

DENGUE WARNING SIGNS

Many people with dengue can be cared for at home with adequate rest and hydration. But, if you experience any warning signs, go immediately to the nearest medical centre.

Watch out for dengue warning signs!

A drop in body temperature accompanied by any of the following symptoms:

- Increased and continuous abdominal pain
- Discomfort or pain in joints
- Persistent vomiting
- A drop in body temperature
- Disorientation
- Severe pain in gums or nose, blood in vomit
- Redness in eyes

If you have any of these symptoms, go to the nearest medical centre IMMEDIATELY

JINDRAH IMAGES

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At least 116 killed in stampede during satsang in Hathras

AGENCIES
LUCKNOW, JULY 2

At least 116 people were killed and 18 others injured in a stampede during Satsang in Sikandra Rao area of Hathras district in Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday, a senior officer said here.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has taken cognisance of the incident and directed the senior officials to reach the spot and launch a rescue operation. A high level inquiry has also been ordered.

Divisional Commissioner, Aligarh Chaitra V said, "According to information received so far death of 116 people is confirmed and 18 others are injured. The

injured have been sent to the divisional headquarters in Aligarh for higher treatment."

She said that further action would be taken after the preliminary inquiry. "The organisers had taken permission from the Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) and the police," she said.

ADG Agra Anupam Kulshretha said that the incident took place in the Phulgarhi area of Hathras district where satsang of Bhole Baba was being held in which a large number of women were participating. "There was stampede all of a sudden after the Satsang ended during which



PM condoles Hathras stampede deaths, announces ex-gratia

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday expressed grief over the incidence of stampede in Hathras, Uttar Pradesh, in which around 60 people have died.

Modi also announced an ex-gratia of Rs. 2 lakh for the next of kin of each deceased and Rs 50,000 for each of the injured.

"I express my condolences to those who lost their lives in this accident. I wish for the speedy recovery of all the injured. The administration is engaged in relief and rescue work under the supervision of the state government" he said in parliament.

The Prime Minister said, "Senior officials of the central government are in constant touch

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 8

LG chairs high-level meeting to review Muharram arrangements



J NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUL 02

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a high-level meeting to review arrangements for

Muharram, Tuesday at Civil Secretariat.

The meeting was attended by Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; RR Swain, DGP; Vijay Kumar, ADGP, Law & Order; Dr Mandeep

Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Administrative Secretaries,

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 8

Amarnath yatra crosses 50k mark in 3 days, fresh batch of 6500 pilgrims left from Jammu



J NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUL 2

Over 50,000 pilgrims from different parts of the country paid obeisance at holy cave of Shri Amarnath Ji in first three days of the pilgrimage, which started from twin tracks of Baltal and Nunwan-Pahalgam on June 29.

Officials told the news agency that 23,437 pilgrims paid obeisance at holy cave by till evening. With this, the total number of pilgrims visiting the 3888 metre high

cave shrine in deep Himalayas during the last three days since the yatra started on June 29 has reached 51,981.

Meanwhile, a fresh batch of 6537 pilgrims left Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas base camp in Jammu to perform the pilgrimage of Barfani Baba. The pilgrims left the base camp in a cavalcade of 261 early this morning. These included 5091 Men, 1102 Women, 19 Children, 301 Sadhus & 24 Sadhvis. Of these

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 8

CS reviews status of power sector reforms taken across JK



J NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JULY 2

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today had a thorough review of reforms undertaken by the Power Development Department (PDD) across the Union Territory to bring added efficiency in the power scenario besides reducing the AT&C losses considerably.

Principal Secretary, PDD, MD, JPDCL/KPDCL, DG, Resources, Chief Engineer, JPDCL/KPDCL, representatives from NTPC, PELS and other concerned officers attended the meeting held in this regard.

The Chief Secretary emphasised upon the officers to ensure completion of all ongoing works taken up under power sector reforms and those aiming

loss reduction without any further delay. He also stressed on further bringing efficiency in billing and collection of revenue to saturate it fully for each feeder.

Regarding pilferage of electricity, the Chief Secretary maintained that the huge gap between the supply of energy and realization of revenue

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 8

Heat wave grips Valley, Sgr sizzles at 34.6 degrees

J NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUL 02

The heat wave has gripped Kashmir Valley on Tuesday with most of the places recording the hottest day of the season while the weatherman forecasted flash floods amidst the possibility of light to moderate rainfall from July 4 to July 7.

According to the news agency, the maximum temperature recorded a further rise today with Srinagar recording the hottest day of the season at 34.6 degree Celsius.

Some other parts including Kupwara, Pahalgam, Qazigund and Kokernag have also recorded the hottest day of the season today. In Kupwara, the mercury settled at 34.6 degree Celsius while Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir, recorded 34.0 degree Celsius and Kokernag and Pahalgam recorded a maximum temperature of 33.4 degree Celsius and 29.1 degree Celsius respectively.

With the further rise in the mercury, the parts of Kashmir including Srinagar, Qazigund, Kupwara and Kokernag recorded the heat wave today.

The Jammu division has recorded almost similar temperatures like yesterday. The details reveal that Jammu, a winter capital of the Union Territory, recorded 37.2 degree Celsius while Banihal recorded 31.8 degree Celsius.

Batote, Katra and Bhaderwah recorded a maximum temperature of 29.1 degree Celsius, 33.5 degree Celsius and 34.7 degree Celsius respectively.

Meanwhile, the weatherman here has predicted hot and humid weather with possibility of spell of rain and thundershower at scattered places of Jammu towards late night and early morning and spell of rain and thundershower at few places of Kashmir.

On July 04, Director Meteorological depart-

ment (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, said, an intermittent spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower is expected at many places with isolated heavy rain over Jammu division. On July 5 & 6, there is a possibility of intermittent moderate rainfall at most places of J&K with heavy showers and rainfall at few places.

According to Director MeT, the hot and humid weather is expected with possibility of spell of rain and thundershower at scattered places of Jammu towards late night and early morning and spell of rain and thundershower at few places of Kashmir.

Meanwhile, in its advisory, the MeT has said that thunderstorm, lightning and flash floods, landslides, mudslides & shooting stones are expected at few vulnerable places during 4th-6th July, adding that a few low lying areas may experience temporary water logging conditions. KNO

Amarnath Yatra Brake failure in pilgrims' bus triggers panic; 10 injured in Banihal



J NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 2

Indian Army along with the J&K Police on Tuesday averted a major tragedy as a langar vehicle moving from Amarnath to Hoshiarpur, Punjab lost control due to brake failure in Nachlana area in Banihal belt of Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Indian Army jawans along with J&K Police persons attempted to slow down and finally stop the bus from plunging down into the Nalaveh by placing stones beneath the tyres of the vehicle," said Army official.

He said that in the meanwhile, the 40 passengers travelling panicked and started to jump out of the vehicle in the process injuring themselves.

Ten persons injured in the action, adding, "the Army Quick Reaction Teams along with ambulance reacted instantly and provided

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 8

Newly appointed Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi will visit Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday in his first official trip after taking over as India's 30th Chief of Army Staff.

Top army sources informed the news agency that the Army Chief will be visiting army formations in Jammu. He is also scheduled to visit operational areas and interact with troops.

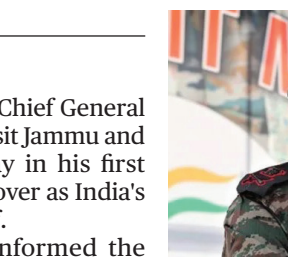
Official sources said that General Dwivedi will also review security for the ongoing Amarnath Yatra.

This will be his maiden tour to J&K after taking over as the new Army Chief. General Upendra Dwivedi assumed the role on June 30, succeeding General Manoj Pande, who retired after more than four decades of distinguished service.

General Upendra Dwivedi is an accomplished military leader with 40 years of service in the Armed Forces.

Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi on maiden visit to J&K today

J NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUL 02



An alumnus of Sainik School, Rewa (MP), he was commissioned into the Regiment of Jammu & Kashmir Rifles in 1984. He eventually became the first officer from J&K's native JAKRIF to rise to the position of Army Chief.

The General also has the unique distinction of balanced command as well as staff exposure across Northern, Eastern, and Western theatres, in varied operational environments.

General Dwivedi brings with him a wealth of experience and a proven track record of effectively planning and executing for the unexpected.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 8

ACB files case against Jammu MVD officials for misappropriation of funds

J NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUL 02

Jammu and Kashmir Anti-corruption Bureau registered a case against a former junior assistant, other officers then posted in RTO office Jammu and others over allegations of irregularities in the department.

In a statement, issued

to news agency, a spokesperson said that the case was filed with regard to collection and deposition of passenger tax as well as probable misappropriation of same from 2018 onwards till collection of same through online mode, pursuant to receipt of communication dated 06-03-2023 from General Administration Depart-

ment.

The statement reads that the verification conducted revealed that Manju Sharma, junior assistant was deputed in accounts section of Regional Transport office Jammu to collect passenger tax from owners of passenger commercial vehicles during the

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 8

Arms, ammo recovered during search ops in Kupwara

J NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, JUL 02

Jammu and Kashmir police on Tuesday said to have recovered a huge quantity of arms and ammunition during a search operation in Kupwara district.

A top police official told the news agency that

based on a specific input, a joint search operation comprising Police, Army and BSF was launched at the general area of Nangari Forest, Dardpora Kralpora in Kupwara.

The operation yielded recovery of heavy quantity of war-like stores, officials said. The recovered arms

and ammunition include 8 AK Magazines, 445 live AK rounds, 1 Pistol, 3 Pistol magazines, 13 live Pistol rounds and one hand grenade.

Meanwhile, a case has been registered in this regard while further investigations has been set into the motion. KNO

JKEDI covers 4229 unemployed youth during 90 awareness Programs held in June: Director JKEDI

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 2

Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) has conducted 90 awareness programs covering 4229 unemployed youth and students from across the UT of J&K in the month of June.

While reviewing the monthly performance of the district centres of the institute, Director JKEDI, Rajinder Kumar Sharma said all District Nodal Officers had been directed to enhance their efforts and reach out to the unemployed youth and students enrolled in various educational and vocational training institutes across the Union Territory.

"The institute has conducted a comprehensive mass awareness drive aimed at empowering and guiding the youth towards



entrepreneurship across all districts of the Union Territory. This initiative, which started on June 01, spanned several weeks and targeted over 4,229 unemployed youth and students enrolled in various colleges and ITIs," said Director JKEDI.

The primary objective of the drive in the form of Entrepreneurship Awareness Programs (EAPs) was

to foster entrepreneurial spirit among the youth by providing them with essential knowledge, skills, and resources needed to start and sustain their own ventures. Through a series of workshops, seminars, and interactive sessions, participants were introduced to various aspects of entrepreneurship, including ideation, business planning, financial

management, and marketing strategies.

"A special focus of these awareness programs was on the J&K Startup Policy and registrations under this newly formulated initiative to boost startup culture in the UT," Director JKEDI added. He urged the officers to continue and further intensify the drive in the month of July.

"The overwhelming response and enthusiastic participation from the youth underscored the success of the initiative, with many expressing their intent to pursue entrepreneurial endeavors and contribute to the economic landscape of Jammu & Kashmir," he further added.

On the occasion, the Director also reviewed the overall functioning of the district offices of the institute with respect to the repayments and

recovery of loans under different self-employment schemes.

The meeting was attended by the concerned Range Officers, District Nodal Officers of JKEDI and In-charge officers of the concerned sections from across the UT of J&K. The Director appreciated the top performing district teams and exhorted upon the others to enhance their efforts and complete all targets in designated time.

The Director stressed the importance of a collaborative spirit among JKEDI employees to meet and exceed the expectations set forth in guiding the youth towards successful entrepreneurial endeavors. He highlighted the critical role of teamwork in realizing the institute's commitment to providing effective guidance and mentorship.

YSS Baramulla conducts Vibrant Inter-School Zonal Level Competitions across District

J1 NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, JULY 2

The Youth Services and Sports Department in Baramulla is abuzz with activity as it continues to host inter-school zonal level competitions across the district, fostering a spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie among young athletes.

In Zone Wagoora, an inter-school zonal level Volleyball and Kho-Kho competition for U17 girls was organized at HSS Kreeri. The event saw an impressive turnout, with 143 students from various Higher Secondary Schools and High Schools participating. The young athletes showcased their skills and competitive spirit, making the event a resounding success.

Similarly, Zone Nehal-



pora held a Kabaddi inter-school zonal level competition for boys under the age group of U14. The competition took place at the sports field of Govt BMS School Warpora Nehalpora, with 53 players demonstrating their talent and enthusiasm in this traditional sport.

Additionally, Zone Dargpora organized inter-school Kabaddi competitions for U14 and U17 boys at HS ground Shiva. The event featured 32 teams

in the U14 category and 20 teams in the U17 category. The competitions highlighted the students' dedication and passion for Kabaddi, contributing to a vibrant and energetic atmosphere.

These events underline the Youth Services and Sports Department's commitment to promoting sports and physical activities among students, nurturing their talents, and fostering a healthy and active lifestyle.

DC Kulgam reviews arrangements for Muharram-ul-Haram

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, JULY 2

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan along with SSP Kulgam Sahil Sarangal today convened a meeting of officers at the mini-secretariat here to review the arrangements for Muharram ul Haram.

The DC directed the Officers from PDD and PHE to ensure uninterrupted power and water supply during the holy days especially in Shia dominated areas of the district.

The PHE authorities were also asked to keep tanker service available at Imam baras, while PDD officers were directed to install gensets near Imam baras.

FCS&CA authorities were asked to ensure adequate availability of essentials in shia populated areas, while Health



authorities were instructed to set up first aid camps near Imam baras of the district besides keeping ambulance service ready.

R&B authorities were directed to ensure repair of all roads, link-roads especially the ones leading to Imam baras wherever required.

The authorities of Municipal Committees of the district were asked to ensure proper sanitation

in and around Imam baras.

Concerned were instructed to repair high mast lights and street lights near Imam baras.

The meeting was attended by SSP Kulgam, Sahil Sarangal; ADDC, Bashir Ahmad Wani; ADC, ACR, CMO, ARTO, Tehsildar Pahloo, Ex. Engineer Jal Shakti and other Officers besides representatives from Shia Community.

Director Agriculture Jammu concludes extensive 2-day tour of Ramban District

J1 NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, JULY 2

Director Agriculture Jammu Arvinder Singh Reen concluded a two-day tour of Ramban district during which he reviewed agricultural development initiatives and inspected key projects under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP).

On the first day, the Director held a detailed review meeting with the Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) Ramban along with Sub Divisional Officers from Ramban, Gool, and other senior officials of the Agriculture Department. Discussions focused on the progress and challenges in the implementation of flagship HADP schemes in the district.

Following the meeting, the Director Agriculture visited the establishment of the Kissan Khidmat



Ghar (KKG) at.

Later, the Director conducted a field visit to inspect the organic vegetable crop at the Organic Cluster under PKVY, located in the village Ladhwal. The initiative aligns with the Department's efforts to promote organic farming and sustainable agricultural practices in the region.

On the second day of the tour, Mr. Reen visited the Potato Seed Develop-

ment Farm at Natha Top. The primary focus of the visit was to assess and implement corrective measures for the control of nematodes, as well as strategize measures to increase seed production at the farm. The Director was accompanied by the Farm Manager and other staff personnel from the Agriculture Department, who actively participated in discussions and assessments.

SCERT Jammu organises 3-Day workshop on Examination Reforms

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 2

A three day workshop on "Examination Reforms in Schools of JK-UT" was inaugurated today at JKSCERT, Divisional Office Jammu. The vital workshop has been organized by the Assessment Cell of Jammu Division.

The workshop began with the illumination of lamp by Dr. Jyoti Parihar, Principal Govt. College of Education in presence of Prof. (Dr.) Sindhu Kapoor from Jammu University of Jammu; Joint Director JKSCERT Jammu Division DIET Principals of Jammu Division, Assessment Cell, Central Move and the members of Assessment Cell of Kashmir Division in the virtual mode. Dr. Neeraj Jandial, Associate Professor presented the formal welcome address. Dr. Jyoti Chauthaiwale, an eminent educationist and scientist joined through virtual mode.

Dr. Jyoti Chauthaiwale, in her detailed keynote address, highlighted the issues of assessment and evaluation and also impressed upon the authorities to devise the evaluation techniques from the learners' point of view. As an expert panelist on "ParikshaParv" of National Commission for Protection of Child rights, she impressed upon the need to take cognizance of students' aspirations, psychology and learning requirements as per NEP 2020.

Rakesh Kumar Chobber, Coordinator of the program introduced the theme of the workshop.

Guest of honour, Prof. (Dr.) Jyoti Parihar addressed and appreciated the efforts of the team for impressively carrying out such a workshop focusing on how to reform the Examination System for the holistic development of the learners. The programme was moderated by Lakshmi Puri.

NCORD reviews anti-drug initiatives in Thannamandi

J1 NEWS SERVICE
THANNAMANDI, JULY 2

Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Thannamandi, Abid Hussain Shah convened a crucial meeting today in his chamber to review effectiveness of anti-drug initiatives and ensuring drug-free Panchayats and Municipalities in the region.

The meeting brought together key officials from

various departments including Tehsildar, Block Development Officer, Rep of Block Medical Officer, Station House Officer, representatives of Principals of GHSS (Boys and Girls and GHSS Planger.

President of the local Medical/Chemist Association and Khatib Jamia Masjid were also among the attendees

The SDM emphasized the importance of coordinated

efforts to combat drug abuse. He stressed the need for a robust system to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of ongoing anti-drug initiatives.

