has taken a lead in testing times.

District and Police administration Ramban made foolproof security and other arrangements for the convenience of devotees.

The temples in Ramban began the celebrations by singing bhajans at mid-night and continuing the entire next day. Devotees visit temples to have glimpses of the Lord Krishna and get the pleasure of rocking the cradle of Lord Krishna.

DC Kulgam conducts surprise visit to DH; takes stock of patient care at the institution



JI NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, SEPTEMBER 07: To take stock of healthcare facilities being provided to the patients, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal

Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today paid a surprise visit to District Hospital (DH) Kulgam.

During the visit, the DC inspected various wards and sections of the hospital and took stock of the

overall functioning of the health institution.

The DC enquired about the availability of medicines, diagnostic and other facilities available in the hospital and services being provided to patients

there.

He also interacted with the patients and attendants to inquire about their satisfaction with the services of this health institution.

The DC directed the hospital administration to maintain complete hygiene in and around the hospital and provide better medical care facilities to the patients.

He also stressed for proper utilization of human resources and to serve the patients with utmost dedication and sincerity.

High hopes for climate and energy outcomes at G20 Summit as India takes lead

NEW DELHI: As leaders gather for G20 Summit in New Delhi, experts on Thursday said securing consensus on multilateral development bank (MDB) reforms and adopting rigorous language regarding the phasing down of unabated fossil fuels could enhance India's leadership role.

G20 countries -- responsible for 85 per cent of the world's GDP and 80 per cent of the emissions -- failed to reach consensus at the energy and climate ministers' meetings in July on the phasing down of unabated use of fossil fuels, tripling renewable energy capacity to 11 terawatts by 2030 and providing low-cost financing to developing countries -- issues critical to limiting global average temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Despite the complexity of discussions and uncertainties surrounding energy transition and MDB reforms, there is optimism that the summit's leaders can find a minimum consensus to demonstrate unity.

India hopes to get the governments to agree on a fossil phase down. However, if this doesn't find place in the final text, there's a risk of backsliding on the coal phase-down agreed



upon at the Bali summit in the previous year. At the G20 energy ministerial, Saudi Arabia led opposition to fossil fuel phase-down efforts, while the G7 nations had earlier committed to accelerating the phase-out of fossil fuels. Sultan Al Jaber, the President of the next UN climate talks, has stressed that the phase-down of fossil fuels is "inevitable" but contingent upon a substantial increase in renewable energy capacity worldwide.

Experts, however, anticipate limited progress on fossil fuel discussions at the G20.

RR Rashmi, Distinguished Fellow and Programme Director at The Energy and Resources Institute, said, "On the issue of fossil fuels, it is unlikely that there will be any language additional to what was agreed in Bali due to lack of global

advancement and concrete action, despite India's push, on technology, hydrogen, blue economy, and circular economy." Indrajit Bose, Global Policy Lead at Climate Action Network (CAN) International, a global network of government and non-government environmental organisations, advocated for an equitable phase-out of all fossil fuels, with developed countries taking more responsibility.

Tejal Kanitkar, an Associate Professor at the National Institute of Advanced Studies in Bengaluru, emphasised that global targets, when applied uniformly without differentiation, disproportionately burden developing countries, especially those experiencing rapid increases in energy demand.

She said developing countries should not readily accept

any global target unless it is accompanied by a clear commitment to achieving these targets through principles of equity and Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC).

Vaibhav Chaturvedi, a fellow at independent think tank Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), said: "The debate (on finance) is going in some direction... At the G20 level, it is the first time that countries are talking about MDB reforms in such a detailed and intensive way about operationalisation of climate finance. It means a lot if the countries which have a say in the MDB processes agree to reforms."

However, he stressed that it would be worrisome if meaningful progress on finance isn't achieved at the G20, as strong signals are essential for the market to move in the right direction to meet climate targets. Bose said that a failure to secure an agreement on equitably phasing fossil fuels along with meaningful financing for developing countries for a just transition at the G20 Summit could complicate efforts at COP28.

"At the same time, the UN climate talks have 199 coun-

tries together. There will be pressure from civil society also. So, it's a different platform. There might still be a fair chance to push it at COP," he added.

Developing countries including Indonesia and South Africa have objected to the tripling of RE capacity without clarity on finance to achieve this.

Bose acknowledged that "developing countries might face challenges in reaching these targets due to the sorry state of climate finance".

Experts say the majority of the funding allocated to developing countries to address the effects of climate change and achieve their climate objectives is provided in the form of loans or investments, rather than grants, which means countries have to pay it back. This is a problem because the countries that need the money the most can't afford to pay it back.

During the 2011-20 period, merely about 5 percent was disbursed as grants, while the remainder constituted loans or equity. Notably, 75 percent of all climate finance throughout the decade centered in North America, Western Europe, East Asia, and the Pacific.

'Sanatan Dharma' Row: Congress Says It Doesn't Agree With DMK Leaders' Comments



NEW DELHI: The Congress on Thursday said it did not agree with the remarks of DMK leaders Udhayanidhi Stalin and A Raja on 'Sanatan Dharma' and asserted the party believed in 'sarvadharmasambhava' (equal respect to all religions).

The opposition party also asserted that every single member of the INDIA alliance has immense respect for all faiths, communities and beliefs.