He directed the concerned officials to seamlessly work together and ensure the implementation of effective strategies at the grassroots level.

The SDM also highlighted the role of educational institutions and community lead-

ers in spreading awareness about the dangers of drug abuse and fostering a culture of vigilance and responsibility among the youth.

The meeting concluded with a renewed commitment from all officials to intensify their efforts and collaborate more closely in the fight against drugs, aiming to create a safer and healthier environment for the residents of Thannamandi.

DC Kulgam chairs District Road Safety Committee meeting



J1 NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, JULY 2

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan along with SSP Kulgam Sahil Sarangal today chaired the District Road Safety Committee meeting to deliberate on road safety measures in the district and to review implementation of road safety plan.

The meeting extensively discussed road safety action plan, Road Safety Act, road signage and traffic calming measures etc.

The DC also took a detailed report about the

tasks assigned to different departments during the previous Road Safety Committee meetings.

He underscored the importance of inter-departmental coordination to enhance the overall system.

During the meeting, Officers briefed the chair about the steps taken to rectify Black Spots, erect crash barriers, and install road signage.

During the meeting, active participation from committee members led to extensive discussions on various road safety matters, with strategies

proposed to enhance road safety across the district.

The DC instructed the concerned for curbing traffic rule violations, and enforcing strict actions against violators. He also instructed MVD and other stakeholders to take awareness activities at large scale across the district and remove all roadside encroachments.

The meeting was attended by SSP Kulgam, Sahil Sarangal; ADC, Viqar Ahmad Giri; SE R&B Circle Kulgam, Executive Engineer R&B, ARTO, CEO, EOs and other committee members.

Agriculture Department kick starts Kisan Sampark Abhiyan 3.0 in Udhampur

J1 NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, JULY 2

To ensure the outreach of Govt. initiatives for the welfare of the farming community, Department of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare District Udhampur has started Kisan Sampark Abhiyan (KSA) 3.0 under Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) in the District.

During the campaign, one day Panchayat Level events would be held across all 236 Panchayats spreading awareness among the farmers about the intervention schemes available under HADP.

"The extension agency of agriculture and allied departments will inform the farmers about different schemes/ interventions through which farmers/ young entrepreneurs can opt for new agri-enterprises/business ventures for income and employment generation," the department stated.

Principal Secretary Home convenes public darbar in Poonch; seeks public feedback on development schemes

J1 NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, JULY 2

In a massive public darbar, chaired by Principal Secretary Home, Chandraker Bharti, key officials and local representatives from Poonch came together to discuss development and welfare of the region.

DDC Chairperson, Tazim Akhter, DIG Rajouri/Poonch Range Tejinder Singh, Deputy Commissioner, Yasin M. Choudhary, Senior Superintendent of Police, Yougal Manhas, Additional District Development Commissioner, Sandesh Kumar Sharma, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Tahir Mustafa Malik, DDC Vice Chairman, Ashfaq Choudhary besides DDC members and other dis-



trict officers were present. The Principal Secretary had a detailed review of ongoing development projects in the district. He interacted with the participants and sought feedback on the status of implementation of various government schemes.

Addressing the concerns, the Principal Sec-

retary assured the attendees that all their genuine issues would be redressed in a time bound manner. He said that the district administration is performing well in mitigating local issues besides ensuring growth and development in Poonch.

DDC Chairperson, Tazim Akhter, emphasized

the need for inter-departmental coordination to ensure effective resolution of people's grievances. She urged upon the officials to work in tandem with the local representatives to address the development needs of people of the district. Earlier, the Deputy Commissioner presented a detailed overview of the ongoing development works across the district. During the public outreach program, around 28 delegations raised various issues including water scarcity, light, staff shortage in schools and health institutions, completion of infrastructure projects, road connectivity problems, need for a new Census, Trauma Center for Chandimarh and related matters.

District level Committee reviews implementation of Road Safety measures in Doda District

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JULY 2



Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh, who is also the chairman of the District Road Safety Committee (DRSC), today reviewed the road safety measures and issues here at a meeting of the Committee. The meeting was held in the mini-conference hall of the DC office complex and attended by SSP Javid Iqbal; ADC Sudershan Kumar; CPO Manesh Kumar Manhas; Chief Education Officer PL Thapa; Chief Medical Officer Om Parkash; ARTO Rajesh Kumar Gupta, SE PWD Circle Doda, DFO Doda and representatives from NHIDCL, Traffic, SDRF, IRAD, along with other officers and officials of the District Road Safety Committee. A thorough discussion on safety parameters for the national highway from Doda to Batote was held with the NHIDCL officer. He was directed to install traffic signs and

safety measures, particularly in the Assar area, The emphasis was laid on the speed limit signs. The DC directed the district police and traffic officers to keep check on idle parking on the highway and take action against unauthorized vehicles. He instructed the DySP Traffic to set up checkpoints to control vehicle speed in public areas and to challenge overloaded vehicles. He asked to register FIRs against habitual offenders. The NHIDCL officers were directed to ensure proper road markings to prevent overtaking. Additional directives included the installation of mile stones along the

highway, adherence to all action points discussed in the meeting, widening of hairpin curves to prevent accidents, blacktopping of rough areas, and ensuring a well-maintained drainage system. Other road safety measures discussed included the installation of crash barriers, speed breakers, rumble strips, and traffic signs near markets, schools, and other sensitive areas. The meeting also covered roadside amenities like water dispensers, and the DC also interacted with the SDMs virtually to review road safety measures across the district.

Member NCPCR chairs Grievance Redressal camp on Child Rights at Kupwara

JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, JULY 2



The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), in collaboration with District Administration, Kupwara Tuesday organized a Grievance Redressal Camp at Town Hall Kupwara aimed to address and resolve the child rights issues in the district. Member, NCPCR, Dr. Divya Gupta chaired the grievances redressal camp while Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan was also present at the event. The camp held the most importance as Kupwara district is an aspirational district. The event provided a platform for children and their guardians to voice their grievances and seek solutions. Addressing the camp, Member, NCPCR said that Education is crucial for children because it lays the foundation of their future success and well being. She said that education equips children with knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to navigate through life successfully and contribute positively to society. Dr. Divya emphasized the need for community and government support

to enhance educational opportunities for the children. Speaking on the occasion, the DC emphasized the importance of strengthening child protection mechanisms and upholding children's rights. She stressed that every member of society has a role in supporting and safeguarding children's rights especially in Kupwara district. The redressal camp witnessed huge participation of children, parents and guardians, and concerned stakeholders from across the district who voiced their concerns related to child rights issues, education, healthcare, and other critical issues affecting children. The Member NCPCR directed the concerned HoDs to initiate prompt action for the timely resolution of the genuine issues. Several issues were

also resolved on the spot. Earlier, Member NCPCR along with DC Kupwara inspected various stalls set up by different departments including health, ICDS, Social Welfare, DLSA, Banks, PDD and other departments, to acquaint the general public about the beneficiary schemes being implemented by them. Various facilities, including Aadhar, disability aids and equipment, health check-up, Ayushman Bharat Cards, and bank account opening services were provided during the camp and sanction letters of various schemes were distributed. ASP Kupwara, ACR Kupwara, Assistant Commissioner Panchayats, Chief Education Officer, Technical Consultants of NCPCR, DSWO, CEO MC and other District Officers attended the camp.

DDC Kulgam assesses progress of various Urban Sector projects



JI NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, JULY 2

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today convened a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of various urban sector projects in the district. During the meeting, detailed discussions were held regarding the status of several ongoing projects under different heads. The progress of key projects including construction of Office Building, construction of Slaughter House at Aadpora, construction of Community Center, Development of Sumo Stand at Kulgam, Development of Solid Waste Management Site at Lirow and vari-

ous other Projects were reviewed during the meeting. Progress of projects being taken up under the Finance Commission (FC) grants was also discussed. The DDC emphasized the importance of timely completion and efficient management of these projects to ensure the overall development and betterment of urban infrastructure. He urged all the concerned officials to expedite the work and address any impediments promptly. The meeting was attended by JDP, Zahid Sajjad; SE Kulgam, Ex. Engineer R&B, Executive Officers (EOs) of Municipal Committees (MCs) Kulgam, Devsar and Yari-

Kisan Sampark Abhiyan: Farmers' Orientation Program receives overwhelming response across Ramban



JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, JULY 2

The first round of Kisan Sampark Abhiyan - 3.0 (Farmers Orientation Programme) under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme has commenced across Ramban District. Orientation sittings are being organized for the farmers across ten blocks of the district under the supervision of District Nodal Officer, CAHO, Dr. Suhail Kawoosa and District HADP Monitoring Officers, CHO, Anil Gorkha, CAO, Ram Gopal and DSHO, Dr Shabir Khan. The day-long Farmers'

Orientation Programme Kisan Sampark Abhiyan received an overwhelming response from the farming community. Audio-visuals (AVs) aids were used to disseminate the information about different government sponsored schemes meant for the welfare of the farmers associated with Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, Horticulture, Apiculture, Pisciculture, Sericulture etc. The resource persons from different departments sensitized participants regarding different schemes. Moreover, farmers were also made aware about Daksh Kisan (online learning

portal) for skill development), Kisan Khidmat Garh KKG, Credit linked Schemes and Kisan Sathi (IT Dashboard) portals regarding the digitalization of various services/schemes. The resource persons urged farmers to ensure maximum participation in 'Kisan Sampark Abhiyan' to avail orientation and skilling courses for all interventions, latest techniques, explore new possibilities, and make the farming more accessible and profitable. During the program, farmers also raised various queries, which were resolved by the concerned resource persons amicably. .

DC Jammu initiates urgent flood protection measures in Khour Sub Division



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 2

In anticipation of the monsoon season and to address public concerns, Deputy Commissioner Sachin Kumar Vaishya conducted a field visit to Indri and Bakore villages to assess the current ground situation. He was accompanied by SSP Dr. Vinod Kumar and ADDC Sher Singh. The villages are facing significant risk of soil erosion and potential water ingress. To address these issues promptly, the DC ordered immediate execution of works worth Rs 10 lakh by the Flood Control Department.

In addition, further preventive measures will be implemented under MGNREGA by the Rural Development Department, focusing on creating protective bunds and crate work. Sub-Divisional Magistrate Satish Sharma has also taken the initiative to assemble emergency relief and evacuation teams. Four emergency shelters have been established to facilitate a prompt response in the event of any unforeseen circumstances. Commencing today, the groundwork for implementing flood protection measures has been initiated in accordance with the directions

DDC Kulgam assesses progress of various Urban Sector projects

JI NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, JULY 2

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today convened a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of various urban sector projects in the district. During the meeting, detailed discussions were held regarding the status of several ongoing projects under different heads. The progress of key proj-

ects including construction of Office Building, construction of Slaughter House at Aadpora, construction of Community Center, Development of Sumo Stand at Kulgam, Development of Solid Waste Management Site at Lirow and various other Projects were reviewed during the meeting. Progress of projects being taken up under the Finance Commission (FC) grants was also discussed. The DDC emphasized the

importance of timely completion and efficient management of these projects to ensure the overall development and betterment of urban infrastructure. He urged all the concerned officials to expedite the work and address any impediments promptly. The meeting was attended by JDP, Zahid Sajjad; SE Kulgam, Ex. Engineer R&B, Executive Officers (EOs) of Municipal Committees (MCs) Kulgam, Devsar and Yari-

Jammu admin provides relief to Trikuta Nagar fire victims

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 2

The District Administration Jammu provided support to victims affected by the recent fire accident near Trikuta Nagar. Under the directions of Deputy Commissioner Sachin Kumar Vaishya, a team led by Additional Deputy Commissioner Ansuya Jamwal, who is also the Executive Secretary of the District Red Cross Society, conducted a site visit and took sympathetic assessment and interacted with the affected families. Financial assistance, besides essential items, including ration, utensils, clothing and other necessities were also distributed. The families received assurances of continuous support from the administration.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITE APPLICATION

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	Allocation of Halt contract at (1) Siala Khurd (2) Bolina Doaba (3) Ghallu (4) Sham Chaurasi (5) Khatkar Kalan Jhanda Ji (6) Jaijon Doaba (7) Garshankar (8) Malupota (9) Dudwindi Railway Halt Stations over Firozpur Division.
2 Tenure of Contract	5 (five) years.
3 Last date & time of submission and opening of applications.	On 01.08.2024 Up to 15:00hrs (Applications will be opened on 01.08.2024 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 01.07.2024
5 Northern Railway's web site	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 web site of Northern Railway www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1987/24

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice

Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer (C&W) Firozpur acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the works/services listed below. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make online payments against these tender. Document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

Tender Type	Bidding System	Date of uploading tenders	Bid closing Date/Time	Date and Time of opening E-Tender
Open	Single packet System	02.07.2024 Time 17:00 hours	25.07.2024 Time 15:00 hours	25.07.2024 Time 15:05 hours

S.No.	Tender Number	Details of Tender	Advertised Value	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of completion
1.	13-2024-ACWP-FZR	Design, supply, installation and commissioning of Automatic Coach Washing Plant with Effluent treatment plant and water treatment Plant with two years warranty at C&W depot Firozpur (FZR)	17460148.80/-	237300/-	45 Days	180 days

Funds are available in Allocation Number 080-593-32
For more details please log on to www.ireps.gov.in

1994/2024
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

EXTENSION OF SUMMER SPECIAL TRAINS

For the convenience of Rail Passengers, Railways have decided to extend the Periodicity of run of the following Summer Special Trains as per details given below:-

Train No.	From	To	Frequency Days of Run	Notified up to	Period of Extension
09425	Sabarmati BG	Haridwar Jn.	Mon, Fri	14.06.2024	11.07.2024 to 31.07.2024
09426	Haridwar Jn.	Sabarmati BG	Tue, Sat	15.06.2024	11.07.2024 to 31.07.2024
09195	Vadodra Jn.	Mau Jn.	Saturday	29.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09196	Mau Jn.	Vadodra Jn.	Sunday	30.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09417	Ahmedabad	Danapur	Monday	24.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09418	Danapur	Ahmedabad	Tuesday	25.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09557	Bhavnagar T.	Delhi Cantt.	Friday	28.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09558	Delhi Cantt.	Bhavnagar T.	Saturday	29.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09405	Sabarmati BG	Patna Jn.	Tuesday	25.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09406	Patna Jn.	Sabarmati BG	Thursday	27.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09097	Bandra T.	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	Sunday	30.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09098	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	Bandra T.	Tuesday	02.07.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09525	Hapa	Naharlagun	Wednesday	26.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09526	Naharlagun	Hapa	Saturday	29.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09183	Mumbai Central	Varanasi	Wednesday	26.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09184	Varanasi	Mumbai Central	Friday	28.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09309	Indore Jn.	H.Nizamuddin	Fri, Sun	30.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09310	H.Nizamuddin	Indore Jn.	Mon, Sat	01.07.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09075	Mumbai Central	Kathgodam	Wednesday	26.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09076	Kathgodam	Mumbai Central	Thursday	27.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09189	Mumbai Central	Katihar	Saturday	29.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09190	Katihar	Mumbai Central	Tuesday	02.07.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09523	Okha	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Tuesday	25.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09524	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Okha	Wednesday	26.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024

Note: Train No. 09425/09426 Sabarmati BG-Haridwar-Sabarmati BG special will run with revised composition i.e. 3 Tier AC, Sleeper and General coaches.

Rest of instructions will hold good.

For any kind of information such as detailed Time-Table of other stations enroute and composition etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

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SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

India says priorities at SCO Summit shaped by PM Modi's SECURE vision

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

India on Tuesday said that its priorities at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit being held in Astana this week under the presidency of Kazakhstan are shaped by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of SECURE, which stands for Security, Economic development, Connectivity, Unity, Respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, and Environmental protection.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will lead the Indian delegation at the 24th meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State which will be held on



Thursday. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said that the leaders attending the summit are expected to review the organisation's activities over the past two decades and discuss the state and prospects of multilateral cooperation.

Topical issues of regional and international impor-

tance are also expected to be discussed at the meeting.

The principle of SECURE reflected the theme of India's first-ever presidency of SCO, as was asserted by PM Modi during the virtual SCO Summit hosted by New Delhi on July 4, last year.

More than 140 programmes, conferences, and meetings within the SCO were held and five new pillars of cooperation within the SCO - Startups and Innovation; Traditional Medicine; Youth Empowerment; Digital Inclusion, and Shared Buddhist Heritage - established under India's chairmanship.

It was also under India's presidency that Iran joined the SCO family as a new member and the signing of the Memorandum of Obligation for Belarus' SCO membership took place.

"The SCO represents approximately 40 per cent of the world's population and nearly one-third of the global economy. Therefore, it is our shared responsibility to understand each other's needs and sensitivities. To resolve all challenges through better cooperation and coordination, and make constant efforts for the well-being of our people," PM Modi had remarked at the 23rd SCO Summit, last July.

IAF rescues 13 fishermen stranded on Brahmaputra island in Assam

AGENCIES
GUWAHATI, JULY 2

The Indian Air Force (IAF) on Tuesday rescued 13 fishermen, who were stranded on a small island in the flooded Brahmaputra in Assam's Dibrugarh district since June 28, State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) officials said.

The ASDMA had requested the IAF to help rescue the fishermen from the Hatia Ali area in the district.

The IAF in a post on the X said: "IAF rescued 13 marooned survivors from a small island in the flooded Brahmaputra, north of Dibrugarh in Assam."