The assertion came amid a political row after DMK leader Udhayanidhi Stalin blamed 'Sanatan Dharma' for promoting division and discrimination among people and said it should be eradicated. Also, DMK leader A Raja reportedly said 'Sanatan Dharma' should be compared to diseases such as AIDS and leprosy that have a social stigma attached to them.

Asked about comments by leaders of ally DMK, Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khara said, "The Congress has always believed in 'sarvadharmasambhava' wherein every religion, every faith has its space. No one can treat any particular faith as less than another faith. Neither the Constitution allows this nor the Indian National Congress believes in any of these comments." "If you know the history of the Indian National Congress you would know that we have always maintained (this stand) and you will find the same principles in the Constituent Assembly debates and the Constitution of India. There can never be a rethink on the Constitution as far as the Congress is concerned," he said.

Arunachal Chief Minister Reveals Siang River Barrage Plan To Counter Chinese Dam



ITANAGAR: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Wednesday warned the state Assembly of environmental disasters, including floods, for his state and neighbouring Assam if India does not respond to China's building a mega dam on the Yarlung Tsangpo River in Tibet's Medog district.

The Tsangpo flows through Tibet before entering Arunachal Pradesh as the Siang. It becomes the Brahmaputra in Assam and the Jamuna in Bangladesh before it empties into the Bay of Bengal.

To counter what some experts have called a "ticking water bomb for residents downstream (in Arunachal and Assam)", the centre plans to build a large barrage - a low-lying structure with gates to control the flow of water -

across the Siang, Mr Khandu said as he sought support for the idea.

"The Indian government has raised objections over repercussions to Siang as a result of China's project.

If this (the Chinese dam) happens, what will be the condition of the Siang? The river may shrink because water is diverted... we may be able to cross it on foot. There is also threat of floods if excess water is released... there will be massive floods in Siang belt, Assam and even Bangladesh."

"In case of excess water, we need to have big structures to protect ourselves from floods... the centre too has expressed concern and plans to build a barrage so we can keep Siang alive," the Chief Minister said during a Zero Hour discussion initiated by Congress MLA Lombo

Tayang. Mr Khandu noted that some members of the public in the Siang Valley were blocking the government's initial geographical survey work and said he plans to personally visit the area to "request villagers cooperate and allow survey and investigation work for proposed barrage".

"If there is diversion of water, there will be floods and land erosion of lakhs of hectares of cultivated land.

Once survey is completed then centre can give us clear picture of the matter," he said.

Underlining the serious nature of the problem at hand, Mr Khandu called on the public and Arunachal Pradesh lawmakers to think of the state and country's long-term future.

China's Tibet Mega Dam Plan Raises Concern

China's dam is expected to produce triple the electricity produced by the Three Gorges - the world's largest power station - and this has environmentalists in India and abroad deeply worried.

It is mentioned in China's strategic 14th Five-Year Plan, unveiled in March 2021.

Cruelty for Woman and Man may differ: Supreme Court on Divorce Case

NEW DELHI: What is cruelty for a woman in a given case may not be cruelty for a man, and a relatively more elastic and broad approach is required when a court examines a case in which a wife seeks divorce, the Supreme Court has said while granting a decree of divorce to a woman. A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and MM Sundresh said the word 'cruelty' under Section 13(1)(ia) of the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955 has no fixed meaning, and therefore, gives a very wide discretion to the Court to apply it "liberally and contextually". Section 13(1) and 13(1A) of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 provide for various grounds for granting divorce including cruelty. What is cruelty in one case may not be the same for another and it has to be applied from person to person while taking note of the attending circumstances, the bench said. "Therefore, what is cruelty for a woman in a given case may not be cruelty for a man, and a relatively more elastic and broad approach is required when we examine a case in which a wife seeks divorce. Section 13(1) of the Act of 1955 sets contours and rigours for grant of divorce at the instance of both the parties," the bench said. The bench, which pronounced the verdict on Wednesday, took note of the submission by advocate Dushant Parashar, appearing for the estranged wife, seeking divorce on ground of cruelty and claiming her husband had cast aspersions on her character. Mr Parashar contended that both the high court and the trial court had erred in refusing to grant divorce. The bench said the facts of the case spoke for themselves. The couple had got married in the year 2002. It ran into rough weather after the birth of their child. Disputes started between the parties from 2006.

"The appellant-wife registered a complaint under Section 498A of Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Sections 3 and 4 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961. The respondent-husband had questioned the character of the appellant-wife," the bench noted. The bench noted the husband claimed it was his wife who had left the matrimonial home and also demanded a medical examination of the wife, alleging she was living in adultery and had given birth to a child during the period of non-cohabitation.

"Twisting Facts": Minister Ups Ante Against Congress On Special Session Row

NEW DELHI: Union minister Pralhad Joshi on Thursday accused senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh of twisting facts about constitutional provisions and procedures related to parliament sessions.

It is crucial to stop the spread of misinformation that scandalises parliament and its procedures, the parliamentary affairs minister said in a rejoinder to Mr Ramesh who had accused him of being "misleading" in his reply to Congress leader Sonia Gandhi's letter to the Prime Minister.

The Congress has been targeting the government for not disclosing the agenda of the five-day special session starting from September 18.

Mr Ramesh had claimed the agenda of every special session in the past was known in advance and alleged that it was only the Modi government that "distorts" parliamentary conventions. Seeking to set the record straight, Mr Joshi accused him of "falsely claiming" that the historic function in Parliament's Central Hall on June 30, 2017, for the GST rollout, was a Parliament session. "That's just not true! It wasn't a session under Article 85 of the Constitution," he said on X.

"Now, let's address another misrepresentation. Mr Ramesh mentioned a 'Special Sitting in Central Hall on 26 November, 2019' for the Constitution's 70th anniversary. But, once again, it wasn't a parliamentary session under Article 85 of the Constitution," Mr Joshi said.

A session of Parliament under Article 85 of the Constitution is precisely that, and the agenda will be shared in accordance with established parliamentary practices, he said. The Article 85 deals with sessions and states that the

"President will from time to time summon each House of Parliament to meet at such time and place as he thinks fit, but six months shall not intervene between its last sitting in one session and the date appointed for its first sitting in the next session." Mr Joshi said it is important to differentiate between celebratory functions and formal parliamentary sessions. Accurate information matters in maintaining the integrity of our democratic processes, he added.

In a jibe at Mr Ramesh, who is a Rajya Sabha MP and Congress general secretary, Mr Joshi used a quote that "a compulsive contrarian may be a master of doubt, but they often miss the beauty of certainty founded in truth".

He said, "Jairam Ramesh's recent statements have been quite misleading. He's twisting facts about constitutional provisions and parliamentary procedures." The summoning of Parliament, the minister said, is the greatest boon in a democracy. However, there is a lobby of compulsive contrarians who oppose the same, he added in a swipe at opposition parties. He asked Mr Ramesh to focus on accurate information and not let misleading statements cloud people's understanding of constitutional provisions and parliamentary procedures.

Mr Joshi then raked up the Emergency proclaimed by then prime minister Indira Gandhi and said it was a Congress government which was known for subversion and distortion of parliamentary democracy.

People of the world's largest democracy have seen the imposition of Emergency and how the rights of the people of this country and institutions were curbed by his party's government in 1975, he told Mr Ramesh.

Udhayanidhi spoke about "inhuman principles" in Sanatan Dharma, unfair for PM to target him says Stalin

CHENNAI: Amid a raging row across the country over his cabinet colleague Udhayanidhi Stalin's alleged anti-Sanatan Dharma remarks, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Thursday said his son had expressed certain comments about the "inhuman principles" preached in it and accused the BJP of being 'desperate' to create division in the mega opposition bloc, the INDIA alliance.

Pro-BJP forces, unable to tolerate Udhayanidhi's stance against oppressive practices, have spread a false narrative, alleging he called for the genocide of people with Sanatan thoughts, Stalin said in a statement and wondered why Prime Minister Narendra Modi would also join those targeting

the TN minister.

Udhayanidhi spoke out against oppressive ideologies and called to eradicate the practices based on those ideologies.

"Udhayanidhi Stalin expressed certain comments about inhuman principles preached by Sanatan. He expressed his views on Sanatan principles that discriminate against Scheduled Castes, tribals and women, with no intention to offend any religion or religious beliefs," he said.

"The Social Media mob nurtured by the BJP has widely circulated... falsehood in northern states. However, Minister Udhayanidhi never used the word 'genocide' in either Tamil or English. Still, lies were spread claiming so,"

Stalin added. Union ministers Amit Shah and Rajnath Singh and many others "shared the same lie and condemned Udhayanidhi. Even after Udhayanidhi's denial, these Union Ministers did not retract their statements."

"It is disheartening to hear from the national media that the Prime Minister mentioned that Udhayanidhi's remarks need a proper response during a meeting of his council of ministers. The Prime Minister has access to all the resources to verify any claim or report. So, is the Prime Minister speaking unaware of the lies spread about Udhayanidhi, or does he do so knowingly?" Stalin, president of the ruling DMK, asked.

He said the PM had recently spoken about his cabinet col-

league EV Velu in Parliament, "without knowing the truth about a purported video clip" about him making some purported controversial remarks.

"Given these instances, it raises questions about whether the Prime Minister, who has failed to fulfil any of his promises, is attempting to divert attention by invoking Sanatan. Neither the Prime Minister nor his Ministers have replied on issues like Manipur (violence) or the Rs 7.50 lakh crore worth irregularities highlighted in the CAG report (in a central road scheme). But they convened the cabinet on Sanatan. Can these leaders truly protect the backward castes, Scheduled Castes, Tribal people, and uplift women," the DMK chief asked. "The INDIA alliance,

formed by parties opposed to the BJP, seems to have rattled the Prime Minister. He is proposing 'One Nation One Election' out of fear. It is evident that the BJP is not genuinely concerned about the discriminatory practices in Sanatan but rather desperate to create divisions within the opposition alliance. It doesn't take a political genius to recognise this as a political gimmick," he added.

Leaders with extensive experience and an unwavering commitment to the country will "avoid" engaging in BJP's "divisive politics" for political gain. "Instead, they will intensify efforts to protect our country from the BJP," Stalin said. "As far as the DMK is concerned, our ideals and goals are transparent and

clear. We operate under the motto of One clan, One god and happiness of the poor. Our movement aims to uplift the Backward, Most Backward, Scheduled, and Tribal castes, minorities, women, and the poor. That's why the people of Tamil Nadu have entrusted us with the responsibility of ruling the state for the sixth time," he said. zThe government has ensured that individuals of all castes can become temple priests in Tamil Nadu while it was the first state that granted equal property rights to women. "The DMK provided to women what was denied by Sanatan principles. We respect every individual's feelings and strive to make them self-respecting citizens. Our movement ensures a peaceful

life for everyone, regardless of their race, language, or caste. We have promoted our ideology through enlightenment, eschewing violent means to achieve our goals. If the BJP believes they can tarnish the reputation of a longstanding party like the DMK, they will find themselves sinking in that quicksand," Stalin said.