"On 02 Jul 24, after a sunrise takeoff, a Mi-17

IV helicopter from AFS Mohanbari flew in challenging weather conditions and undertook rescue ops from a marshy piece of land. The coordinated efforts of Pilot and Flt Gunner ensured prompt and safe boarding of 13 survivors. Emergency First Aid was provided by the Indian Air Force after the rescue," the IAF said in the post. The fishermen had been stranded since June 28. An ASDMA official said that national and state Disaster Response Force and Inland Water Transport boats tried to reach the marooned people but had to abandon efforts due to rising water levels and extreme currents of the river.

Dibrugarh district has

been severely affected by the second wave of flood with most localities in eastern Assam inundated for the past week.

The IAF had rescued eight State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) personnel and a revenue official on Sunday from Jonai in Dhemaji district when they were stranded in another sandbar area during relief operations for the flood-hit people.

The flood situation in Assam has turned serious since Sunday following incessant rainfall in Assam since Sunday following incessant rainfall in Arunachal Pradesh. A population of over 6.44 lakh has been affected in 19 districts.

The death toll in floods has risen to 35 so far this year while many other

people died in storms and landslides in different parts of the state.

The flood-hit districts are Kamrup, Golaghat, Majuli, Lakhimpur, Karimganj, Cachar, Dhemaji, Morigaon, Udalguri, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Nagaon, Sivasagar, Darrang, Nalbari, Sonitpur, Tamulpur, Biswanath and Jorhat.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday in a phone call discussed the flood situation in the state with Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma.

CM Sarma in his post on the X said: "Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji called me a short while ago to enquire about the flood situation in Assam."

27 killed, many injured in stampede in UP's Hathras

AGENCIES
HATHRAS (UP), JULY 2

Nearly 27 persons, including women and children, were killed after a stampede broke out at a religious event in Hathras district on Tuesday, officials said. The stampede occurred during a 'sat-sang' (prayer meeting) for Lord Shiva. Visuals from the Community Health Centre showed several bodies being brought there in the presence of crying relatives.

Chief medical officer (CMO) Etah, Umesh Kumar Tripathi said, "We have received 27 bodies, of which 25 are females and two are males. Some

injured have also been taken to hospitals. We have heard that there was a stampede during a 'sat-sang' but do not have too many more details."

Senior Superintendent of Police, Etah, Rajesh Kumar later said three children were among those killed in the stampede, which broke out in a village within the Sikandra Rao police station limits in Hathras. Officials said that further details about the incident are awaited.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has ordered a probe into the incident. ADG Agra and Commissioner Aligarh will be members of the probe committee.

BJP alleges involvement of K'taka CM in land scam, Siddaramaiah refutes allegations

AGENCIES
BENGALURU, JULY 2

Karnataka BJP has alleged the involvement of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in a Rs 4,000 land scam on Tuesday. However, the Chief Minister refuted the allegations saying that the charges are baseless.

Addressing Chief Minister Siddaramaiah as the "golmaal" Chief Minister, Leader of the Opposition (LoP) R. Ashoka said that the Chief Minister cannot defend the allegations of sites being allotted in the name of his wife illegally.

"The concerned officers of the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) have just been transferred and not suspended. Whom are you trying to protect," the LoP asked.

He said that two IAS officers have been deputed to hush up the scam. "Land scam and corruption cases should be handed over to CBI or should be given to the Commission which must be headed by a retired justice," he said.

He also demanded answers on who granted permission for adopting the 50:50 formula while allotting sites for Siddaramaiah's wife and while allotting, why the sites were allotted in upscale localities. "Who gave recommendations in this regard," he asked.

"Without the consent of the cabinet, who gave authority to allot sites? Is it possible for this large-scale scandal to take place without the Chief Minister's knowledge?" the LoP said.



Reacting to the charges, the Chief Minister slammed LoP Ashoka, saying that he does not know anything about who and how the land was allotted. "The site is allotted to us during the tenure of the BJP. My wife's property is 3.16 acres located close to the ring road. The 50:50 formula was given by the BJP. Our 3.16 acres of land



was not acquired. MUDA made sites and distributed them. Don't they have to give it back to us? As per the law, the MUDA agreed to give sites in 50:50 sharing," the Chief Minister said.

The Chief Minister said that his family agreed to it and told MUDA to compensate his family when the BJP was in power.

"They had allotted us sites at different places. What is wrong with that? When we asked, MUDA stated we will give 50:50, allotments were made in different places," the Chief Minister said.

He clarified: "This particular piece of land is purchased by my brother-in-law Mallikarjuna. He gave the land to my wife through a gift deed. MUDA, with or without knowledge, converted it into sites and distributed it to people. It became MUDA property and compensated us."

The government has ordered an inquiry into the allegations in the allotment of sites in Mysuru city through MUDA and has also directed the submission of the report in

four weeks. Minister for Urban Development Bhyrathi Suresh had conveyed a high-level emergency meeting and declared the cancellation of sites which are distributed under a 50:50 formula. Including the MUDA Commissioner, four officers were transferred in connection with the scam.

Karnataka Home Minister G. Parameshwara said that the transfer of officers in connection with the land scam has been done to prevent them from destroying evidence.

On the Chief Minister's family involvement, Parameshwara said that the allegations can't be assumed as truth and only the investigation will reveal the truth.

Truth can be expunged in PM Modi's world, says Rahul; writes to Speaker demanding restoration of remarks

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

Congress MP and the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday said that everything can be expunged in the world of Prime Minister Narendra Modi but not in reality.

His remarks came after a significant portion of his speech in the Lower House was deleted by the Chair apparently because of uncorroborated facts and statements based on unverified information.

"Truth can be expunged in PM Modi's world, but in reality, it can't be expunged," the Congress MP told the reporters at the Parliament complex.

He further added,



"Whatever I said was true. It's up to them to expunge it. They can expunge as much as they want but this won't change the truth."

Congress MP also dashed off a letter to the Lok Sabha Speaker on

Tuesday, raising objections to the expunction of portions of his speech. "Taking off from records my considered remarks goes against the very tenets of Parliamentary democracy," Rahul wrote in the letter to the

Speaker while also calling for the restoration of the portions of the speech that have been deleted from House proceedings.

On Monday, Rahul in his maiden address as the Leader of Opposition was at his fiery best as he stepped up the heat on BJP-led NDA government, provoking an unprecedented response from Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In his no-holds-barred attack, he assailed the government on multiple issues ranging from Agniveers to Manipur horror to NEET.

His remarks on Hindus and accusing the ruling party of dividing people on communal lines and spreading hatred received loud and strong protests

from the treasury benches.

Among the portions of Rahul Gandhi's Lok Sabha speech that got expunged included his comments on Hindus and references to Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), his remarks on industrialists Adani and Ambani and also claims that Agniveer was imposed on the Army by Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

In his about 100-minute speech as LoP, the Congress MP trained guns on the Centre on multiple issues from Agniveer to Manipur crisis, NEET issue and lastly also offered the Opposition's support to the government in handling issues of national interests.

AGENCIES
BENGALURU, JULY 2

Karnataka Home Minister G. Parameshwara said on Tuesday that a debate was necessary on various aspects of the three new criminal laws implemented in place of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Speaking to reporters here, Parameshwara said, "There are many factors to debate in the new criminal laws. It's not all wrong; there are good provisions too."

The British laws have been amended, and new laws are thought to address present-day challenges."

However, he noted, "There are certain provisions that don't seem

appropriate. If I talk about them it will create a controversy. Earlier, cases could be registered, but now there's no provision for it. This needs debate."

Parameshwara said, "We're arresting individuals and taking legal action, but the new law requires releasing the accused even as the investigation continues. Additionally, cases can't be registered in certain matters. These aspects need discussion, and we'll inform the Central government for necessary corrections."

The Minister emphasized that the Central government will need to consider inputs from states like Karnataka.

In Karnataka, 66 cases have been registered

under the new law by Monday 10 p.m., including 20-25 cases in Bengaluru.

He acknowledged that it may take one to two months for the staff to adjust to the new laws.

Regarding the Leader of Opposition in the Parliament, Rahul Gandhi's controversial speech, Parameshwara said, "The BJP won't understand Rahul Gandhi's mind and statements, and they'll remain confused. Rahul Gandhi clearly stated that Hinduism is a religion that inclusively takes all sections of people along. Those opposed to this are not Hindus. This applies to individuals with that mentality, and if it applies to the BJP, so be it."

Poll results moral victory, message of responsibility for INDIA bloc: SP chief Akhilesh Yadav

AGENCIES
LUCKNOW, JULY 2

Samajwadi Party MP, Akhilesh Yadav, said on Tuesday that the election results were a moral victory and also a message of responsibility for the INDIA bloc.

Speaking on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav attacked the BJP in a poetic style.

He read out a couplet that said, "Awam ne tod diya hukumat ka guroor. Darbar toh laga hai, magar be-noor. (Common man has humbled the rulers. The court is in session but it doesn't have that lustre anymore)."

The SP MP said that the slogan of "400 paar" was



wire attached from above, there is no base below, what is stuck in the air...is not a government."

Referring to Uttar Pradesh, he said that the ruling party members should visit their adopted village and see the prevailing conditions there.

"Leave alone Smart Cities, just visit your adopted villages and see the state of development. I am sure you must be remembering their names. When one adopts a child, he remembers the name," Akhilesh Yadav said.

Akhilesh Yadav added that a number of his classmates were now senior officers in the Indian Army and they had told him that the Agniveer scheme amounted to a compro-

mise with the country's security.

Akhilesh Yadav further questioned the ruling party's assurances on doubling the income of farmers, checking inflation, developing infrastructure and working for the welfare of weavers.

"There are no jobs for the youth and the benefits of reservation are not reaching the target groups. Why are paper leaks happening? The truth is that this is being done by the government so that it does not have to give jobs to youth," he stated.

Akhilesh Yadav also questioned EVMs and said, "If I win 80 out of 80 seats of UP then I will also not trust EVMs. The EVM issue will never die."

Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Tuesday said that Leader of Opposition (LoP), Rahul Gandhi's speech in the Lok Sabha was a "lesson to all the NDA MPs" and they should avoid such behaviour.

Addressing media-persons after the first NDA Parliamentary meeting on Tuesday, the Union Minister said, "Yesterday, as Rahul Gandhi behaved in the House, speaking with his back towards the Speaker, speaking beyond the rules, and disrespecting the Speaker -- this is something that our party MPs, NDA MPs, should not do. It is a lesson for all of us."

Providing details about the Prime Minister's

Avoid Rahul Gandhi-like behaviour in Parliament: Kiren Rijiju tells NDA MPs

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

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Addressing media-persons after the first NDA Parliamentary meeting on Tuesday, the Union Minister said, "Yesterday, as Rahul Gandhi behaved in the House, speaking with his back towards the Speaker, speaking beyond the rules, and disrespecting the Speaker -- this is something that our party MPs, NDA MPs, should not do. It is a lesson for all of us."

Providing details about the Prime Minister's



address in the meeting, he said that Narendra Modi emphasised the importance of adhering to parliamentary rules and procedures to become effective parliamentarians.

Kiren Rijiju said, "PM Modi said that every MP has come to the Parliament for the service of the nation. All MPs should become exemplary parliamentarians by following the rules and procedures

of parliamentary democracy. All NDA MPs have to work to keep the country above everything."

He said that PM Modi also urged MPs to effectively present regional issues in the House and engage in discussions on national matters according to parliamentary rules.

He mentioned that PM Modi was honoured with a garland by the NDA for his historic third-term vic-

tory and under the PM's leadership the NDA aims to work collectively for India's progress.

He said that PM Modi also advised all the MPs to visit the Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya with their families.

"In the museum, the journey of all the Prime Ministers, from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to PM Modi, is presented beautifully. There is no politics in this. Every Prime Minister, when in office, has contributed towards nation-building," the Union Minister said. "Many former PMs were not given importance earlier, but after Narendra Modi became PM, the Prime Minister's Museum was established, which highlights the work and achievements of all former PMs of the country," he added.

DGP sanctions Rs 2.98 Cr. in favour of NoK of deceased Police Personnel

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JULY 2

Showing the J&K Police's commitment to support the families of deceased police personnel, the Director General of Police, J&K, Shri R.R Swain has sanctioned a special welfare relief amounting Rs. 2.98 crore in favour of 15 dependents/legal heirs of deceased personnel. Besides, he has also sanctioned financial assistance for the families of two fallen heroes to support their daughters' marriages.



lies of deceased Special Police Officers (SPOs) for performing last rites. It is worth noting that these special welfare relief funds are disbursed from the Contributory Police Welfare Funds, which are specifically designated to support the welfare of police personnel and their families in times of need.

The DGP vide different orders has sanctioned special welfare relief, granting rupees 22 lakh each to the dependents and legal heirs of 13 deceased police personnel, including Sub-Inspector Sh. Ab Rashid Ganie, Assistant Sub-Inspectors Sh. Jai Paul Singh and Sh. Rahul Pandita, and Head Constables Sh. Ab Majid Lone, Sh. Subash Chandra, Sh. Surjeet Kumar, Sh. Divender Pal Singh, Sh. Jia Lal, and Sh. Mohammad Latif, SgCts Sh. Skinder Singh, Sh. Jai Pal Singh, and Sh. Rash Paul Singh, and Constable Sh. Sarafraz Ahmad. The DGP has also sanctioned rupees 6 lakh each for the dependents and legal heirs of two deceased Special Police Officers, Sh. Yesh Pal Singh and Sh. Mukesh Kumar.

The DGP has also sanctioned financial assistance of Rs one lakh each for the marriage of the daughters of two martyrs and to a Follower whose residential house was damaged in a land-sinking incident, to support his rehabilitation.

The Police Headquarters is committed to the well-being of its personnel and their families, offering a range of welfare schemes to support them. These initiatives extend to the children of police personnel and Special Police Officers (SPOs), as well as the next of kin (NoK) of martyrs, their children, and retired police personnel and their spouses. The aim is to provide support and care for the police family, recognizing their sacrifices and dedication to service.

Rupees one lakh each has already been presented to the families of deceased police personnel and rupees fifty thousand each to the fami-

CRPF organizes Free Medical Camp in Kupwara, benefiting hundreds

JJ NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, JULY 2

162 BN , Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) organized a free medical camp in zangli ,located in North Kashmir's Kupwara district, providing medical assistance to 230 ailing residents.

Pawan Kumar Lal, 2IC, officiating Commandant, 162 BN CRPF unit deployed in Kupwara reported that the free medical camp was conducted under the CRPF's civic action programme. The initiative included the doctor consultations and

the distribution of free medicines to the patients specially women and children.

He also highlighted that not only did the residents of zangli benefit from this medical camp, but people from nearby villages also availed themselves of the free medical services offered. During the medical camp other unit officers and personnel remained present.

This initiative underscores the CRPF's commitment for supporting the health and well-being of the communities in the region.

Indian Army organizes Lecture Cum Medical Camp at Lehrian, Akhnoor



JJ NEWS SERVICE
AKHNOOR, JULY 2

Indian Army with an aim to provide essential health care facilities to the community has conducted a 'Lecture cum Medical Camp' in Lehrian, Akhnoor. The camp offered a comprehensive range of medical services, including consultations, check-ups and treatment to the local populace. In addition, medicines were also distributed to the patients free of cost. The camp witnessed a remark-

able turnout as it was attended by the people of all age & groups of nearby villages including Veterans. A total of 35 people attended the camp, reflecting the diverse healthcare needs of the community. It was heartening to see the defenders not only protecting the country on the battlefield, but also working towards promoting health and wellbeing in the society. Local populace appreciated the effort of Indian Army for conducting this camp.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PMGSY DIVISION JAMMU. SHORT NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS e-NIT No-EE/PMGSY/J/01 of 2024-25 Dated: 29.06.2024.

Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Jammu on behalf of The Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT, invites e-tenders on %age Above/Excess (+) OR %age Below / Less (-) basis (i.e. on Percentage-Rate Basis) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt, CPWD, Railways or equivalent and other State Govt up to 5.00 PM on 29.06.2024 for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work/ Package No.	PIU	Cost of documents (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Time Allowed for completion	Call of tender	Time and date of opening of tenders	Class of contractor
1	Restoration of 07 No. PMGSY Roads under the jurisdiction of PMGSY Division Jammu on Emergency basis i.e. (Motorable paths only) by way of clearance of Slips likely to occur during Financial year 2024-25:- 1. Dagair to Panaya Package No. JK05-62 Length = 7.150 Kms 2. Manah to Baldoh Package No. JK05-73 Length = 3.680 Kms 3. Nathal to Seoni Package No. JK05-75 Length = 3.250 Kms 4. Shoara to Kamdhani Package No. JK05-79 Length = 4.800 Kms 5. Jogwan Syala to Nelli Nallah, Package No. JK05-152 Length = 18.00 Kms 6. T02 Km 1st to Bhangra Maira Package No. JK05-3004. Length = 10.995 Kms 7. Chinota to Kharah via Lower Kalah Package No. JK05-3005. Length = 9.00 Kms Total Length = 56.875 Kms.	Jammu	1000	10000	01 Day	Ist	12.07.2024 at 12:30 pm	Any registered contractor with in UT of J&K PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as provided in the Standard Bidding Documents can tender for the works
2	Restoration of 14 No. PMGSY Roads under the jurisdiction of PMGSY Division Jammu on Emergency basis i.e. (Motorable paths only) by way of clearance of Slips likely to occur during Financial year 2024-25:- 1. Kailiwala to Patrada Package No. JK05-157. Length =5.725 Kms 2. Sehar to Chamarkee Package No. JK05-206. Length = 1.55 Kms 3. Rajwal to Chamarkee Package No. JK05-77. Length = 2.850 Kms 4. Jamotia to Pail via Bade Pail Package No. JK05-80. Length = 8.525 Kms 5. Sumah to Bandral Kallan Package No. JK05-102. Length = 10.00 Kms 6. T05 Km 9th to Mawa Brahmana Package No. JK05-130. Length = 14.00 Kms 7. T05 Km 7th to Kailiwala Package No. JK05-169. Length = 5.100 Kms 8. Ramnagar to Raje Chak Package No. JK05-71. Length = 6.600 Kms 9. Mehra Mandlik to Gangwan Link Road to Sujatpur Package No. JK05-01. Length = 3.05 Kms 10. Link road from Akalpur to Patniyal Package No. JK05-04. Length = 2.120 Kms 11. Link road from Punnu Di Hatti to Gangwoon via Sujatpur Package No. JK05-04. Length = 6.130 Kms. 12. Sangrampur to Gajasinghpura Package No. JK05-78. Length = 1.55 Kms. 13. Pindi to Deora Package No. JK05-84 Length = 2.500 Kms. 14. Mishriwala to Tokrian Package No. JK05-173 Length = 2.500 Kms Total Length: 72.200 Kms.	Jammu	1000	10000	01 Day	Ist		
3	Restoration of 10 No. PMGSY Roads under the jurisdiction of PMGSY Division Jammu on Emergency basis i.e. (Motorable paths only) by way of clearance of Slips likely to occur during Financial year 2024-25:- 1. Dasgal to Mera Jagir Package No. JK05-135. Length = 13.165 Kms 2. Nadwal to Clay Package No. JK05-148. Length = 2.00 Kms 3. Seri Panditan to Dhar Darochan Package No. JK05-149 Length = 5.900 Kms 4. Rabita to Parade Package No. JK05-86 Length = 5.900 Kms 5. Handwal to Dhannu Package No. JK05-91. Length = 5.850 Kms 6. Bagani to Gorda Package No. JK05-92. Length = 5.000 Kms 7. Padami to Galali Package No. JK05-153. Length = 4.125 Kms 8. Gorda to Jakhar Package No. JK05-154. Length = 5.100 Kms 9. L028-Km 18th JA road to Chingani upto Loakhi Package No. JK05-202. Length = 5.600 Kms 10. L058-Balwan to Dhar Darochan Lower Package No. JK05-204. Length = 4.100 Kms. Total Length: 56.740 Kms.	Jammu	1000	10000	01 Day	Ist		
4	Restoration of 11 No. PMGSY Roads under the jurisdiction of PMGSY Division Jammu on Emergency basis i.e. (Motorable paths only) by way of clearance of Slips likely to occur during Financial year 2024-25:- 1. Jothal to Manoh Package No. JK05-155 Length = 5.625 Kms 2. Rah Sylote to Salangar Package No. JK05-156. Length = 9.850 Kms 3. Ghar Majoor to Sandal Package No. JK05-82. Length = 2.850 Kms 4. Chowki Choura to Ghar Majoor Package No. JK05-101. Length = 8.150 Kms 5. Tanda to Kappian De Bhan Part-I Package No. JK05-150 Length = 3.00 Kms 6. Tanda to Kappian De Bhan Part-II Package No. JK05-166 Length = 5.950 Kms 7. Tacherwan to Balha Package No. JK05-170. Length = 2.800 Kms 8. Kuffi to Godhan Package No. JK05-72. Length = 5.750 Kms 9. Tacherwan to Barui Package No. JK05-209. Length = 3.300 Kms 10. Barui to Gargal Package No. JK05-83 Length =3.00 Kms 11. Khungan to Mangu Di Pattian Package No. JK05-81. Length = 3.225 Kms Total Length: 53.500 Kms.	Jammu	1000	10000	01 Day	Ist		
5	Restoration of 06 No. PMGSY Roads under the jurisdiction of PMGSY Division Jammu on Emergency basis i.e. (Motorable paths only) by way of clearance of Slips likely to occur during Financial year 2024-25:- 1. Chingani to Showapatta Package No. JK05-93 Length = 4.500 Kms 2. Chigal to Kathar Package No. JK05-103. Length = 5.200 Kms 3. Nandwal to Chlorma Package No. JK05-104 Length = 2.500 Kms 4. Upper Thather to Kheri Package No. JK05-105. Length = 4.00 Kms 5. L029 KM 17thJA Road to Nadwal Package No. JK05-203. Length = 4.30 Kms 6. Kotli Majara to Mathwar Package No. JK05-138 Length = 2.400 Kms Total Length: 22.900 Kms.	Jammu	1000	10000	01 Day	Ist		
6	Restoration of 10 No. PMGSY Roads under the jurisdiction of PMGSY Division Jammu on Emergency basis i.e. (Motorable paths only) by way of clearance of Slips likely to occur during Financial year 2024-25:- 1. Purmandal to Panjowa Package No. JK05-85 Length = 7.950 Kms 2. Daboh to Darui Package No. JK05-89 Length = 2.950 Kms 3. Gurgani to Dhoon Package No. JK05-95 Length = 6.00 Kms 4. K-P Mandal to Sardal Package No. JK05-122 Length =2.150 Kms. 5. Nud to Bharatgarh Package No. JK05-123 Length = 5.00 Kms 6. Sarna to Mahurgarh Package No. JK05-124 Length = 7.00 Kms 7. Purmandal to Sangar Package No. JK05-136 Length = 3.500 Kms 8. Nud to Kaloha Package No. JK05-185 Length = 2.625 Kms 9. Deboh to Moutlian Package No. JK21-3002 Length = 4.100 Kms 10. T01 to Dhalot via Talour Package No. JK21-3004 Length = 3.010 Kms Total Length: 44.285 Kms.	Jammu	1000	10000	01 Day	Ist		
7	Restoration of 12 No. PMGSY Roads under the jurisdiction of PMGSY Division Jammu on Emergency basis i.e. (Motorable paths only) by way of clearance of Slips likely to occur during Financial year 2024-25:- 1. Sidhra to Rangoora Package No. JK05-87. Length = 3.00 Kms 2. Kana Chargal to Melu Package No. JK05-90 Length = 2.220 Kms 3. Jabta to Challani Package No. JK05-97 Length =5.00 Kms. 4. Nadore to Kore Jagir Package No. JK05-98 Length = 2.70 Kms 5. Kahpotta to Upper Slay Package No. JK05-99. Length = 2.230 Kms 6. Tarah to Doha Package No. JK05-120. Length = 5.50 Kms 7. Sunjawan to Chatta Package No. JK05-125. Length = 5.10 Kms 8. Baleeni to Katal Batal Package No. JK05-132. Length = 6.325 Kms 9. Nagrota to Dhamoni Jagir Package No. JK05-196. Length = 8.20 Kms 10. Jagti to Barmyal Package No. JK05-194. Length = 6.00 Kms 11. NH1 to Tarah Package No. JK05-195. Length = 8.00 Kms 12. Kothar to Ponthal Package No. JK05-210. Length = 8.00 Kms Total Length: 62.275 Kms.	Jammu	1000	10000	01 Day	Ist		
8	Restoration of 08 No. PMGSY Roads under the jurisdiction of PMGSY Division Jammu on Emergency basis i.e. (Motorable paths only) by way of clearance of Slips likely to occur during Financial year 2024-25:- 1. T01 to Sodam Package No. JK05-159 Length = 11.00 Kms 2. Bharatgarh to Hardulivian Package No. JK05-184 Length = 9.900 Kms 3. T05 to Papar Abtara Package No. JK05-158 Length = 4.00 Kms. 4. Samba to Babeeti Package No. JK05-191 Length = 6.00 Kms 5. Shah da Talab to Chidak Dharamshal Package No. JK21-3001. Length = 5.220 Kms 6. Rudwan to Kandral Package No. JK21-3003 Length = 3.500 Kms. 7. Badhori to Barikhad Package No. JK05-213. Length = 4.00 Kms 8. Mandal to Queli Package No. JK05-185 Length = 2.875 Kms Total Length: 46.495 Kms.	Jammu	1000	10000	01 Day	Ist		

1. The important dates and time are as under :-

1.	Date of issue of tender notice	29.06.2024
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	29.06.2024 (6.55 PM) to 11.07.2024 (5.00 PM)
3.	Date time and place of pre bid meeting	04.07.2024 (12.00 Noon)
4.	Bid submission start date	01.07.2024 (6.55 PM)
5.	Bid submission end date	11.07.2024 (5.00 PM)
6.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	12.07.2024 (12.00 Noon)
7.	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after Technical Bid evaluation is completed

- Cost of Bid Form:** Rs 1000 per group (non-refundable) only in form of e-challan/treasury challan/receipt.
- Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:** The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website www.pmgstendersjk.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: www.pmgstendersjk.gov.in Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the valid digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.
- Bids must be uploaded along with Scanned copy of cost of Tender Document as mentioned in column 5 in shape of e-challan/treasury challan/receipt No. And date e-nit Number favouring Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Jammu by crediting the requisite charges to MH 0059-PWD (Revenue) and Bid Security Declaration Form duly signed by the bidder and attested by Notary/First Class magistrate. The Bid security for the schemes listed shall be pledged in favour of Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Jammu payable at Jammu and shall be valid for minimum 120 days beyond the validity of bid as referred to in the Appendix to ITB.
- The original documents, when submitted by L1 for the cost of tender document, EMD specified in the tender document should be same as uploaded online (scanned copies) otherwise the allotment will not be issued. The tenders will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further/future tendering process in PMGSY for a period of one year.
- (a) The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website www.pmgstendersjk.gov.in **On 01.07.2024 upto 11:00 A.M to 12.07.2024 upto 5:00 PM.**
(b) The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://www.pmgstendersjk.gov.in> from **01.07.2024 upto 11:00 A.M to 11.07.2024 upto 05.00 PM.**
- The site for the work is available.

No-EE/PMGSY/J/1056-63
Dated- 29.06.2024
DIP/J-2191/24
Date: 2-7-24

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PMGSY Division
Jammu

EDITORIAL

Polarization ahead of J&K polls?

The recent incident of temple vandalism in the Dharmari area of Reasi district is a stark reminder of the fragile communal harmony in the region. The desecration of the temple has sparked widespread outrage and protests, leading to a complete shutdown in Reasi district and other surrounding areas. This act appears to be a deliberate attempt to polarize the situation ahead of the upcoming Assembly polls, threatening the peace and stability of the region. The protests, which saw thousands marching through Reasi town, were organized under the banner of Sanatan Dharam Sabha Reasi, a significant cultural and religious organization. The demonstrators demanded swift and stringent action against those responsible for the desecration, highlighting the deep hurt and anger felt by the Hindu community. The peaceful yet powerful protests, marked by sit-ins and roadblocks, underscore the community's demand for justice and assurance of safety for their religious places. Congress has called for a judicial probe to identify the culprits and expose their motives. It is crucial to investigate whether this incident is part of a larger conspiracy to disrupt communal harmony and create a rift between communities. The demand for a judicial probe is not just about finding the perpetrators but also about understanding the underlying motives and preventing future occurrences. The administration's response has been measured, with Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Paul Mahajan and police officials assuring the community of swift action. The formation of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) and the detention of 18 suspects indicate that the authorities are taking the matter seriously. However, it is essential that these efforts result in concrete outcomes. The community's trust in the administration hinges on the prompt identification and exemplary punishment of the culprits. The proposal to install CCTV cameras at all temples is a welcome step towards enhancing security and preventing such incidents in the future. This measure, combined with increased vigilance and community involvement, can act as a deterrent against those seeking to disturb the peace. It is imperative that all political and social leaders in the region work together to maintain calm and promote communal harmony. Attempts to vitiate the peaceful atmosphere for political gain must be condemned unequivocally. The upcoming Assembly polls should be a democratic exercise focused on the development and welfare of the people, not marred by communal strife and polarization. The temple vandalism act is a wake-up call for the authorities and the community. Immediate corrective measures are needed to ensure that the peace and tranquility of the region are not disturbed. The culprits must be brought to justice swiftly, and the communal harmony that has been the hallmark of the region must be preserved at all costs. The people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve a peaceful and prosperous future, free from the shadows of communal discord.

Focus shifts to prudent public wealth management

UTTAM GUPTA

The new National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is reviewing the existing disinvestment policy to shift its focus from selling central public sector undertakings (CPSUs) to 'prudent public wealth management (PWM), supporting not-for-profit enterprises, and ensuring strong presence of state-run firms in strategic sectors'. A CPSU is an undertaking in which the Union government has majority share holding meaning it holds more than 50 percent of its shares. Disinvestment is fancy nomenclature for sale of these shares to private investors. When, disinvestment results in reduction of the government's shareholding in the CPSU to below 50 percent and concomitant transfer of ownership and management control to private entity, this is termed as 'strategic' disinvestment or privatization. The extant policy on disinvestment was announced by the Union Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman in her Budget speech for FY 2021-22. Under it, CPSUs were classified into two broad categories i.e. strategic and non-strategic. The strategic group covers atomic energy, space and defense; transport and telecommunications; power, petroleum, coal and other minerals; and banking, insur-

ance and financial services. The non-strategic category includes all other sectors viz. industrial and consumer goods, hotel and tourist services, trading, and marketing and so on. The government's intent was to sell all undertakings in the strategic sector with the caveat that at least one (and a maximum of four) will be retained in the public sector. As for undertakings in non-strategic sectors, it wanted to reduce its shareholding to below 50 percent in 'all' of them. Put simply, they would all be privatized. All loss-making undertakings in this category would be closed. Also tagged to this policy was government's intent to use the proceeds from disinvestment for meeting its fiscal deficit (excess of total revenue over total expenditure) or FD target. This part was a continuation from the past when the Modi government started selling its shares in CPSUs in 2015-16 with particular focus on 'strategic' disinvestment. In the backdrop of devastation caused by Covid-19 pandemic and debilitating effect on its finances during 2020-21 (in that year, FD had scaled to 9.2 percent of GDP), in the budget for 2021-22, Sitharaman had put even greater reliance on proceeds of disinvestment by setting an ambitious target of Rs 175,000 crore. During that year, the government had planned big ticket disinvestments such as Bharat Petroleum Corpora-

tion Limited (BPCL), IDBI Bank, NMDC Steel and Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) and so on. But, the process has remained stuck in the slow lane even as the targets of proceeds from sales were missed year-after-year. Only during two years viz. 2017-18 and 2018-19, it achieved the target. That was primarily because, in those years, it had conducted two big-ticket sales of its shares from one CPSU to another. During 2017-18, the government sold 51.11 percent of its shareholding in Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) to the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) yielding Rs 37,000 crore. In the following year, it undertook the sale of its 52.63 percent stake in the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) to the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) yielding Rs 13,000 crore. But, those sales can't be termed as strategic as the purchaser being another CPSU namely ONGC/PFC, the Government continues to have effective ownership over the divested entity viz. HPCL/REC. The results during 2021-22 and 2022-23 were particularly disconcerting. During 2021-22, against a target of Rs 175,000 crore, the actual proceeds from disinvestment were a meager Rs 15,440 crore. During 2022-23, against a target of Rs 65,000 crore, the actual was nearly half at Rs 31,059 crore. For 2023-24, the FM had lowered

the target to Rs 51,000 crore which during the course of the year was further revised downwards to Rs 30,000 crore. Even against this, the actual proceeds were a meager Rs 14,564 crore. What does the interim Budget for 2024-25 say? In a briefing following the presentation of the Budget by Sitharaman on February 1, 2024, Finance Secretary TV Somanathan had stated that the "government no longer views disinvestment from the perspective of balancing the budget". Can it be taken to mean that it has shed its age-old stance of using proceeds from share sale for reducing FD. The answer is 'No' as it has set a target of Rs 50,000 crore for 2024-25 under the head "miscellaneous capital receipts" which includes disinvestment proceeds besides receipts from asset monetization. The very idea of garnering resources from the sale of government shares in CPSUs is inherently flawed. This is because unlike tax revenue, which can be projected with a degree of certainty based on the existing tax rate and a reasonable assessment of the growth in nominal GDP, the same cannot be said about proceeds from disinvestment. In this case, a lot depends on the market scenario and, in particular, the perception of investors about the company in which share-sale is contemplated.