On Wednesday, PM Modi, addressing his Council of Ministers and touching on the ongoing controversy, had said parties and leaders behind such statements should be exposed and the truth brought before people. The prime minister spoke positively of Sanatan Dharma's endurance over the millennia and asked ministers to strongly refute the suggestions made by opposition leaders.

Ratnayake: Sri Lanka's win against England 'really huge' for cricket in the country

London : Sri Lanka Women's coach Rumesh Ratnayake has described his team's T20I series triumph over England as "really huge" for cricket in the country.



Sri Lanka blew their hosts away by seven and eight wickets respectively to come back from 1-0 down and hand England their first T20I series defeat by a side other than Australia since 2010.

It followed Sri Lanka's home 2-1 ODI victory against New Zealand in June and coincided with Pakistan's 3-0 sweep of South Africa in their T20I series.

Given that Sri Lanka are ranked six places lower than England and Pakistan two spots behind South Africa in the format, the results have fuelled hopes that the gap between the top-ranked nations and the rest can be closed. Ratnayake's prediction that his side's victory will make people sit up and take notice in Sri Lanka can only help the cause. "If I say it's huge, it's not good enough because it'll be really huge," he told ESPNcricinfo after Wednesday night's victory in the series decider in Derby, led by captain Chamari Athapaththu's 3 for 21 and 44 off 28.

"It's really huge because when we left Sri Lankan shores, they didn't

think that we would do so well. Everybody thought maybe you might win one out of six. But I just told the girls that we are here not just to play and participate, we are here to win. I think it is going to be huge there. The awareness of girls playing and wanting to be people like Chamari and the likes would be huge."

Athapaththu had been instrumental in the win at Chelmsford also, her brutal half-century helping mow down another meagre target after England were bowled out inside 20

overs for the first of two successive games. Her scintillating form this year - she has two unbeaten centuries and four half-centuries across white-ball formats in 2023 - has only emphasised Athapaththu's position as the lynchpin of her side, but Ratnayake was pleased that others had contributed to their latest victory too.

Kavisha Dilhari, the 22-year-old off-spinner matched Athapaththu's five wickets for the series and was key to their latest victory with her variations in speed and tight lines, claiming 2 for

16. Seamer Udeshika Prabodhani also bagged 2-16 in Derby and, along with left-arm spinner Inoka Ranaweera and off-spinner Inoshi Priyadarshani, rounded out the series' top-five bowlers. "It's huge," Ratnayake said of Athapaththu's influence on the team. "But our challenge is to win without her. I saw the others sort of stepping into it as well. We've got some good players, but to have another Chamari would be a freakish outcome in the future."

"That's the way we play back home. Sometimes I keep Chamari with me and we play matches without her, and we see where we stand against good opposition, and that's a challenge for the future. It's working out well."

"You'll be surprised, even the smallest can hit sixes now. So we are there, but it's a collective thing, it's a cohesive thing where everybody gets together and works as a team."

"We know where we can be and we can see the picture and that's how we are here and that's what we came for. We spoke of playing cricket for moments like this, for tours like this."

Ratnayake also attributed practice matches against men's sides to helping his players' development, but he highlighted a change in mindset as critical.

"I recognised what we need to do and created an environment which was a learning environment where they were free to express themselves in a fearless manner because I saw them playing cricket in a very fearful way," he said. "When they started to play like that, we saw some good things coming out. It was a challenging environment where they learned a lot of things."

A fearless approach is precisely what Jon Lewis, England Women's head coach, asked of his players when he took charge last year. He even applied the philosophy to selection for Sri Lanka's visit, opting to rest some senior players to test younger, less experienced ones at international level.

Even after the loss to Sri Lanka, Lewis stood by the approach, saying it was about "trying to give people opportunities who've been sat on the edge of our squad or just outside our squad, to try and learn about what they're capable of under pressure". While England will welcome back star allrounder Nat Sciver-Brunet and opener Tammy Beaumont for the three-match ODI leg starting in Durham on Saturday, that series could hinge somewhat on whose courage wavers first.

Harbhajan Singh wants Suryakumar Yadav in India's World Cup playing XI



NEW DELHI : Former India spinner Harbhajan Singh feels Suryakumar Yadav should be in the starting XI come the World Cup because he can do in his role what even Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma can't.

Harbhajan feels the selectors and team management were right to pick Suryakumar in the World Cup squad ahead of Sanju Samson, who was also in the running for a middle-order role for India. "I feel Suryakumar Yadav is a complete, complete player," Harbhajan said in a chat organised by Star Sports. "I don't think the selectors have been harsh on Sanju Samson. I do feel Sanju is a very very good player, a quality player. But you can only select fifteen players. "Because the game that Suryakumar has in the middle over[s], I don't think Sanju has that game. Even he goes for big shots from the first ball, but the reliability Suryakumar gives you - he can score big. Sanju I feel plays the kind of cricket where there is a lot of chances that you get out. Whereas Suryakumar, I know a lot of people ask what has he done in ODIs, but what he has done in T20s, if his innings is only going to be that long then I feel in that position, there isn't a better player than Suryakumar in India."