In cases where the strategic sale is mooted, the Government faces a bigger challenge as apart from a favorable market, it needs bidders with deep pockets. The lengthy and cumbersome process of approval and bureaucratic red tape further undermines the chances of its kicking the ball rolling just around the time when the strategic investors are ready to put in their bets. The Niti Aayog identifies companies for disinvestment which are then considered by the Core Group of Secretaries on Divestment (CGD), a long-drawn process by itself, which takes it to the Alternative Mechanism (AM) - a group of ministers, including finance, road transport & highways, administrative reforms, etc., - for approval. After AM's approval, the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) moves a proposal for in-principal approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). In view of above, the government shouldn't put any number to receipts from share sale while preparing the budget as the end of the year, slippage is inevitable. Even so, the government's tax revenue is buoyant (for three years in a row since 2021-22, these have exceeded the target) and it is getting higher dividends from CPSUs as also higher dividends from the Reserve Bank of India (for its FY 2023-24, the RBI has made

a huge dividend transfer of Rs 210,000 crore to the Centre for latter's use during 2024-25) and public sector banks (PSBs). These positive trends should be good enough for managing fiscal deficits; hence, no need to depend on 'miscellaneous capital receipts'. **What happens to strategic sale?** From the emphasis on public wealth management (PWM), strong presence of state-run firms in strategic sectors, one gets sense that the government has completely abandoned the path of privatizing CPSUs in these sectors. As it is, under the 2021-22 policy, it had intended to retain at least one (and a maximum of four) undertakings in the strategic sector. Now, it seems it won't privatize even one. The government's decision to drop its plan for sale of BPCL which was on its agenda since 2019-20 is an indication of things to come. Changing horses midstream won't be in the best interest of the country. Fundamentally, the State shouldn't be in the business of running enterprises. There always remains a risk of political interference and bureaucratic red tape which can seriously hamper the working of CPSUs. The government should continue the process of share sale and focus on de-bureaucratizing it. **(The writer is a policy analyst; views are personal)**

A new dawn in Tibetan diplomacy

PRAFULL GORADIA

A seven-member American delegation led by Michael McCaul, and Nancy Pelosi, both leading lights of the US House of Representatives, recently met the Dalai Lama at Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh; this is a particularly significant event. They delivered a clear message that the USA no longer accepts Tibet as a part of China; and the US Congress will be soon passing an Act to be made into a law, called the "Resolve Tibet-China Act". The delegation told the Tibetan spiritual leader that "things have changed now". This American message has unmistakably resided in Chinese ears. This US delegation first called on His Holiness at Dharamshala, indicating they were calling on the Tibetan government-in-exile, calling on Prime Minister Narendra Modi only thereafter. The Government of India has not hesitated to welcome the delegation. Xi Jinping may have forgotten that Mao Zedong's regime had first claimed 'sovereignty' over Tibet. Before long, it asserted that Tibet was a Chinese province, before attempting to erase Tibet's culture, heritage and

language. These events have their roots in what happened towards the end of World War II. By allowing Stalin's Red Army to enter Berlin first and occupy it, the US made the Russians believe that they were the prime victors of WWII. In 1949, the Soviet Communist regime, by hook or crook, acquired the atom bomb. This made them believe even more they were now a superpower. Eco-militarily though, the Soviet Union was no 'super' but only a Eurasian power, as it had historically been. Similarly, the US overestimated the Communist Chinese as well. Compared to Chiang Kai Shek and his Kuomintang (KMT) on the mainland, the Maoists were much more committed. That, however, was no reason to dump the KMT as well as Formosa, now Taiwan from the UN as an official member. In fact, India should have been the correct replacement, but the Nehru government was insistent on giving the right of way to Red China, believe it or not. The USA, or at least its State Department continued to believe for years that the Soviets and the Chinese were a single communist bloc. The extent of the animosity between the two was fully real-

ized only after the Sino-Soviet clash along the Ussuri River in 1969. It was only thereafter that President Nixon decided to call on Chinese Premier Mao Zedong in 1972, which brought a great deal of prestige to Dr. Henry Kissinger. The ultimate beneficiary of this resumption of relations was China, when Deng Xiao Ping introduced economic reforms, emphasizing manufacturing and exports. The surplus of trillions of dollars accumulated by China came largely through exports to America. The course of these events explains why the State Department of the USA until now ignored the treatment of the hapless Tibetans by successive Chinese regimes over the last seven decades, beginning in 1959. The question is: is this because of repeated provocations over Taiwan, or could there be some larger reason unknown to us? The intentions should become clearer with the unfolding of time. India's stand has also been important. Unfortunately, the Leftists and communists in the country had clamoured for the (then) newly formed Red Chinese regime, which had requested its recognition within a few days of its winning the civil war.

Deputy Prime Minister Sardar Patel, on the other hand, was of the clear view that there was no hurry to recognize the new Chinese regime. In November 1949, Patel invited the American charge d'affaires Donovan to verify if there was an urgency in the recognition of Red China. Knowing the Sardar through his long correspondence with Jawaharlal Nehru on the subject of China, uppermost in his mind must have been the concern that the Sino-Indian border should be mutually recognized. But Jawaharlal Nehru was in a hurry and without consulting the Sardar, informed the Chinese of India's decision to recognize their regime in the December of that year itself. While expressing its delight at Nehru's message, China also laid down a few preconditions. India would pass on to the new regime all properties and assets of China. Secondly, India would not recognize any members of the KMT. Thirdly, India should support the expulsion of Nationalist China from the UNO, as well as its replacement by the communist regime. China's perfidious intentions can be gauged from the fact that its communist regime announced the 'libera-

tion' of Tibet as the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) task just one day before the founding of the People's Republic of China. The Tibetans had expelled the Chinese Amban, although he had been a Kuomintang government appointee. The Chinese blamed India for it, abusing Nehru as "a lackey of British imperialism" and complicit in the British humiliation of China, which Mao sought to reverse. The People's Daily of China in an editorial denounced the concept of suzerainty as feudal and oppressive—the very thing China demanded over Tibet. It even called on the UNO to examine India's relationship with Bhutan. The reality, which the Nehru government chose to ignore despite even Ambassador K.M. Pannikar's warnings was that China was eyeing Nepal, Sikkim and Bhutan too. But India's first prime minister, a votary of international peace and brotherhood was oblivious to this. The sufferers were from Tibet and India. **(The writer is a well-known columnist, an author and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal)**

Surviving the scorch: Strategies for managing heat waves in India

V K BAHUGUNA

The country is in the midst of intense heat waves causing severe hardship in the entire North, Central and Western India for more than a month. India may have recorded the hottest-ever temperature in 2024. On 29th May 2024 Delhi recorded 52.3 Degrees Celsius temperature at a weather station in Mungeshpur a suburb of Delhi though later on it was proved that it was slightly on the higher side. Even cooler places like Dehradun have noticed the highest temperature of the last 53 years this year. More than 30 crore people in India are prone to high risk due to lack of means to escape heat waves. The people are feeling severe shortages of power and water and many grids are collapsing due to overload leading to prolonged outages. Several people have died due to heat waves across the country. According to official sources, 150 people have

died due to heat waves and around 30,000 people suffered heat stroke from March to mid-June 2024. The people from Delhi and other adjoining areas are rushing to hill stations of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and other hills to escape the heat torture and in the process causing heavy traffic jams and throwing in disarray the civic amenities in several towns and cities. The River width of Ganga in Varanasi has reduced by 35% and similar reports are forthcoming of the narrowing of other streams and rivers. The experts have been warning the government and the society at large about the changing weather trends of the country. Now the question for the policymakers, professionals and administrators is to assess the causes of such an unprecedented rise in temperature and how to mop up resources to deal with it. If the mandarins in power in the centre and state do not change the way to deal with it efficiently and effec-

tively many disasters will be ruining the stability and cohesiveness in the society. One thing all must learn is the fact that high temperatures are the results of the combined effects of global warming, increasing urbanisation/concretization leading to changing weather patterns. As far as Delhi and nearby areas are concerned the dry and warm westerly winds from Rajasthan and Haryana are the causes of the heat wave. Now these winds continue during the night and do not allow the night temperature to fall and this is further accentuated when these westerly winds lead to cloud formation in the sky which prevents cooling the temperature. To find the solution our planners and civic administrators in cities must meet the challenges of the 'urban heat island effect'. In nature trees and other vegetation in the landscape along with green roofs help in reducing the urban heat island effects by releasing

moisture through transpiration, and by shading reflecting the sun radiation back into the atmosphere. Therefore, the massive dense urbanisation, buildings, roads and pavements absorb and retain the heat and hence the urban heat island effect with disastrous consequences. On the other hand, the effects of heat waves in rural areas are different; there is less or minimal heat island effect but the heat effects mostly relate to health issues like severe dehydration, heat stroke, heat exhaustion and gastrointestinal diseases exacerbated by the long power cuts and water shortage. India is not the only country affected by heat waves. Europe is also suffering from heat waves since April 2024. The temperature is above 30 degrees Celsius in south Europe, particularly in Spain. This year in Europe the highest temperature was noticed in Zeneca and Bosnia at 33.3 degree Celsius on 14th April 2024. The European coun-

try's architecture is such that they cannot cope up well with continuous heat waves. The objective of this article is to stress that in India the Central and State governments should jointly devise a policy to effectively deal with summer weather. The first thing to be done is to declare the temperature beyond a certain limit as a natural disaster/climate emergency and put in place standard operating procedures to deal with it for the different cities and rural areas. In rural areas, the government must ensure a supply of potable water and electricity as well as a mobile dispensary to provide quick health care services. In each village lakes and ponds should be created compulsorily so that people including farmers and cattle get water. It needs short-term planning risk assessment and early warning systems based on the India Meteorological Department forecast. One of the fundamental

requirements is the need to remould the district administration by creating an integrated and holistic approach so that climate-resilient development is ensured and preparations are made in advance to deal with any emergent situation. However, real change in the entire civic administration is essential in urban areas. The town and country planning needs complete overhauling as also revisit the power-centric civic bodies. The drainages are in shamble and must be protected so that the next emergency in rainy weather does not derail the life and property. Will the Urban Development Ministry set up a task national force to recommend action? **(The author is the former Director-General of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education and Chancellor of FRI University; views are personal)**

Medicines, behavioural interventions effective for quitting tobacco: WHO

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

A combination of medicines and behavioural therapies can help adults effectively quit tobacco, said the World Health Organization (WHO) on Tuesday releasing its first-ever clinical treatment guideline.

According to the global health body, of the world's 1.25 billion tobacco users, more than 750 million people or above 60 per cent wish to quit.

Yet 70 per cent of people lack access to effective cessation services -- a gap caused due to chal-



lenges faced by health systems, including resource limitations, the WHO said.

The WHO recommends a comprehensive set of tobacco cessation inter-

sation.

The guidelines, it said, are relevant for all adults seeking to quit various tobacco products, including cigarettes, water pipes, smokeless tobacco products, cigars, roll-your-own tobacco, and Heated Tobacco Products (HTPs).

"This guideline marks a crucial milestone in our global battle against these dangerous products," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General.

"It empowers countries with the essential tools to effectively support individuals in quitting tobac-

co and alleviate the global burden of tobacco-related diseases," he added.

Further, the WHO said combining medicines with behavioural interventions have significantly increased quitting success rates.

The UN health body called on countries to provide these treatments at no or reduced cost to improve accessibility, particularly in low- and middle-income countries.

It also recommends varenicline, Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT), bupropion, and cytisine as effective treatments for tobacco cessation.

Novel brain surgery technique targets difficult tumours at skull base

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

Japanese researchers have pioneered a new technique for brain surgery that targets difficult tumours at the skull base -- an area densely packed with nerves, blood vessels, other tissues, and the brain stem.

Tumours occurring in the base of the skull are among the most difficult to remove in neurosurgery. The current treatment method is to perform surgical removal by what is known as the microscopic anterior transpetrosal approach (ATPA).

A medical research team at the Osaka Metropolitan University developed a new minimally invasive surgical technique called a purely endoscopic subtemporal keyhole ATPA.

The approach seeks to lessen the risk of damage and postoperative complications.

The endoscopic technique means a

smaller area of the skull needs to be surgically opened compared to the microscopic approach, an average of only 11.2 cm² versus 33.9 cm². The risk of damage to the brain is also reduced, the team members wrote in The Journal of Neurosurgery.

Between 2022 and 2023, the team performed 10 neurosurgeries using their method at Osaka Metropolitan University Hospital and compared the results to 13 surgeries using the microscopic ATPA from 2014 to 2021.

The endoscopic approach noticeably reduced operative time, from an average of 410.9 minutes to 252.9 minutes. Similarly, blood loss lessened from a mean of 193 ml to 90 ml.

The degree of tumour resection (surgical removal) was just as high as the microscopic method, while neurological functions were preserved at a rate equal to or higher than with the conventional approach.

Your favourite pani puri may increase risk of cancer, asthma & more

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

Love to binge on pani puri? Beware, eating pani puri laden with artificial colours may increase your risk of various cancers and asthma amongst a host of other health issues, according to an expert on Tuesday.

Based on several complaints, Food Safety officials in Karnataka collected about 260 samples from roadside stalls. Of these, 22 per cent pani puris failed miserably at quality tests. About 41 samples contained artificial colours and cancer-causing agents, while 18 were found stale and unfit for human consumption.

This comes after Karnataka's Food Safety and Standards Department in late June passed an order imposing a fine of up to Rs 10 lakh and punish-



ment from seven years up to life imprisonment for using artificial colours in chicken kebabs, fish, and vegetable dishes across the state.

In March, Karnataka also banned the use of Rhodamine-B, an artificial colouring agent used in gobi manchurian and cotton candy.

"Use of an excess amount of artificial food colours and flavouring

ventions, including behavioural support delivered by health-care providers, digital cessation interventions and pharmacological treatments in the first guideline on tobacco ces-

gut health by increasing inflammation," she added.

The expert noted that it can also result in hyperactivity in children, allergic symptoms, and asthmatic attacks. Further, it can also lead to foodborne illnesses like typhoid if the water used in pani puri is contaminated.

Artificial food colourings are added to food products to enhance their visual appeal and stability which in turn boosts taste and ensures consumer satisfaction.

However, the use of dyes like Sunset Yellow, Carmoisine, and Rhodamine-B in food items raises several health risks.

Edwina noted that instead of artificial agents one can consume foods that are made with "natural colour and flavour using beetroot, turmeric, saffron strands, etc".

High junk food consumption, OTC antacids give woman 1,500 gallbladder stones

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

In a shocking case, doctors here removed 1,500 stones from the gallbladder of a 32-year-old woman.

The woman, an IT professional, regularly consumed junk and fatty foods, which left her feeling bloated, distension, and heaviness. To overcome this, she routinely took over-the-counter (OTC) antacids for the last 3 to 4 months.

The woman also had a few episodes of recurrent pain in the right upper abdomen, which used to radiate to the back and shoulder on the right side. Most of the time, the pain was associated with nausea and vomiting.

She contacted her family physician, and an ultrasound was advised, which revealed that her gall bladder was full of



stones.

Doctors at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital advised keyhole surgery for the removal of the gallbladder (Laparoscopic Cho-

lecystectomy) along with stones.

The team led by Dr Manish K Gupta, Vice Chairperson and Senior Consultant, Laparoscop-

ic & General Surgeon at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, made 10mm and 5mm holes in her abdomen and took out the gallbladder.

"It was surprising to find out that the gall bladder was full of multiple large and small stones numbering almost more than 1,500," the doctor said.

Dr Manish noted that changing lifestyles, sometimes long gaps between two meals, and long fasting that leads to the precipitation of bile are all increasing the incidence of gallstones in the country.

"Even though small, the stones may slip down to the Common Bile Duct (CBD) and lead to jaundice and pancreatitis. Similarly, large stones, if left untreated in the gallbladder for a very long time, can predispose to cancer of gall bladder due to chronic irritation," he added.

Lifestyle measures key to boost good cholesterol levels: Expert

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

Lifestyle measures are crucial to increasing the high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, also known as the "good" cholesterol, said a top neurologist on Tuesday.

Taking to social media platform X, Sudhir Kumar, from Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, Hyderabad explained that low HDL cholesterol levels can increase the "risk of heart attack and stroke".

On the other hand, higher levels of good cholesterol can also protect against the "risk of heart attacks, stroke, and premature death".

To increase the HDL-C levels, "lifestyle measures are key", said the doctor sharing some tips.

Sudhir said that a good sleep of seven hours is



essential for high HDL-C levels.

"HDL-C levels sharply reduced in people sleeping for four hours or less," he said.

He stated the need for aerobic exercises, such as running, brisk walking, cycling, or swimming, for which one should "aim for 4-5 sessions per week"; and three sessions per week of resistance

(strength) training.

"Combination of aerobic exercises and strength training has more beneficial effects on HDL-C levels than either of them alone," the doctor said.

Further, Sudhir stressed the need to quit smoking as "HDL-C levels decrease with smoking, and increase after the cessation of smoking (among smokers)".

The neurologist also called for maintaining adequate hydration as "chronic under-hydration and habitual low water intake are associated with higher cardiometabolic risks, including low HDL-C levels".

Regarding dietary approaches, the doctor recommended the consumption of olive oil, avocado, nuts (a hand-

ful), and seeds like chia seeds; a low carbohydrate diet; choosing purple produce (rich in anthocyanins).

"Several fruits and vegetables are very high in anthocyanins, such as eggplant, red cabbage, blueberries, blackberries, and black raspberries. Eat fatty fish often (salmon, tuna, mackerel, sardines) to boost HDL levels," Sudhir said.

He also advised black coffee (5 cups or more/day) without additives, as "it is associated with higher HDL-C levels". He noted that green tea consumption is not associated with HDL-C levels.

Further, the doctor advised to "lose weight (if obese or overweight)" and to manage stress via "meditation, relaxation, taking periodic vacations, engaging in hobbies, etc".

Study explores how common respiratory infections protected kids from Covid

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

Frequent respiratory viruses and bacteria may have boosted children's immune systems, saving them from the worst effects of Covid-19, according to a new study.

While children are more susceptible than adults to respiratory infections such as the common cold, the deadly SARS-CoV-2 virus affected them less, resulting in lower rates of hospitalisation and death during the Covid-19 pandemic that killed millions globally.

For the study, researchers at Yale University in the US re-analysed more than 600 nasal swabs originally taken during the pandemic from pediatric patients. They also screened the samples



again for 19 different respiratory viruses and bacteria, as well as measured the levels of antiviral and inflammatory proteins produced by the innate immune system.

The results, published in the Journal of Experimental Medicine, showed that many children -- even those without any symptoms -- were infected with respiratory pathogens

other than SARS-CoV-2.

This was especially true for younger children, with viruses or infection-causing bacteria being detected in around 50 per cent of asymptomatic patients under five years old, said the researchers.

The kids found with higher levels of respiratory pathogens had higher levels of nasal innate immune activity.

Herpes infections led to major economic burden, productivity losses globally: Study

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

Genital herpes infections and their related complications caused billions of dollars in healthcare expenditures and productivity losses globally, according to a study on Tuesday.

The study is the first-ever global estimate of the economic costs of the condition, and was led by a team from the Univer-

sity of Utah Health and was done in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO).

Herpes is caused by infection with one of two types of the herpes simplex virus (HSV). Acquired majorly in childhood, it can spread by oral contact and cause infections in or around the mouth (oral herpes or cold sores).

The study, published in the journal BMC

Global and Public Health, showed that around two-thirds of people (67 per cent) aged 0-49 globally have HSV-1.

Approximately 13 per cent of the world's population aged 15-49 years are living with HSV-2 infection.

However, HSV is not limited to sores and blisters. It can cause other more serious complications, including a rare chance of mother-to-

child transmission during childbirth, and increased risk of HIV infection, noted the study.

It also called for greater investment in the prevention of herpes transmission, including concerted efforts to develop effective vaccines against this common virus.

"The global costs of genital HSV infection and its consequences are substantial," said the team in the paper.

Chennai doctors cure jaundice in end-stage Bangladeshi cancer patient

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

Doctors in Chennai cured jaundice in a 78-year-old end-stage pancreatic cancer patient from Bangladesh using an advanced technology.

The patient was taken to doctors at SRM Global Hospitals with jaundice-linked complaints such as loss of appetite, severe itching, and sleeplessness.

"His jaundice was found to be the result of a tumour obstructing the bile duct, leading to the accumulation of the bile,"



said N.A. Rajesh, Gastroenterologist, SRM Global Hospitals.

He added that the patient was also unable to continue with the chemotherapy treatment with

jaundice. Considering the patient's old age and physical weakness, the doctors opted for a minimally invasive procedure known as choledochoduodenostomy, guided by advanced endoscopic ultrasound technology.

A stent-supported new pathway was created between the bile duct and the duodenum (a part of the small intestine), paving the way for the bile to drain.

Following the procedure, the patient can eat well; and has also found relief from severe itching and sleeplessness. The patient has gone back to his own country where he will undergo palliative cancer care, the doctor said.

Only Congress capable of addressing people's issues on priority: Uday Bhanu, Hari Singh Chib

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 2

Uday Bhanu Chib, former President of Youth Congress Jammu and Kashmir and currently National General Secretary of the Indian Youth Congress (IYC) along with Hari Singh Chib, Vice President of Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) today reiterated that the Congress Party stands as the singular force capable of effectively addressing the issues confronting the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

The senior Congress leaders were speaking during a public meeting held at Jammu North Assembly Segment. Smt Rajni Bala, former Councillor also presented in the meeting.

Addressing a gathering, Uday Bhanu Chib highlighted the problems faced by the general public in the absence of an elected government in Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized that officers at the helm of affairs are indifferent to the issues faced by the common people, who are struggling with irregular power and water supply despite the installation of smart meters and the payment of hefty power bills. He said that this situation has significantly impacted the daily lives of citizens, exacerbating their struggles and adversely affecting their overall quality of



life.

Uday Bhanu Chib emphasized the urgent need for administrative accountability and responsiveness to alleviate these pressing concerns and improve essential service delivery. He said that people is the better judge and they will give suitable reply to BJP in the ensuing Assembly polls in J&K as like they gave in the recently conducted Lok Sabha polls to BJP.

Hari Singh Chib, in his address, emphasized that the Congress Party, renowned for its inclusive policies and steadfast leadership, remains committed to provide sustainable solutions to these pressing issues.

"In these challenging times, it is abundantly clear that the Congress Party alone possesses the vision and dedication required to understand

needs and issues of the people.

During the event, Surjit Singh Manhas, a staunch BJP worker, along with his supporters, joined the Congress party, pledging their support on the condition that the Congress fields a local candidate in the upcoming Assembly elections.

Hari Singh Chib said that joining of Surjit Singh Manhas will strengthen the base of Party. He assured Manhas that he would convey his concerns to the party high command.

Prominent among those who were present include Som Nath Sharma Block President Pata Paloura, Dayal Singh All India President Manhas Sabha, Rajinder Singh former President Manhas Sabha, Om Parkash President Guru Ravi Dass Sabha, Ch Nazir Ahmad Chaiman Gujjar Community, Haji Sain, Ch Afiz, Sh Shahbaz, Ahmad, Sh Surinder Singh, Sh Kuldeep Singh, Sh Ajit Singh, Sh Vijay Mengi, Sh Bisha, Sh Pummy Manhas, Sh Mehsha, Sh Sansar Chib, Sh Bitu Chib, Sh Rupal Singh, Sh Surinder Singh, Sh Naresh Sharma, Sh Surinder Kumar, Sh Parshotam Singh, Sh Romal Singh, Dr Raj Pal Hans, Sh Harbans Lal, Smt Veena Devi, sh Kuldeep Baru, sh Bishamer Baru, sh Shyam Mengie, Sh Ragbir Singh Panch, Smt Jaywanti, Sh Vinod Kumar Sharma Sh Kaka Ram and others.

and tackle the genuine concerns of our people," he said.

Hari Singh Chib called upon people of North Assembly segment to support the Congress in the upcoming Assembly elections, stressing the need for a responsive and accountable government that prioritizes the welfare of every citizen.

The senior Congress leader Rajni Bala also expressed her concern over the plight of women under the current BJP rule at the Centre. She urged women to come forward and support the Congress party in the upcoming Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

The senior Congress leaders appealed to the public to support the Congress party in the forthcoming elections, promising a government that would be attentive to the

Indian Army celebrates Kargil Vijay Diwas at Doda

J I NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JULY 2

The celebration of 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' is not merely a commemoration, but also an opportunity to express our gratitude to the armed forces and to educate the younger generation about the sacrifices made for our freedom. It aims to foster a strong sense of patriotism and respect for the armed forces in the hearts and minds of 'Awam'. Indian Army celebrated 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' at Doda to commemorate the valor and sacrifices of our brave soldiers during the Kargil War of 1999 and to instill a sense of patriotism and pride among our citizens. The esteemed presence of Kargil Veterans further enhanced the significance



of this event and provided encouragement to the participants and attendees. The event featured a variety of activities, including a 'Wreath-Laying Ceremony & Felicitation of Veer Naris'. A total of eight Veer Naris, two Kargil War vet-

erans, 40 Ex-serviceman attended the event. Following the wreath laying ceremony, a special felicitation ceremony was conducted to honor the Veer Naris for their resilience & contribution towards the Nation. After the felicita-

tion, a group photograph session to capture the memories of this momentous occasion was org. This gathering provided a platform for guests to share their experiences, stories, reflections and fostered a sense of remembrance.

Indian Army organizes Closing Ceremony Of Electrician Course At Gei, Doda

J I NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JULY 2

Indian Army at Gei, Doda district conducted closing ceremony of 'Electrician Course' at Gei. The course was conducted wef 17 Jun 2024 to 30 Jun 2024 at Gei. The burgeoning number of youths have to be empowered through skill enhancement and there is a stark need of adequate avenues for engagement to channelize their energy in a positive direction. The area had no learning centre for skill based training and seeing the keen interest of the local youth for learning the



electrician skill, the course was conducted in which a total of 20 youth attended. Members of various Civil administration, Government departments and

entrepreneurs of the Gei tehsil graced the event. During the closing ceremony, Indian Army felicitated the participants with electric equipment. Indian

the area. The project will generate societal enthusiasm, healthy discourse on skill development and goodwill towards the Armed Forces.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

At least 116 killed...

the women felt suffocated," she said. She said that the priority of the administration is that those under treatment should get proper medical attention. "Identification of the deceased devotees is being done for which photography is being done so that we can connect to their families," she said.

The ADG said, "Our sympathies are with the bereaved families. According to the officials sources there is confirmed death toll of 50 to 60 people in Hathras and 15 are undergoing treatment. In Etah district around 27 people are aid to be dead and three are undergoing treatment."

She said that how the incident took place is a matter of investigation. "A control room has been set up and helpline numbers have been issued," she said.

Earlier, District Magistrate (DM) Hathras Ashish Kumar Patel said the incident took place due to high humidity when the people were coming out as the religious event was about to end. "Though the exact number of deceased is not clear, but according to the information given by the doctors of the community health centre the figure is around 50 to 60 people," he said.

He said the permission for the satsang was granted by the Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM). "It was a private event in which personnel were deployed for law and order and security. Right now the focus of the district administration is to provide government assistance to the families of the deceased and treatment to the injured," he said.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Etah Rajesh Kumar Singh said 27 bodies have been received at Etah hospital. "These include 23 females, 3 children and 1 male. It is an unfortunate incident," he said.

Expressing his condolences to the bereaved families, Yogi announced financial assistance of Rs 2 lakh each to the families of the deceased and Rs 50,000 to the injured.

He ordered Ministers Aseem Arun, Laxmi Narain Chaudhary, and Sandeep Singh along with the Chief Secretary and the Director General of the Police (DGP) to rush to the spot.

He also directed the district administration officials to reach the spot immediately take the injured to the hospital and provide them with proper treatment. He has also wished for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Meanwhile, a team of Additional Director General of Police (ADG) Agra and Divisional Commissioner Aligarh has been constituted to inquire into the cause of the stampede.

The committee has been directed to submit its report within 24 hours. The administration has also decided to lodge an FIR against the organisers.

CM Yogi is continuously holding meetings with senior officials at his official residence. He has directed that anyone found guilty in the incident will face strict action and will not be spared. Meanwhile, the district administration has issued helpline numbers 05722227041 and 05722227042 for the assistance of the general public.

PM condoles Hathras...

with the Uttar Pradesh government. I assure everyone through this House that the victims will be helped

in every way."

The stampede happened during the conclusion of a 'Satsang' at Phulrai village in Hathras of Uttar Pradesh.

LG chairs high-level...

Deputy Commissioners, Heads of Departments and other senior officers of the Civil and Police Administration.

The Lt Governor directed the officials, DCs and SSPs to hold meetings with eminent members of Shia community and religious leaders to address their issues and demands at the earliest to facilitate smooth observance of Muharram.

He instructed the District Administrations and senior officials to take all possible measures to ensure improved road connectivity to Imambaras, uninterrupted power supply and drinking water facilities, proper cleanliness and sanitation measures particularly in and around Imambaras, advance distribution of ration and other amenities as required.

All the arrangements must be made well in advance for smooth observance of Muharram, he said.

The Lt Governor laid emphasis on regular market inspections and ensuring the availability of essential commodities.

He also directed for making elaborate arrangements with regard to security, smooth traffic management and medical facilities at the prominent religious places and gatherings.

Deputy Commissioners briefed the chair on the preparedness of their respective district administrations in view of forthcoming Muharram. KNO

Amarnath yatra crosses...

2106 pilgrims left for Baltal at 3:05 AM and 4431 pilgrims for Pahalgam base camp at 3:50 AM. All these pilgrims have reached their respective base camps by this evening from where they will leave towards the holy cave early tomorrow morning under tight security measures.

Over 125 free Langars have been established by philanthropist organizations at base camps and in the yatra area up to holy cave to serve the pilgrims. "As many as 51,981 pilgrims have visited the holy cave shrine of Shri Amarnath Ji to have darshan of the naturally formed ice lingam since the commencement of the pilgrimage.

Stringent security arrangements have been put in place for the smooth conduct of the Yatra," an official said. Thousands of security personnel from the police, Central Reserve Police Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police and other paramilitary forces have been deployed along the route.

Aerial surveillance is also being carried out. The 52-day long Amarnath Ji Yatra will conclude on 19th August this year on the auspicious occasion of Shraavan Poornima which also coincides with the festival of Raksha Bhandan. KNO

CS reviews status...

needs to be lessened for overall development of the UT. He observed that the gap runs in several thousand

crores of rupees which is unacceptable under any circumstances.

Dulloo asked the authorities to fix responsibility and initiate action against the lax officers in each area where a stark difference is found in billing or collection of revenue. He emphasised for laying focus on enforcement and legal action against the power theft so that the menace is totally eradicated from the UT.

Principal Secretary, PDD, H. Rajesh Prasad, gave an overview of present status of all the reforms initiated in the UT. He informed the meeting about the status of smart metering and their integration and conversion into prepaid meters. He also threw light on different loss reduction works undertaken here in different districts by implementing agencies like JPDCL, KPDCCL, PESL and NTPC.

It was informed in the meeting that PMDP Phase-I of smart metering has been completed and the work on phase 2nd is currently going on. It was elucidated that, till date, out of 5,57,994 meters 4,48,931 had been installed in J&K. It was added that 310 feeders have been saturated with installation of smart meters thereby showing a considerable improvement in reduction of AT&C losses.

Further, under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) phase-3, it was revealed that more than 7.5 lakh meters had to be installed for which survey has been completed by both the discoms. It was given out that smart metering and loss reduction works to the tune of Rs 5620 crore had been approved by Ministry of Power for the UT.

Explaining further, the meeting was apprised that works like LT cable replacement, HT line cabling, HT line conductor replacement, high voltage distribution system (HVDS) and segregation of feeders had to be accomplished under this project.

As far as the AT&C losses are concerned, it was revealed that the same had been reduced to 40% during 2023-24 compared to 51% in 2022-23. Besides, it was given out that gap between the Average Cost of Supply (ACS) and Average Revenue Realised (ARR) has further got squeezed to Rs 2.18/kWh in 2023-24 from Rs 2.44/kWh in 2022-23.

Giving details about the enforcement measures taken up by the department, it was said that vigorous enforcement and crackdown on power theft had led to highest ever revenue realization for the quarter April-June, 2024. It was disclosed that in addition to making 18,199 disconnections, 6,152 connections were regularized by carrying out 78811 inspections by different electric Divisions of the UT.

Army Chief Gen...

He has held critical appointments and played a pivotal role in combating grey zone manifestations in the national security landscape.

Earlier, a day after assuming charge, Gen Upendra Dwivedi said that the Indian Army is ready and capable of facing all current and future security challenges facing India. He was interacting with the media on Monday after inspecting a guard of honour at the South Block in Raisina Hills, Delhi.

The Army Chief said working towards ensuring synergy among the Army, Air Force, and the Navy would

be one of his priorities. He called for equipping soldiers with the latest weapons to face "unique operational challenges".

"I am fully conscious of the responsibility assigned to me and I assure the country and fellow citizens that the Indian Army is fully capable and ready to face all current and future challenges," General Dwivedi said.

He added that the Indian Army is on the "path to transformation" and aspires to be 'Atmanirbhar' (self-reliant) in defence. Gen Dwivedi has been serving as the Vice Chief of the Army since February 19. Before becoming the Vice Chief, he served as the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Northern Command from 2022 to 2024.

He also breaks a 16-year-old precedent of selecting an officer with experience in leading the Indian Army's Eastern Command as COAS. The last Army Chief with experience commanding the Northern Command before assuming the role of Chief of the Army Staff was General Deepak Kapoor, who served from October 1, 2007, to March 31, 2010. KNO

ACB files case against...

period in question. "While collecting the passenger Tax Dues, she acted dishonestly and resorted to randomly conceal the actual amount of Passenger Tax received from Vehicle owners/operators by way of reflecting only meager part of amount in official record than amount which she collected on account of Passenger Tax. The only amount of Passenger Tax as reflected in counterfoil of Government Receipts (GRs) was deposited in Govt. Treasury whereas rest of the amount collected from Vehicle Owners/Operators stands misappropriated by her," reads the statement.

It added that furthermore, the Manual Cash Book/Day Book and vehicle-wise details pertaining to collection and deposition of Passenger Tax dues during the period has not been properly maintained which paved way to embezzle/misappropriate Passenger Tax dues.

"During the course of verification, it surfaced that an amount of more than 10 lakhs has been misappropriated in view of random cross checking of some copies of GRs and Owner's copies of GRs. The same may increase further in respect of other passenger commercial vehicles of Jammu, if detected during investigation."

It reads that the role of the officers/officials of RTO office Jammu, in abetting/ facilitating such misappropriation of passenger tax amount during that period cannot be ruled out.

"By acting in this manner Manju Sharma in lieu of criminal conspiracy with other employees of RTO office Jammu, dishonestly and fraudulently misappropriated huge amount of passenger tax so collected from various owners/operators during that period. Further investigation in the case is in progress," it reads. KNO

Brake failure in...

medical assistance and first aid to all the injured persons at their local medical facility at Nachalana."

9 terrorists killed in separate operations in NW Pakistan

AGENCIES
ISLAMABAD, JULY 2

Pakistani security forces killed nine terrorists in two separate operations in the country's north-western Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province, the military said on Monday.

The security forces conducted intelligence-based operations in Khyber and Lakki Marwat districts of KP, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the media wing of the Pakistan Army, said in a statement.

During the first operation, seven terrorists, including two terrorist commanders, were killed in Tirah area of Khyber district, according to the ISPR statement.

The ISPR said that weapons, ammunition and explosives were also recovered during the operation, adding that the killed terrorists had remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities and were wanted by the security forces.

In a separate operation in Lakki Marwat district, security forces killed two terrorists.

Sanitation operations are being carried out to eliminate any other terrorists found in the area.

The military said the security forces of Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism from the South Asian country.