Full-strength England take on New Zealand with title defence in sight

CARDIFF : After a lengthy wait, ODI champions England can finally begin their preparations for the defence of the World Cup title when they face off against 2019 runners-up New Zealand in a four-match series that starts on Friday (September 8).

Contrasting preparations The dress rehearsal for the opening World Cup game will be especially critical for England who have not played a 50-over game since beating Bangladesh 2-1 in March this year, and have played a total of only six ODIs so far this year. New Zealand have been better off in comparison, with 13 games under their belt in 2023, including two trips to Pakistan and three matches in India where the World Cup will be played.

The boys are back in town With a near full-strength ODI team for the first time in several months, England will be hoping to hit the ground running in their bid to emulate the success of Eoin Morgan's 2019 side.

There are several familiar faces in the Jos Buttler-led setup, with the skipper, Joe Root, Jonny Bairstow, Jason Roy, Ben Stokes and Moeen Ali forming the core of the batting order like they did in the previous World Cup. England also have Harry Brook and the 24-year old will look to use the opportunity in a last-ditch effort to make it to the World Cup squad.

Chris Woakes, Mark Wood and Adil Rashid, who were also part of the 2019 team, will have key roles to play with the ball along with the likes of Reece Topley, Sam Curran and David Willey, depending on the combination England opt for.

New-look New Zealand with a touch of familiarity New Zealand, who did well to



SCHEDULE

- 1st ODI - Friday, September 8 | Sophia Gardens, Cardiff | 12:30 PM Local Time
- 2nd ODI - Sunday, September 10 | The Rose Bowl, Southampton | 11:00 AM Local Time
- 3rd ODI - Wednesday, September 13 | The Oval, London | 12:30 PM Local Time
- 4th ODI - Friday, September 15 | Lord's, London | 12:30 PM Local Time

come back in the T20I series to level it 2-2, will be looking to take that confidence into the 50-over format. Their bowling attack has a familiar look, with Trent Boult, Lockie Ferguson, Matt Henry and Mitchell Santner in the mix, but otherwise it's a completely different outfit to the one that played in 2019. Ross Taylor has retired, while New Zealand have also moved on from Martin Guppill, Colin Munro, James Neesham and Colin de

Grandhomme, Tom Latham is the new skipper and a key player in the middle order.

Devon Conway, Finn Allen, Henry Nicholls and Daryl Mitchell, who currently occupy the top four positions, will be hoping to offset the absence of Kane Williamson, although the former captain is set to return to the side soon. The focus will also be on Kyle Jamieson who in his comeback from injury, has been largely impressive although he did have an expensive outing in the final T20I.

Squads: England: Jos Buttler (c), Moeen Ali, Gus Atkinson, Jonny Bairstow, Harry Brook, Sam Curran, Liam Livingstone, Dawid Malan, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Jason Roy, Ben Stokes, Reece Topley, David Willey, Mark Wood, Chris Woakes.

New Zealand: Tom Latham (c), Finn Allen, Trent Boult, Devon Conway, Lockie Ferguson, Matt Henry, Kyle Jamieson, Adam Milne, Daryl Mitchell, Henry Nicholls, Glenn Phillips, Rachin Ravindra, Mitchell Santner, Tim Southee, Will Young.

Will Young gets nod ahead of Finn Allen in race for World Cup spot

CARDIFF: Finn Allen looks set to miss out on selection for New Zealand's provisional World Cup squad, with Will Young due to open the batting with Devon Conway during their four-match ODI series against England.

New Zealand have used several different opening combinations in 50-over cricket since 2019, with Martin Guppill losing his place and negotiating a release from his central contract. Allen has become a regular in their T20I line-up, opening the batting at last year's World Cup in Australia, and has scored five half-centuries in his 17 ODIs, averaging 31.35. But Allen missed their most recent ODI series in Pakistan while he was with Royal Challengers Bangalore at the IPL, and Young took his chance, hitting 240 runs in five innings. Young will partner Conway in the first ODI in Cardiff on Friday and with Kane Williamson due to be included when New Zealand name their provisional World Cup squad on Monday, Allen appears likely to miss out. "Youngie is a quality player," Tom Latham, who will captain during the England series, said. "He's been in the mix for us for a long period of time and hasn't had a lot of opportunities but the opportunities [he has had] in recent times, he's played really well. It's another great opportunity for him to come in and put some performances on the board."

Both Allen and Young are part of the New Zealand squad that will travel to Bangladesh immediately after the England series, and Latham suggested that Allen will get a chance to force a rethink at some stage. Teams can make changes to their provisional World Cup squads before September 28, the day after New Zealand's third and final ODI in Bangladesh. "We've got seven one-day games and a couple of warm-up games leading into that World Cup, but we're trying to stay where our feet are and focus on these games rather than looking too far ahead," Latham said. "It's obviously great to play England, who are a quality side. We know conditions are going to



be slightly different but for us, it's about trying to play our brand of cricket as best as we possibly can.