Russia says 5 Ukrainian fighter jets ruined in missile attack

AGENCIES
MOSCOW, JULY 2

The Russian armed forces launched a missile strike on an airfield in Ukraine's Poltava region, destroying five Ukrainian Su-27 fighter jets, Russia's defense ministry said Tuesday.

The attack by an Iskander-M operational-tactical missile system targeted the aircraft parking area at the Myrhorod airfield, destroyed five Su-27 fighter jets belonging to the Ukrainian armed forces, and damaged two more undergoing repairs at the time, the ministry said via its official social media channel.

The ministry also released video footage of the strike. Ukrainian authorities have issued no immediate response.

Five kindergartners injured in road accident in Japan

AGENCIES
TOKYO, JULY 2

Five kindergartners sustained minor injuries when their shuttle bus was involved in a rear-end collision with two other vehicles on Tuesday morning in the western Japanese prefecture of Shiga, local media reported.

The accident took place at about 8:50 a.m. local time in the Nagara Tunnel on National Route 161 in the city of Otsu, Japanese newspaper the Mainichi Shimbun reported, citing local authorities, reports Xinhua news agency. The injured children, all transported to a hospital, were able to walk on their own, with their injuries deemed minor, according to the city fire department.

Carrying a total of 18 people, including 16 children, at the time of the accident, the kindergarten shuttle bus rear-ended a passenger car, which then collided with another vehicle in front, Otsu police station reported.

Five Ukrainian fighter jets ruined in missile attack: Russia

AGENCIES
MOSCOW, JULY 2

The Russian armed forces launched a missile strike on an airfield in Ukraine's Poltava region, destroying five Ukrainian Su-27 fighter jets, Russia's Defence Ministry said on Tuesday.

The attack by an Iskander-M operational-tactical missile system targeted the aircraft parking area at the Myrhorod airfield, the ministry said via its official social media channel.

It destroyed five Su-27 fighter jets belonging to the Ukrainian armed forces and damaged two more undergoing repairs at the time, reports Xinhua news agency. The ministry also released video footage of the strike. Ukrainian authorities have issued no immediate response.

UN chief discusses reform, cooperation with Uzbekistan President

AGENCIES
TASHKENT, JULY 2

Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev met with visiting UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to discuss support for reforms in the country and the UN, said the presidential press service.

"The current visit, which is Antonio Guterres' second visit to the republic, testifies to the UN's full support for the ongoing irreversible reforms within the framework of the 'Uzbekistan-2030' strategy," said the statement.

During their talks on Monday, the two leaders discussed a range of topics, including promoting global and regional security, stability, and sustainable development, reports Xinhua news agency.

They also focused on expanding multifaceted cooperation between Uzbekistan and the UN and reviewed the progress of joint projects aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Additionally, both leaders exchanged views on current national and regional situations. The president expressed support for the secretary-general's initiatives on promoting international security and stability, reforming the UN and its principal organs, and organising the Summit of the Future in New York later this year.

Nepal goes through political churn as Nepali Congress-UML reach power-sharing deal

AGENCIES
KATHMANDU/NEW DELHI,
JULY 2

Nepal was gripped by political uncertainty, as the Nepali Congress President Sher Bahadur Deuba and CPN-UML Chairman KP Sharma Oli reached a power-sharing deal to replace the coalition government of Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'.

Meanwhile, PM Dahal has decided not to resign from his post but face a vote of confidence in parliament.

Barely four months after extending support to Pushpa Kamal Dahal's leadership of the government, the CPN-UML, the second largest party in

Parliament, decided to end its political association with Dahal and join hands with Nepali Congress, the largest party.

On Saturday, Nepali Congress President Sher Bahadur Deuba and CPN-UML chair KP Oli held a sudden meeting at the latter's residence, which laid the ground for the potential new political alliance between the two parties.

Deuba and Oli reached an understanding during a meeting on Sunday midnight at an undisclosed location in Kathmandu, where they tentatively agreed to form a new government, amend the constitution, and to work out a power-sharing formula, the Kathmandu Post reported.



As per the understanding between Congress and UML, Oli will lead a new 'national consensus' government for a year and a half. For the remaining term, Deuba will be the prime minister.

A four-member task force has prepared the draft agreement between the two parties, which will detail the power-sharing

arrangement, propose amendments to the constitution, review the electoral system including proportional representation, change national assembly arrangements, and discuss the size of provincial assemblies.

The Nepali Congress will lead 10 ministries including home, and the UML nine including

finance, as per the draft understanding.

Likewise, the Congress and the UML will lead three provincial governments each, with the government in Madhesh to be led by a regional party.

There has also been a verbal agreement on formation of a high-powered constitution review and suggestions committee under a former chief justice of the Supreme Court.

Deuba and Oli had reportedly been in talks over the past one month in order to address some pressing national issues, and have agreed to amend the constitution where needed. They are also said to have reached

understandings on foreign policy, economic crisis, and governance, the Post reported.

The reason for the rift between Prime Minister Dahal and Oli was over the appointment of the chairman of the Securities Board of Nepal or Sebon. The appointment process was ultimately cancelled on Saturday due to differences between the two leaders.

Differences between Oli and Dahal had been steadily building, including over the new Sebon chair, the appointment of ambassadors to eight countries, transitional justice, and the bringing of what Oli termed a 'Maoist budget' for the new fiscal year.

Counter-terror police takes charge of investigation over Sydney University stabbing

AGENCIES
SYDNEY, JULY 2

A counter-terrorism police force has engaged in the investigation after a teenager stabbed a 22-year-old student at the University of Sydney on Tuesday morning.

At around 8.35 a.m. local time, emergency services were called to the educational facility along Parramatta Road in Camperdown, where a man was stabbed in the neck by a teenager armed with a kitchen knife, Xinhua news agency reported.

The wounded student, identified as an Australian national, was rushed to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in a serious but stable condition.

Speaking at a media conference held on Tuesday afternoon, New South Wales (NSW) Police Force Assistant Commissioner Mark Walton provided more details about the stabbing, noting that the young offender camouflaged by a "Defense Force

uniform" ran away from the campus with his knife recovered by police at the scene.

"The suspect caught a bus and shortly after presented to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, where he has been treated for cuts to the hand and is currently undergoing a mental health assessment," said Walton.

Police confirmed the identity of the alleged assailant as a 14-year-old local who lives in Sydney's inner west.

"The NSW Joint Counter-Terrorism Committee is investigating the matter. A motive or ideology importantly has not been determined at this time.

As the matter is under investigation and the person of interest is a 14-year-old, I'm not able to provide any comments on the matter at this time," said Walton.

However, he underlined rising concerns about youth "being radicalised in the online environment" across the state.

"They are embracing violent, extremist ideologies and moving towards violence," the assistant commissioner warned, calling on parents to stay alert to the risk to their children.

At the current stage, there is no evidence suggesting any links between the pair, but Walton revealed that the 14-year-old was known, both to police and government agencies.

"The ideology that may be related to this young person's activity is unknown. But I would say that it's likely to be categorised as mixed and unclear ideology," he said, stressing that the stabbing is not a religiously motivated attack.

The University of Sydney is located less than 3 km southwest of the city's central business district. It merely takes a 10-minute drive to reach the facility from the city centre.

Following the incident, tutors at the university

have received a lockdown notice, according to local media.

"As a precautionary measure, there may be an increased security and police presence on campus while investigations continue," a spokesperson was quoted as saying.

Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Sydney Mark Scott expressed his feeling of being "deeply shocked and saddened" while assuring the community that there is no ongoing threat.

"We were all relieved to hear the student is in a stable condition in hospital, and the university has been in touch with his family and offered support," Scott said in a statement.

"Our top priority is the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff. Our protective services team is currently operating 24/7, and we have further increased security guards at all major entries to campus," he added.

Houthis claim fresh attacks against four cargo ships

AGENCIES
SANAA, JULY 2

Yemen's Houthi group claimed responsibility for launching attacks against four cargo ships belonging to the US, Britain, and Israel.

"The first operation was carried out by several cruise missiles, targeting the Israeli ship MSC Unific in the Arabian Sea, and the hit was accurate and direct", Houthi military

spokesman Yahya Sarea said in a statement aired by Houthi-run al-Masirah TV, reports Xinhua news agency.

"The second operation was carried out by several ballistic and cruise missiles, targeting the American oil tanker Delonix in the Red Sea for the second time this week," he said, adding the third operation targeted the British ship Anvil Point in the Indian Ocean with several cruise



missiles "accurately and directly".

"The fourth operation was carried out by several cruise missiles, targeting the ship Lucky Sailor in the Mediterranean Sea," he said, vowing to launch more such attacks until Israel stops its offensive in the Gaza Strip.

Since November last year, the Houthi group has been conducting drone and missile attacks on "Israeli-linked" ships,

claiming these actions are in solidarity with the Palestinians in war-ridden Gaza.

In response, the US and Britain launched a military operation in January, conducting air and missile strikes against Houthi targets in Yemen.

This intervention has led the Houthi group to expand its targeting to include American and British commercial and military ships.

Iran slams Western govts for allowing harassment of overseas Iranian voters

AGENCIES
TEHRAN, JULY 2

Iran's Foreign Ministry Spokesman Nasser Kanaani has censured certain Western governments for letting some "disruptors" intimidate and insult overseas Iranian voters during the country's 14th presidential election.

He made the remarks in a post on social media platform X after several anti-Iran individuals harassed Iranian voters at polling stations in some states, such as Britain and Australia, to prevent them from casting their ballots on Friday (Tehran time).

"The disruptors, who identify themselves as the



opponents of the Islamic establishment (of Iran), attempted to, through intimidation, insult, and the most vulgar behaviour and offensive language, prevent Iranian expatriates from participating in a

democratic process," said the spokesman as reported by Xinhua news agency.

Kanaani slammed some Western governments, which claim to "champion democracy" but fail to take legal and preventative

actions against those who "violate the legal rights of Iranian citizens".

He urged those Western authorities to give explanations and take appropriate actions in response to such "barbaric, uncivilised, and illegal" behaviours.

Iran's 14th presidential election, initially set for 2025, was rescheduled following the unexpected death of former President Ebrahim Raisi in a helicopter crash on May 19.

After the first round of voting which started early on Friday and ended at midnight, no candidate obtained more than 50 per cent of the total votes needed to call a winner.

India, B'desh plan coordinated ops to bolster interoperability in maritime domain

AGENCIES
DHAKA, JULY 2

India and Bangladesh on Monday vowed to enhance maritime cooperation keeping in view New Delhi's Act East policy and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR). Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Admiral Dinesh Tripathi discussed various areas of further cooperation during a meeting with his counterpart, Admiral M. Nazmul Hassan held at the Bangladesh Naval Headquarters in Dhaka.

"The two Principals discussed longstanding

and robust ties between the two nations and navies; initiatives for enhancing maritime cooperation, avenues for capacity building and capability enhancement, including coordinated ops towards bolstering interoperability in the maritime domain," the Indian Navy said on Monday. Earlier, Admiral Tripathi began his four-day visit -- first as a CNS -- to Bangladesh by paying tribute to the bravehearts of the Bangladesh Armed Forces who made the supreme sacrifice during the 1971 Liberation War at the Shikha Anirban (eternal flame).

Electronics industry seeks lower tariffs, support for local ecosystem in upcoming budget

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

The electronics industry on Tuesday urged the Central government to look into lowering tariffs on inputs in the upcoming budget and scale up local manufacturing to further beat China and Vietnam.

The recommendations by the electronics industry, aimed at attracting Global Value Chains (GVCs) to India, are based on a detailed seven-country "Tariff Study" on input tariffs for smartphones, examining the impact of high tariffs on India's mobile phone manufacturing and export competitiveness.

India's simple average most favoured nation



(MFN) tariff for inputs is 7.4 per cent, compared to China's effective zero tariffs offered in bonded zones and Vietnam's 0.7 per cent FTA-weighted average tariffs.

"Sustaining the tremendous growth in mobile phone production and exports requires matching the competitive tariff regimes of China and Vietnam," said Pankaj Mohindroo, Chairman

of the India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA).

"Current high tariffs increase manufacturing costs in India by 7-7.5 per cent on the bill of materials (BoM), deterring local ecosystem development, hampering exports, and adversely impacting job creation," Mohindroo added.

The study recommends a glide path for reduction of India's input tariffs to match the competitiveness of China and Vietnam.

"Any revenue foregone under this tariff reduction would be more than compensated by the additional revenue generated from higher affordability, increased production, sales of smartphones and higher economic activity following job creation," the findings showed.

The industry recommended that all tariff lines that increase costs significantly, including components of complex subassemblies, should be brought down to zero.

"India's seven tariff slabs for the mobile sector should be reduced to 3+1 slabs - 0 per cent, 5 per cent, 10 per cent and 15 per cent by 2025," they said.

The reduction in duty from 20 per cent to 15 per cent on printed circuit board assembly (PCBA), charger adapters and mobile phones and the reduction in duty on mic/receiver from 15 per cent to 10 per cent "will have no impact on current domestic manufacturing".

India's electronics manufacturing output has reached a record-breaking \$115 billion in FY24, with \$29.1 billion in electronics exports, making electronics the fifth-largest export category from India.

Mobile phones alone contributed over 54 per cent of this export, with production out of \$51 billion in FY24.

EU must open discussion on economic dimension of CBAM: Experts

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

The European Union (EU) must start discussing the economic dimension of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), said experts here on Tuesday.

The CBAM by the EU is designed to slash greenhouse gas emissions by 55 per cent by 2030 compared to 1990 levels.

L Satya Srinivas, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry noted that the twin aspects of design and implementation modalities are important for consideration when discussing CBAM and its impact.

He was speaking at CII's

Session on the EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism CBAM: Rationale for Climate Policy and Implications for Indian Companies.

Srinivas noted that while the environmental dimension of the design of CBAM is clear, the EU needs to be open for discussion on the economic dimension of design as it advocates the introduction of a "clean and competitive" policy.

"The audit of process and carbon embedded emissions will increase the costs for industry and this transition won't be uniform for industries. The transfer of cost from the EU to the exporting economies is the issue in the design aspect of CBAM and how to mitigate this transfer is what needs to be addressed," he added.

According to R Mukundan, Vice President, CII and Managing Director & CEO, Tata Chemicals, CBAM could be beneficial in the Indian industry context, particularly for the iron and steel, aluminum, and hydrogen industries.

However, there are some concerns around the impact on MSMEs and reporting, in addition to the added burden related to standardisation and certification of emissions data that will affect the cost of doing business as well as ease of doing business.

He further reiterated the need to be open for change in the direction of moving towards a carbon-free world.

Sensex closes flat amid profit booking in smallcap and midcap stocks

AGENCIES
MUMBAI, JULY 2

Indian equity Indices closed flat on Tuesday following profit booking in midcap and smallcap stocks. At closing, Sensex was down 34 points, at 79,441 and Nifty was down 18 points, at 24,123.

During trading hours IT stocks lead the market. Three of the top five top gainers in the Sensex were from the IT sector.

L&T, Wipro, Infosys, HDFC Bank, and TCS were the top gainers. Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bharti Airtel, Tata Motors, IndusInd Bank and ICICI Bank were the top losers.

Smallcap and midcap stocks ended lower due to profit booking. The Nifty Midcap 100 index was

down 437 points or 0.78 per cent at 55,854 and the Nifty Smallcap 100 index was at 18,509, down 84 points or 0.46 per cent.

Among the sectoral Indices, Auto, PSU Bank, FMCG, metal and pvt bank were major gainers and IT, pharma, realty, and energy were major laggards.

Rupak De, Senior Technical Analyst at LKP Securities said, "The Nifty faced profit booking around 24,200, leading to a close 100 points off the high. The sentiment is likely to favour selling on rallies until it moves above 24,250." "On the lower end, 24,000 is likely to act as immediate support for the Nifty. A fall below 24,000 might trigger a correction towards 23,850/23,700," he added.

Explained: Why SEBI issued a show-cause notice to Hindenburg, others

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), as per directions by the Supreme Court, has issued a show-cause notice to Hindenburg Research, its sole beneficial owner Nathan Anderson and Mark Kingdon who is the ultimate beneficial owner of Mauritius-based entities, for trading violations in the scrip of Adani Enterprises, leading up to Hindenburg report and thereafter.

In the show-cause notice, it is alleged that Hindenburg colluded with others to build short positions in the scrip of Adani Enterprises Limited (AEL).

Hindenburg and Anderson are also alleged to have disseminated misleading information through the Hindenburg report (dated January 24, 2023), thereby inducing panic selling in AEL, among other securities.

The Supreme Court, by its judgment and order dated January 3, 2024, issued directions to SEBI and the investigative agencies of the Union government to probe into whether the loss suffered by Indian investors due to the conduct of Hindenburg and any other entities in taking short positions involved any infraction of the law and if so, to take suitable action.

In a previous order passed in the Writ Petitions, the Supreme Court took note of the loss of investor wealth in the aftermath of the report and recognised the dire



need to protect Indian investors from unanticipated volatility in the market.

SEBI's investigation exposed that Kotak Mahindra and Hindenburg conspired together to take short positions in Adani shares.

Hindenburg agreed to take a 25 per cent profit

cut from shorting, resulting in millions of dollars in profit.

Chats from Kotak Mahindra bank executives, mentioned by SEBI in their show-cause notice, reveal how Kotak set up offshore funds to route money and take short positions in Adani futures, generating profits of \$22.11 million.

SEBI's show-cause notice also exposes how Hindenburg's report was full of conjectures, lies, and misrepresentations, with the sole intention of maximising profits from their short positions.

Instead of addressing SEBI's investigation, which is based on documents and proof obtained from US courts and SEC records, Hindenburg has started attacking SEBI, calling them biased.