"There's a balance of both, obviously wanting to put your best team out but also understanding that we've got a lot of cricket coming up - a lot of games leading up to that World Cup. There will be guys having a little bit of rest every now and again, and coming off the back of four T20s, we want to make sure guys are fresh and ready to go rather than blowing them out, a month out.

"Again, Finn is a quality player. We've seen that in the games that he's played for New Zealand. He's very destructive at the top of the order and obviously he might get some opportunities throughout this series at some point... Guys will get opportunities through the series which is great for us, to get guys more experience against quality sides, and hopefully, if they are required throughout a World Cup, they're ready to go." This will be the first time England and New Zealand have faced one another in a men's ODI since the 2019 World Cup final at Lord's. "It was a great game of cricket, wasn't it?" Latham said with a smile. "It would have been nice to be on the other side, but it was probably one of the best one-day games you'll ever see. It'd be pretty hard to top that game." The sides will also face each other on the opening night of the World Cup in Ahmedabad in four weeks' time. "Conditions are going to be completely different," Latham said.

Van der Merwe, Ackermann included in Netherlands' World Cup squad

AMSTERDAM : Roelof van der Merwe, Paul van Meekeren and Colin Ackermann return while Sybrand Engelbrecht is in line to debut for the Dutch at the World Cup, as the four were included in the 15-member squad named by the KNCB (Royal Dutch Cricket Federation) to travel to India for the Netherlands' first 50-over World Cup in over a decade.



Scott Edwards will again lead the side from behind the stumps, with 10 of the 15 man squad he captained to second place at the World Cup Qualifier retained, while Kyle Klein and Noah Croes will be the travelling reserves. Netherlands Squad: Scott Edwards (c), Max O'Dowd, Vikram Singh, Sybrand Engelbrecht, Wesley Barresi, Colin Ackermann, Bas de Leede, Teja Nidamanuru, Roelof van der Merwe, Logan van Beek, Saqib Zulfiqar, Shariz Ahmad, Ryan Klein, Aryan Dutt, Paul van Meekeren. (Travelling reserves: Noah Croes, Kyle Klein)

Former Cape Cobras bat Engelbrecht, who represented South Africa at the 2008 Under-19 World Cup, was recently confirmed as Dutch-eligible after working and playing in the Netherlands for several years, first turning out for HBS Craeyenhout in 2015 and now settled at Voorburg CC, whom he captained to the national championship this season. On Engelbrecht coach Ryan Cook remarked, "SA and I have walked a long journey together, I

coached him back when he was at the Cobras. He moved out to the Netherlands a few years back and has been here plying his trade since, we enquired with the ICC about his eligibility about a month ago. It's fantastic just to broaden the player pool, he's been doing very well for his club here and put in some good performances against Guernsey for the A side." Ackermann, van Meekeren and van der Merwe (of Leicestershire, Gloucestershire and Somerset respectively) were

absent from the side that won through the World Cup Qualifier in Zimbabwe earlier this year owing to their county commitments, but are expected to fly out to join the squad in India along with Durham's Bas de Leede, who played a decisive role in the Dutch securing qualification. Van der Merwe comes in for fellow left-armers Clayton Floyd, preferred ahead of Sint Maartener Daniel Doram and Northern District's Tim Pringle. The latter, coming off a long lay-off due to injury, was set travel to India to join the preparatory camp but was forced to pull out owing to fitness concerns. Kent's left arm quick Fred Klaassen remains sidelined with a stress fracture. Glamorgan's Timm van der Gugten likewise picked up a late injury but remains in consideration on standby in case of an injury. Cook explained that while Croes and Klein are travelling with the side as development

players, they are not necessarily first in line as injury replacements. On the omission of Tom Cooper, Cook confirmed to Cricbuzz that Cooper had not retired, but concerns regarding a lack of recent competitive cricket played into his omission. "Tom is part of our wider squad and I know he continues to harbour ambitions especially looking ahead to the T20 format - the door's not closed on Tom and he's not closed the door either, but obviously the level of games and the training required to prepare for games at an international level is something we take very seriously, so it's a question of timing and how he can combine that with family commitments and to see how that works for him." Right arm seamer Ryan Klein got the nod ahead of Vivian Kingma, while Essex's Shane Snater and Durham's Brandon Glover also miss the cut as do Voorburg bats Michael Levitt and Musa Nadeem Ahmad.

NOTICE

I, Bindu Slathia, wife of Rajeshwar Singh, resident of village Sari Kalan, Jandrah, tehsil Dansal, district Jammu, declares that my name has been wrongly mentioned as Bindu Jamwal in school certificates. My correct name is Bindu Slathia. I am now applying for correction of the same with the school education department. Objections, if any, may be conveyed to the concerned after the publication of this notice.

G20 NORTHERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice
The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur Division invites applications for allotment of halt contract for sale of tickets for the following stations:-

1 Name of work : Allotment of Halt contract at Jamsher Khas, Sham Chaurasi, Khathkar Kalan Jhanda Ji, Jajon Doaba, Garshankar, Malupota, Salla Khurd, Dudwindi, Gama Sahib, Sindhar & Butelwala Halt Stations over Firozpur Division.
2 Tenure of contract : 5 (five) years
3 Last date & time of submission and opening of applications : On 05.10.2023 Up to 15:00 hrs. (Applications will be opened on 05.10.2023 and in case the day on which the applications are to be opened is a holiday, the same will be opened at the same time on next working day).
4 Address of the office & date from which application forms will be available: Office of Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur. Date 06.09.2023 to 05.10.2023
5 Northern Railway's website : Applications can also be downloaded from Northern Railway's official website www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

The notice for inviting application forms and other related information is also available on the official website of Northern Railway www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in 2774/2023

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Lt Governor chairs Governing Body meeting of Mission Youth

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 07: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha chaired the third Governing Body Meeting of Mission Youth, at Raj Bhawan earlier today.