Despite claiming small profits from shorting Adani, SEBI's investigation reveals Hindenburg also made \$9.2 million by taking short positions in ETFs and options on the MSCI India Index, and trading in bonds of Adani Electricity Mumbai Limited, AGEL, and APSEZ.

SEBI also found that Hindenburg misrepresented Supreme Court judgment findings, alleged government corruption and bribery without proof.

The show-cause notice states as to why action should not be taken against them under Sections 11(1), 11(4), 11(4A), 11B(1) and 11B(2) - read with Sections 15HA and 15HB of the SEBI Act, 1992 - which provide for the issuance of directions, including restraint from access to the securities market, and levying of monetary penalty.

Hindenburg has claimed that it did not provide research notice to Kingdon prior to sharing the draft report and Kingdon did not share the trading notice with Hindenburg before the report was shared publicly through mass email.

Hindenburg claims Kotak Mahindra group's fund short-sold Adani stocks, group says wasn't aware

AGENCIES
MUMBAI, JULY 2

After Hindenburg Research alleged that Kotak Mahindra group created and oversaw the offshore fund structure used by the investor partner of Hindenburg to short Adani stocks, the group on Tuesday said Hindenburg was never a client of its offshore fund and the fund was unaware of the US short seller being a partner of any of its investors.

Hindenburg had alleged that while markets regulator SEBI "seemingly tied itself in knots to claim jurisdiction over us, its notice conspicuously failed to name the party that has an actual tie to India: Kotak Bank, one of India's largest banks and



brokerage firms founded by Uday Kotak, which created and oversaw the offshore fund structure used by our investor partner to bet against Adani".

Hindenburg claimed that the group "simply named the K-India Opportunities Fund and masked the name 'Kotak' name with the acronym 'KMIL'".

Kotak Mahindra (International) Ltd, a unit of

Kotak Mahindra Bank, said in a statement that Hindenburg was never a client of the group's K-India Opportunities Fund (KIOF) and Kotak Mahindra International Ltd (KMIL).

"KMIL and KIOF unequivocally state that Hindenburg has never been a client of the firm, nor has it ever been an investor in the Fund. The Fund was never aware that

Hindenburg was a partner of any of its investors," a spokesperson for KMIL said in a statement.

"KMIL has also received a confirmation and declaration from the Fund's investor that its investments were made as a principal and not on behalf of any other person."

K-India Opportunities Fund (KIOF) is a SEBI-registered foreign portfolio investor and is regulated by the Financial Services Commission of Mauritius.

"The Fund was established in 2013 to enable foreign clients to invest in India. The Fund follows due KYC procedures while onboarding clients and all its investments are made in accordance with all applicable laws. We have cooperated with regulators in relation to our operations and continue to do so," the statement read.

The SEBI has issued a show-cause notice to Hindenburg Research, Nathan Anderson and the entities of Mauritius-based foreign portfolio investor (FPI) Mark Kingdon for trading violations in the scrip of Adani Enterprises Ltd, leading up to the Hindenburg report and thereafter.

In the 46-page show-cause notice, the markets regulator has alleged that Hindenburg and Anderson violated regulations under the SEBI Act, SEBI's Prevention of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices Regulations, and its Code of Conduct for Research Analyst regulations.



The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), which comes under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, has warned users of multiple vulnerabilities in Google Chrome OS and GitLab, which could allow an attacker to execute arbitrary code on the targeted system.

LTS channel for ChromeOS which could be exploited by an attacker to execute arbitrary code on the targeted system," said the CERT-In advisory.

As per the cyber agency, these vulnerabilities exist in Google Chrome OS due to Heap buffer overflow in WebRTC and Use after free in Media Session.

An attacker could exploit these vulnerabilities by persuading a victim to visit a specially crafted web page.

The vulnerabilities reported in GitLab exist in various components of GitLab community Edition (CE) and Enterprise Edition (EE). Successful exploitation of these vulnerabilities could allow a remote attacker to execute arbitrary code, access sensitive information, cause cross-site scripting, bypass security restrictions and cause denial of service condition on the targeted system, according to the cyber agency.

India's auto sector cruises in top gear as higher demand drives up sales

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

India's auto sector is cruising in top gear in the current financial year with leading players notching up higher sales of cars, two-wheelers and commercial vehicles driven by higher demand in a growing economy.

The launch of new models, especially in the SUV segment has driven up the sales of passenger vehicles, while two-wheeler sales have surged on the back of higher rural incomes, according to auto sector executives.

The demand for commercial vehicles has also increased, reflecting the higher level of economic

activity that is taking place in the economy. This raises the demand for commercial vehicles to transport goods both in the farm and industrial sectors.

Domestic & international sales for commercial vehicles of leading manufacturer Tata Motors in June 2024, were 15,224 units vs 14,770 units in June 2023; while in Q1 FY25 it stood at 41,974 units, vs 36,577 units in Q1 FY24.

Garish Wagh, Executive Director, Tata Motors Ltd, said, "Tata Motors Commercial Vehicles domestic sales at 87,615 units in Q1 FY25 were 7 per cent higher than Q1 FY24 sales. Additionally, sales in June 2024 were 3 per cent higher compared to May



2024."

Leading car maker Maruti Suzuki reported a 3 per cent YoY increase in domestic passenger vehicle sales at 137,160 units in June 2024, up from 133,027 units in June 2023. The market leader's sales for the April-to-June quarter

rose 1.2 per cent to 419,114 units.

Maruti Suzuki's arch-rival Hyundai has also seen an increase in sales driven

by the SUV segment. "We closed H1 of calendar year 2024 with overall sales growth of 5.68 per cent YoY. SUVs have contributed strongly, accounting for 66 per cent of our domestic sales. The new Hyundai CRETA has been a key driver for domestic H1 sales with 91,348 units sold - growth of 11 per cent over the same period last year," said Tarun Garg, chief operating officer, Hyundai Motor India Ltd.

Similarly, Mahindra & Mahindra sold 40,022 vehicles in the domestic market in the SUV segment, a growth of 23 per cent and overall, 40,644 vehicles, including exports. The domes-

tic sales for Commercial Vehicles stood at 20,594.

According to Veejay Nakra, President, Automotive Division, M&M Ltd, "We sold a total of 40,022 SUVs in June, a growth of 23 per cent and 69,397 total vehicles, an 11 per cent growth over last year. June has been a momentous month, as we rolled out the 200,000th XUV700 from our facility. We also celebrated 25 years of Bolero Pik-Ups, a category creator and a market leader in the LCV segment."

With demand reviving in the rural areas, two-wheeler sales have gone up. Motorcycle major Bajaj Auto posted a 7 per cent increase in domestic two-wheeler sales in June at 177,207 units, against 166,292 units a year ago. For the April-to-June period, it also posted a 7 per cent increase in domestic sales at 582,497 units, against 542,931 units in the first quarter of FY24.

Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India's sales stood at 518,799 units, clocking a 60 per cent YoY growth. This includes domestic sales of 482,597 units and exports of 36,202 units.

TVS Motor Company recorded monthly sales at 333,646 units in June 2024, up 5 per cent YoY. Its two-wheeler sales registered growth of 6 per cent from 304,401 units in June 2023 to 322,168 units in June 2024.

DC Ramban visits Yatri Niwas Chanderkot, reviews arrangements of SANJY-2024

JINews SERVICE
RAMBAN, JULY 2

Deputy Commissioner Ramban Baseer ul Haq Chaudhary, today visited Yatri Niwas Chanderkot here and took detailed review of all the arrangements of Shri Amarnathji Yatra (SANJY)-2024.

During the visit the Deputy Commissioner passed on specific directions to HoDs of various departments to make arrangements in advance for successful conduct of the yatra. He emphasized on the importance of maintaining a high level of sanitation as well as cleanliness in the camp for safe and comfortable experience to the devotees.

The DC underlined that Shri Amarnathji Yatra holds immense religious significance and it is our responsibility to provide



a secure and comfortable environment for the pilgrims. He urged all the stakeholders to work in close coordination to ensure smooth conduct of Yatra and extend all possible support to the devotees. He further directed all concerned departments to take every possible measure to make Shri

Amarnathji Yatra smooth, safe and hassle-free for devotees. During his visit, the DC took stock of logistics, food and lodging for the pilgrims, security, langer stalls, power and water supply, health facilities, sanitation, transportation, deployment of health and

sanitation staff, and emergency services and other facilities for the smooth facilitation of pilgrims.

During the visit, the Director of Camp, JP Singh apprised the DC about the arrangements has put in place. He informed that all the requisite steps have been taken to ensure that devotees don't face any problems during stay.

DDC Shopian chairs DLRC/ DCC meeting

JINews SERVICE
SHOPIAN, JULY 2

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb today presided over the District Level Review Committee (DLRC) cum District Consultative Committee (DCC) meeting to review the performance of financial institutions of the district for quarter 4th ended 31st March, 2024 of FY 2023-24, at Mini-Secretariat, here.

The meeting held in-depth discussions regarding the performance of banks during the fiscal year 2023-24. It was intimated that the deposits of the district increased from Rs.1557.49 crores as on March 31, 2023 to Rs. 1608.53 crores as on March 31, 2024 thereby registering a growth of 03% on YOY basis and has shown an increase of 01% on a quarterly basis from Rs.1591.68 crores as on 31 December, 2023.

The advances of the district increased from Rs. 1918.54 crores as on March 31, 2023 to Rs. 2122.98



crores as on March 31, 2024 thereby registering a growth of 11% on YOY basis and 3% on a quarterly basis from Rs.2069.45 crores as on 31 December, 2023.

The priority sector advances of the district have increased from Rs. 1163.03 crores to Rs. 1306.33 crores, registering an increase of 12% on YOY basis and 5% increase on a quarterly basis. Non-priority sector advances of the district increased from Rs.788.54 crores to Rs.816.54 crores, thereby registering a growth of 8% on YOY basis.

DDC on the occasion impressed for improving farm credit lending by covering more farm oper-

ating families under KCC with focus on accelerating agricultural infrastructure building.

He gave special attention to the sponsorship cases of employment creation and entrepreneurship development schemes for youth and called for identifying beneficiaries and ensuring the smooth flow of credit to them through the convergence of assistance from government-sponsored schemes.

He instructed banking institutions to increase credit flow in the priority sectors and in sponsoring cases of departments for livelihood creation as per the targets fixed bank wise, as per timelines.

The DDC reviewed the bank wise performance in various government sponsored schemes including PMEGP, Mission Youth schemes, NRLM, KCC, NULM, WCC, MUDRA, Stand Up India, JKREGP, etc.

He highlighted the significance of social security schemes and instructed the concerned for enhanced coverage of people under these schemes by organising result oriented conduct of awareness camps in the district.

Director, RSETI informed about the training courses being imparted at the institute, with 456 trainees trained during FY, 2023-24 against the target of 450, out of which 275 trainees were provided bank finance, with settlement ratio of 93%.

The meeting was attended by Lead District Manager, Farooq Ahmed; DDM NABARD, Cluster Head JK Bank, Director RSETI, heads of line departments, heads of financial institutions, and other agency heads.

DC Reasi reviews arrangements for Kounsar Nag Yatra-2024

JINews SERVICE
REASI, JULY 2

Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, chaired a meeting to review the preparations for the Kounsar Nag Yatra, scheduled from August 7th to August 10th, 2024. The meeting focused on ensuring seamless arrangements for security, medical care, transportation, power and water supply for the convenience of the devotees.

The President of the Kounsar Nag Yatra Management Committee shared insights with the Deputy Commissioner regarding the facilities and challenges faced during last year's Yatra.

The Deputy Commissioner asked the SDM Mahore and BDO Mahore to ensure all necessary preparations are in place. The XEN Jal Shakti Dharmari was tasked with ensuring uninterrupted water supply at specified locations during the Yatra, while XEN PDD Reasi was instructed to secure reli-



able power arrangements.

In the meeting, it was decided that robust medical facilities would be established. A dedicated team of doctors will be stationed at designated locations, equipped with sufficient stock of medicines and oxygen cylinders to cater to the Yatri's needs. Additionally, medical teams will accompany the Yatra to provide continuous support.

The DC also stressed the need for proper registration and medical testing of all Yatri, Tehsildar Reasi designated as the Registration Officer. He

added that Pithuwalas and Ponywalas would also undergo registration.

The Deputy Commissioner assured that the District Administration will take every possible measure to ensure the success of the Yatra, making it a safe and pleasant experience for all participants.

SSP, Mohita Sharma provided an overview of the security measures planned to ensure a smooth and safe Yatra.

The meeting concluded with assurances from all officials to work collaboratively to facilitate a

successful and peaceful Kounsar Nag Yatra 2024.

The meeting was attended by Commandant CRPF 126 BN Bidda Nisar Mohammad, ADC Kulbhushan Khajuria, ACR Anshumali Sharma, ACD Pradeep Kumar, ARTO, Tehsildar Reasi, DIO (Info) and members of the Kounsar Nag Yatra Management Committee, Yog Raj Mengi, Takan Dass, and Vinod Sharma. Commanding Officer 33 RR Budhal, Commanding Officer 58 RR Mahore, SDM Mahore and SDPO Mahore joined virtually.

VC, DDC Kupwara inaugurates School buildings at Kawari Lolab



JINews SERVICE
KUPWARA, JULY 2

Vice Chairman (V.C), District Development Council (DDC) Kupwara, Haji Farooq Ahmad Mir today inaugurated two important projects in Kawari area of Block Wavoora in Lolab. The Vice Chairman inaugurated the building of Primary School Kawari Payeen constructed under SAMAGRA by R&B Department Lolab with a project cost of Rs.39.00 lacs.

In addition, the Vice Chairman inaugurated the Tribal SMART School Kawari which has been upgraded from UPS.

On the occasion Vice Chairman, DDC said that the priority of District Administration and PRIs is to secure the future of children. Smart schools in tribal and remote areas

equipped with modern facilities will develop scientific temper in children and make them future-ready, besides arresting the drop-out rate, he added.

He said that these initiatives will also ensure that the members of tribal communities can keep pace with the revolutionary and rapid changes happening around them and connect them to the world.

The Vice Chairman called upon the officers to make sincere and dedicated efforts for taking the benefits of all government schemes to the targeted sections of the society.

Executive Engineer, R&B Lolab, Chief Education Officer, Kupwara, ZEO Khumryal and other officers were present on the occasion.

Principal Secretary APD reviews functioning of Agriculture department



JINews SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JULY 2

Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department (APD), Shailendra Kumar, today chaired a meeting of concerned officers to review functioning of Enforcement Wing of Agriculture department.

While addressing the meeting, the Principal Secretary said that the department is committed to safeguard the interests of farming community of the region. He exhorted upon the concerned officers to work in close coordination with officers of the extension wing to achieve effective results in overall working of the department.

Shailendra highlighted the importance of transparency and accountability in the system to ensure smooth distribution of quality pesticides,

fertilizers and other inputs among the growers and farmers. He said that the primary objective of law enforcement wing of the department is to ensure availability of quality inputs to farming community of the region, through proper sale outlets. The Principal Secretary said that 133 fertiliser samples have been drawn, as on date, for 2024-25 while 835 samples had been drawn for 2023-24. He asked the concerned officers to ensure that all the provisions of insecticides Act, fertilizer control order are implemented in letter and spirit. Among others the meeting was attended by Director Agriculture Kashmir, Director Law Enforcement, Deputy Director Law Enforcement, Plant Protection Officer Kashmir, District Law Enforcement officers and other concerned officers of the department.

DC Poonch conducts extensive tour of Surankote Sub-Division, oversees developmental works



JINews SERVICE
POONCH, JULY 2

Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary conducted an extensive daylong tour of the Surankote sub-division here today.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by SDM Surankote Farooq Khan; BRO Officer O.P. Sharma; Executive Engineer PMGSY Imtiaz Mir; Executive Engineer R&B Showket Choudhary and other concerned officers and officials.

The DC inspected the Surankote to Buffliaz road and interacted with the local residents to listen to their grievances. He ensured the resolution of genuine issues on the spot and directed the SDM, Collector Defence Rajouri-Poonch, BRO officers, and the contractor to expedite the work and address the public demands.

The Deputy Commissioner also visited the Mandi Phagla PMGSY

road at Fazlabad, where a part of the bridge was damaged due to heavy rains three days ago, causing a disruption in traffic. He directed the PMGSY department to complete the repair work within three days. Additionally, he inspected the ongoing construction of a second bridge near the Buffliaz road and instructed the authorities to ensure the quality of work.

Furthermore, the Deputy Commissioner visited various projects being executed by the Rural Development Department (RDD) and directed the R&B department to complete the blacktopping and macadamization of 1.2 km road stretch connecting Surankote and Buffliaz with the Mandi Phagla PMGSY road within a week. During the tour, several delegations met with the Deputy Commissioner and projected different demands, which he assured to address in the near future.

Power shutdown

JINews SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 2

Chief Engineer (Distribution), JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Shiv Khori, Bharkh, Ransoo Kotla and adjoining areas will remain affected on July 03 from 7 am to 11 am.

Likewise, the power supply to Thanamandi,

Fatehpura, Shahdra Sharief, Bhattian and adjoining areas will remain affected on July 04 and 05 from 9 am to 4 pm.

Meanwhile, the Superintendent Engineer (Distribution), JPDCL O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Jakh and adjoining areas will remain affected on July 04 from 5 am to 9 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Jogpur, Industry and adjoining areas will remain affected on July 03 and 04 from 5 am to 9 am.