During the meeting, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, CEO, Mission Youth, briefed the Chair on the significant self-employment initiatives for the Financial Year 2023-24 by the department to promote entrepreneurship and enable young people to realize their dreams.

The meeting discussed achievements, action plan for FY 2023-24, Targets and Roadmap for various Youth Entrepreneurship Schemes, etc.

The Lt Governor observed that all the requirements for Young Entrepreneurs should be taken care of so they can contribute to society and achieve self-growth.

"All our institutions, departments, financial support system and technological mechanism should focus on serving their needs and handholding of those who were



engaged in running enterprises," the Lt Governor said.

The meeting discussed the establishment and operationalization of District Youth Centres in all 20 districts of Jammu and Kashmir; career counselling, and market-driven skill development programs; recreation facilities, social engagement, and sports activities, including LG's Rolling Trophy; Young Lawyer's initiatives, Exposure tours (Know India, Love India) and awareness programs, besides, Youth innovation promotion program and inclusive youth engagement and outreach.

The Lt Governor directed the Department of

Industries & Commerce and Mission Youth to work together to promote startups and facilitate the spirit of enterprise among the Youth to grow.

"We can achieve our target through convergent functioning of departments, banks, financial institutions and higher educational institutions and provide all the support and guidance.

It is our prime objective to fulfill the dreams and aspirations of our youth," the Lt Governor added.

The meeting chaired by the Lt Governor approved the establishment of State-of-the-Art Libraries. It was also decided to implement AVSAR Program in all districts of the Union

Territory.

The meeting discussed "The Model Finishing School" to enhance employability of qualified youths under the Endeavour to Empower program of Mission Youth. The Lt Governor directed all the stakeholders to fully contribute to its successful implementation. Sh Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Sh R.K. Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department; other members of the Governing Body; Administrative Secretaries; Heads of Departments and senior officials attended the meeting, in person and through virtual mode.

CEO NRAA visits MRCFC Khudwani, Paddy SR-IV Seed village Subhanpora

ALSO INTERACTS WITH PROGRESSIVE FARMERS

JI NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, SEPTEMBER 07: CEO, National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), Dr Ashok Dalwai, today visited Mountain Research Centre for Field Crops (MRCFC), Khudwani and Paddy SR-IV Seed village Subhanpora and took stock of the agriculture activities in the areas.

The CEO was accompanied by VC SKUAST Professor Nazir Ahmad Ganie; Director Agriculture Kashmir, Director Extension SKUAST Kashmir, Director Research SKUAST Kashmir, ADC Kulgam, Dean Faculty of Agriculture Wadara SKUAST Kashmir and scientists from Mountain Research Centre for Field Crops, Khudwani.

During the visit to MRCFC-Khudwani, he reviewed the progress of on-going research programmes at the center.

Associate Director Research (MRCFC), Prof. N.R. Sofi, briefed the Secretary about the progress and distinguished achievements of the center.

During the field visit, Dr Ashok Dalwai was impressed by the incred-



ible local germplasm conservation programme and its commercial utilization.

He was highly impressed with the lot of genetic variability created at the centre through indigenous breeding programme. He laid special emphasis on high value rice varieties like Mushk Budji, Kamad, red rice as well as recently released fine grain varieties like Shalimar Sugandh and much improved advanced breeding lines to improve socio-economic development and livelihood security.

He advised the scientists to coordinate with KVKs and development departments for their large-scale popularization.

CEO NRAA during the visit also

held interaction with the progressive farmers and also took stock of the agriculture activities in the areas. He also reviewed the progress on various projects under holistic agriculture development programme.

Interacting with the farmers, CEO NRAA reiterated department's commitment to the development of agriculture and allied sectors in the region.

He impressed upon the young educated farmers to go for diverse agriculture activities like mushroom cultivation, bee keeping as a main source to earn income and livelihood.

The CEO also visited Paddy SR-IV Seed village Subhanpora and interacted with farmers.

Janmashtami celebrated with religious fervor, gaiety in Doda District

JI NEWS SERVICE

DODA, SEPTEMBER 07: The Lord Krishna's birthday, also known as 'Janmashtami,' was celebrated with enthusiasm and religious fervour across the district Doda.

The Temples were decorated, and 'Shoba Yatra' was taken out as per the traditional celebrations by locals in Bharderwah and Doda town.

In Doda town, the temples decorated with lights and flowers added to the festive atmosphere amid singing of Bhajan in Praise of Lord Krishna.

Shoba Yatra, taken from Radhey Sham Mandir and Shiv Mandir, culminated at Ram Lila ground Tondwah.

Similar Shoba Yatra was taken out in Bharderwah. Prayers were offered during the night. Muslim neighbours greeted devotees warmly, continuing



the tradition of brotherhood and harmony. Foolproof security arrangements were made by the administration along with deployment of the Duty Magistrates across the district, especially in Doda and Bharderwah towns for the smooth celebration of the festival. In his message, Deputy Commissioner Doda Vishesh

Mahajan greeted the people and prayed that Janmashtmi, the day of birth of Bhagwan Krishan on earth may guide us all on the righteous path.

He emphasised the importance of preserving the diverse cultural heritage of the district and fostering harmony among its communities.

DC Doda inspects condition of Basti Village Road in Bharderwah



JI NEWS SERVICE

BHADERWAH, SEPTEMBER 07:- District Development Commissioner

Doda, Vishesh Mahajan inspected the Nalthi Bridge to Village Basti road along with ADC Bharderwah, Chowdhary Dil Mir, ASP, ACD and

BDO Bharderwah.

The DDC assessed the condition of the road and interacted with the residents of the area to listen to their concerns and issues related to the road.

The DDC directed the concerned authorities to take necessary action for the maintenance and improvement of the road.

He emphasized the importance of timely repairs and ensuring the safety of commuters. He also assured the residents that necessary steps will be taken to ensure the safety and timely completion of the road. The DC reiterated the commitment of the administration towards addressing the infrastructural needs of the people of the area.

ARTO Bandipora blacklists Vehicle involved in Stunt making

JI NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, SEPTEMBER 07: In a swift action, the Regional Transport Office (RTO) Bandipora Thursday officially blacklisted a vehicle that was involved in a stunt-making incident.

The Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) said that a video of vehicle, bearing registration number JK15B 1238, went viral on social media platforms while the driver of the vehicle was seen standing on the roof top of the car.

He said that this incident posed a threat to public safety and the life of the driver.

He said that the vehicle was instantly blacklisted. The ARTO further said that the vehicle owner/driver will face legal action under IPC and Motor Vehicle Act.

Janmashtami celebrated with religious fervor at Ganderbal

JI NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, SEPTEMBER 07: Janmashtami was today celebrated with religious fervor and gaiety in Ganderbal.

On this occasion, an impressive Shoba Yatra, as part of the traditional celebrations was taken out after a gap of 34 years by the local Pandit devotees from historic Bedeshwar Mahadev Temple Nunner which culminated at Devraj Temple Chaperkund Wayil peacefully.

The devotees including men and women besides children were part of the procession who were chanting religious prayers

After gap of 34 years Shoba Yatra taken out at Nunner



throughout the procession journey. Both the temples wore a festive look as they were beautifully decorated with flowers and lights.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir also

participated in the Shoba Yatra and paid obeisance at the temple. He interacted with the devotees and extended his greetings on the auspicious occasion of Janmashtami. Mean-while, Chairperson

Development Council Ganderbal, Nuzhat Ishaq; SSP Ganderbal, Nikhil Borkar; ADDC Ganderbal, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani and local PRIs also participated in Shoba Yatra and extended their greeting to

the local pandits.

The Pandit brothers on this occasion expressed their gratitude towards the district administration and local community for their support.

Pertinently, foolproof arrangements were put in place by the district administration and police for the successful celebration of Janmashtami festival and Shoba Yatra.

On this occasion, several NGOs, Civil Societies, police and locals greeted the local pandits and offered sweets, water and fruits among the devotees, displaying the social fabric of the Ganderbal.

Bhrastachar Mukh Week: RDD organises special camp at Kulgam

Participants apprised about online services of depts; grievances listened for redressal

JI NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, SEPTEMBER 07: Under the banner of week-long Bhrastachar Mukh J&K, the Rural Development Department (RDD) Kulgam today organized a Special camp at new conference hall Kulgam.

On the occasion, addressing the gathering the Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD), Mohammad Inran highlighted the aim and objective of organising the camp and added that the week-long programme is observed to discuss corruption, its consequences and the need for promoting transparent and accountable governance. PRI members and locals from various areas



also participated in the programme.

During the programme, through a powerpoint presentation participants were briefed about various online services of Rural Development

Department.

Meanwhile, as part of Bhrastachar Mukh Week series of activities were carried out in the district during this week.

CAO Reasi inspects Agriculture Activities in Block Pouni

JI NEWS SERVICE

REASI, SEPTEMBER 07: Chief Agriculture Officer of Reasi, Harbans Singh embarked on an extensive tour of Block Pouni, engaging with numerous progressive farmers in the region. His visit encompassed several agricultural endeavors that exemplify the area's agricultural diversity.

In the Panchayat Bhambla, he inspected integrated farming activities, wherein farmers concurrently tended to cattle and cultivate vegetables. This multifaceted approach to agriculture was among the



highlights of his tour. Moving on, Harbans Singh proceeded to Panchayat Maghai, where he observed a farmer's successful cultivation of pulse crops, specifically the mash variety PU 10 from the

minikit program. This showcased the efficacy of government support in improving crop yields. The tour continued with a visit to the fields of Yash Pal, a progressive farmer in the village of Sudheen. Yash

Pal's flourishing cucumber cultivation, sold profitably on the roadside, caught the Chief Agriculture Officer's attention. He encouraged Yash Pal to explore off-season vegetable cultivation through protected methods, assuring him of subsidies available under the Horticulture and Agriculture Diversification Program (HADP).

This comprehensive inspection and interaction with the farming community underscore the commitment of the Agriculture Department in promoting sustainable and prosperous agriculture in the Reasi region.